

# HERKIMER Country Editor

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APRIL 24, 2020

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Volume 9 Number 45

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## Honoring essentials in Little Falls

LITTLE FALLS – A new initiative began April 13 with a mission to thank Little Falls' essential workers. While most of us are at home during this crisis, there are a lot of people who are out there every day doing their jobs in the face of these uncertain times. The goal of this new program is simple – to recognize and thank these individuals. The city, Main Street First and Think Local want to ensure these brave people know their work is sincerely appreciated and that the community is thinking about them. That's what "LF Essentials: Support Those Who Support Us" is all about.

The program is simple: One worker is selected at random and provided with \$100 worth of gift cards to restaurants and businesses located in Little Falls. A new person will be selected every day for 30 days. Mayor Mark Blask explained, "This is a small token of appreciation; a heartfelt 'thank you' to those still going out to work. They are stocking shelves, taking care of community members, working in convenient stores, picking up our trash/recyclables, keeping us safe, delivering our mail. They

are refilling prescriptions and washing dishes in restaurants, they are taking care of our senior citizens on top of the hill and making sure the residents at Rockton Plaza have everything they need. They are our friends, neighbors and relatives. They are us."

This new program is targeting a goal of \$3,000 and it will be funded strictly through donations. The other benefit of this program is that the gift cards are all being purchased from local restaurants and businesses within Little Falls which will help them as well during this challenging period. Elaine Cobb, Think

Local co-chair, shared, "The initial conversation with Mayor Blask, Rob Richard (Main Street First) and me was just so exciting. During this difficult time, this is great for the community and it is a wonderful way to say thank you to our essential workers."

In addition to receiving gift cards, the randomly selected winners will be featured on the Think Local website and social media pages as the "Essential Faces of Little Falls: Moving Us Forward." The campaign seeks to provide the winners with public applause in a socially distant fashion. Think Local co-chair Jessica

Kelly said, "It is difficult for everyone to be apart right now, but even when we have to be apart, our community will always find a way to stay together in spirit. This is a great way to do just that on a city-wide scale."

Little Falls prides itself on its collaborative vibe. Mayor Blask shared, "Whenever there is a successful event in the city, it is because

several groups have worked together to make it happen. Whether it's the 6,000 people who flocked to downtown Little Falls for the Cheese Festival or the throngs who went to Canal Side for the Garlic Fest – from Christmas in Little Falls to the Art Walk – they work because of collaboration. Thanking Little Falls' essentials is no different. This is a true team effort between the

city, Main Street First and Think Local."

While local organizations, individuals and businesses are being encouraged to help, the opportunity to contribute is open to everyone and available online. Information on the program, including how to give, can be found at [www.thinklocallittlefalls.com](http://www.thinklocallittlefalls.com) or the Think Local Little Falls Facebook and Instagram pages.

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## Number of COVID-19 cases in Herkimer County

Numbers of COVID-19 cases in Herkimer County as of 3 p.m. on April 17:  
 Positive COVID-19 test results: 59  
 Negative COVID-19 test results: 467  
 Mandatory quarantine (with public health orders): 51  
 Released from mandatory quarantine: 9

Precautionary quarantine: 110  
 Released from precautionary quarantine: 3  
 COVID deaths: 3  
 Total hospitalized: 3  
 Total number recovered: 28

## CCE Oneida County asks gardeners to register for upcoming online garden classes

The upcoming garden classes hosted by Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Oneida County Master Gardener Volunteers are now requiring interested attendees to register. In recent weeks unwanted and disruptive attendees have been finding their way into publicly posted Zoom meetings. To keep the classes secure, the CCE Communications Department at Cornell University has made recommendations

to their county CCE offices. With these guidelines in mind, if you own a computer and have internet, you can join these free virtual gardening classes.

### More upcoming classes include:

- "Because a Vegetable Scrap is a Terrible Thing to Waste" – Holly Wise, CCE's Consumer Horticulture Resource Educator, will take class members on a virtual tour during "Composting Basics" on April 29.

- There has never been a better

time to consider growing your own food. You don't want to miss Master Gardener Volunteer Rosanne Loparco's lesson on "Growing Vegetables and Small Fruits" on May 6 at 7 p.m.

CCE is also there to help answer your garden questions. Call 315.736.3394 ext. 100 to leave your garden questions. Your call will be returned as soon as possible on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Contact Holly Wise at ext. 125 or email hlw2@cornell.edu.

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## Craft Festival in Richfield Springs canceled

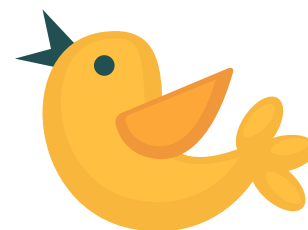
The Church of Christ is canceling its Friendship Uniting, Richfield Springs, Craft Festival this year

due to COVID-19.

The Craft Festival and Brooks' BBQ was scheduled for Saturday, June 13.

This long-standing event will return for its 41st year on June 12, 2021. Information and applications will be released in January.

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# Now is the time to jump-start New York's economy

*An op-ed by Assemblyman Robert Smullen (R, C - Meco)*

The pandemic health crisis of 2020 has impacted the United States more severely than any other country around the globe. And with more than 220,000 confirmed cases, New York State has paid a high price in the number of people infected and the tragedy of lives lost.

To help contain the spread of the virus, thousands of businesses were required to close by the state. From farms to factories, and every business in between, employers and employees did their civic duty in the name of protecting public health and safety. The economic and individual costs have been staggering, and now those same businesses and employees deserve every bit of assistance the state government can provide to get them up and running again.

I already see the federal government providing assistance to our communities and the over one half million small businesses that employ over 20% of all New Yorkers. Now, decisive steps must be taken by our state to facilitate a rolling, region-by-region recovery within New York state. To that end, the Assembly Republican Conference has put together an economic plan to assist New York's working men and women whose small businesses are our best job creators.

Our "Jump-Start New York" initiative provides a blueprint for economic relief in the short term and much-needed stability in the long term. Through federal and state actions, the plan offers financial relief and protections to small businesses and their employees. It removes costly regulatory burdens that stifle growth and opens doors for employers to receive critical assistance that will allow them to survive and succeed.

Our plan recognizes that the economic health of New York State hinges on the success and prosperity

of the small business community. We want New York State's business owners and employees to know that help is on the way.

The plan recommends a range of state actions that can help pave the road to recovery, including: immediately re-evaluating non-essential businesses that could remain open while maintaining proper health precautions; creating a state business and not-for-profit recovery loan program to help small businesses; and utilizing the Regional Economic Development Councils (REDCs) as vehicles for immediate economic recovery efforts instead of general economic development purposes.

In addition to cutting regulatory red tape, the plan also recommends implementing the provisions of the "Small Business Emergency Recovery Act of 2020" that our Conference proposed as part of the state budget. This action uses any money from unallocated state settlements to support small businesses and REDC local recovery efforts, as well as repurposing and utilizing funding for state capital programs to jump-start the economy.

Coordinated federal actions recommended in the plan include: directing future federal stimulus money to local governments and school districts to offset increased costs and the loss of tax revenue associated with COVID-19; capping unemployment insurance premiums; expanding the zero-percent interest rate to all Small Business Administration loans similar to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) with interest paid by the federal government; and providing stimulus relief to sole proprietorships and LLCs that are unable to seek relief under existing programs.

There is no question that the scale and severity of

our current fiscal condition is unprecedented, and our people are feeling tremendous pressure. A commitment from state government to remove roadblocks that stand in the way of restoring lost jobs and creating the new jobs our economy needs will send a strong and clear message to the business community. We should use the proposals outlined above and all the tools at our disposal to "jump-start" New York's economic engine.

*Assemblyman Robert Smullen represents the 118th Assembly District, which includes Hamilton and Fulton counties as well as parts of Herkimer, Oneida, and St. Lawrence counties.*

## What to do in the wake of canceled events

Events have been canceled or postponed across the globe in the wake of the outbreak of COVID-19. This has caused a disruption to not only commercial events like concerts and sporting events, but personal gatherings as well. Any party with a large number of potential guests has to be reconsidered. This includes graduation parties, weddings and birthdays. People facing the cancellation of such events can follow these guidelines.

- Speak to vendors to find out if cancellations can occur with no penalties. Many hotels and other travel services are waiving fees for cancellations, or allowing bookings to be rescheduled at no additional cost.

- Try to think of some alternative dates for events like weddings and graduation parties as soon as possible. There is no way to accurately predict the path that COVID-19 will take, nor put a firm date regular life can resume, but discussing alternative dates with vendors with whom you're already under contract may put you at the top of the list when gatherings are once again allowed.

- Reach out to guests to explain that your plans are fluid. Expect that a good portion of guests, even those who already committed to attend, may not be able to make rescheduled events. Speak with vendors about fluctuating headcounts in the wake of COVID-19.

- Be patient and keep an open minded about events. These are unprecedented times and many people are

learning as they go. Rescheduling events when the threat has subsided may cause a bottleneck effect with service providers. Flexibility and patience can help make reschedule less stressful.

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## How to clean when faced with a shortage of supplies

In light of concerns about COVID-19, various health organizations have issued specific instructions on how to maintain personal safety and cleanliness. These recommendations involve using common household products to sanitize homes, offices and public spaces. As people take such precautions, many are stocking up on extra essentials – resulting in shortages.

Everything from hand san-

itizers to paper towels may be hard to find on grocery store shelves, leaving some to wonder what they can do to remain safe without sanitizers?

The Environmental Protection Agency states that coronaviruses are some of the easiest types of viruses to kill because they have an envelope around them that enables them to merge with other cells and infect them. If that protective coating can be disrupted,

the virus can't do its job. For those having trouble finding well-known cleaning agents, these alternatives may suffice.

### Hot water and soap

The reason hand-washing is at the top of the list of sanitizing methods is because it is so effective at washing away viruses and bacteria. Friction from scrubbing with soap and water can help break the protective envelope, states the EPA. Soap and water can

clean all surfaces in a home, especially when applying a little extra elbow grease.

### Hydrogen peroxide

As people clear isopropyl (rubbing alcohol) off the shelves, do not discount hydrogen peroxide. The CDC says household hydrogen peroxide at 3% concentration can deactivate rhinovirus, the virus that causes the common cold, within six to eight minutes of contact. Coronavirus is

easier to destroy than rhinovirus, so hydrogen peroxide may be effective at combatting that virus as well.

Natural items can be used for general cleaning, but have not been endorsed for use on COVID-19 disinfection. In lieu of shortages, white vinegar, baking soda pastes and citrus oils and juices could fill the void of chemically-based cleansers for other home tasks.

## Get up-to-date information including the annual IRS “Dirty Dozen” with IRS e-News Subscriptions

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The IRS reminds taxpayers, businesses, tax professionals and others to take advantage of a wide variety of free IRS email subscription services that feature things like the annual “Dirty Dozen” list of tax scams, which is coming this month.

The e-News Subscription service issues tax information by email for many different audiences providing tips, tools and helpful materials of interest to taxpayers and organizations. Among others, the IRS offers subscription services tailored to tax exempt and government entities, small and large businesses as well as individuals. The service is easy to use; sign up for by visiting IRS e-News Subscriptions.

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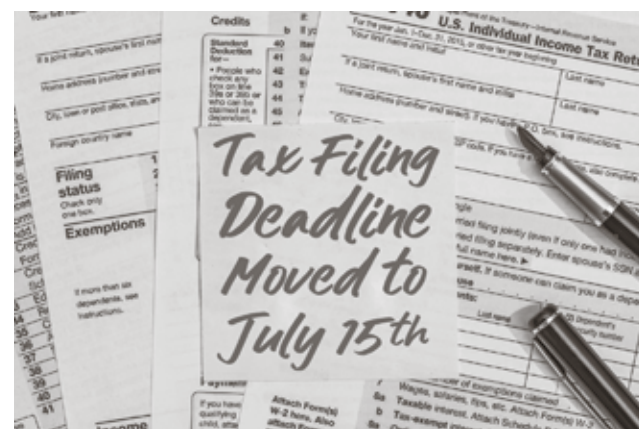
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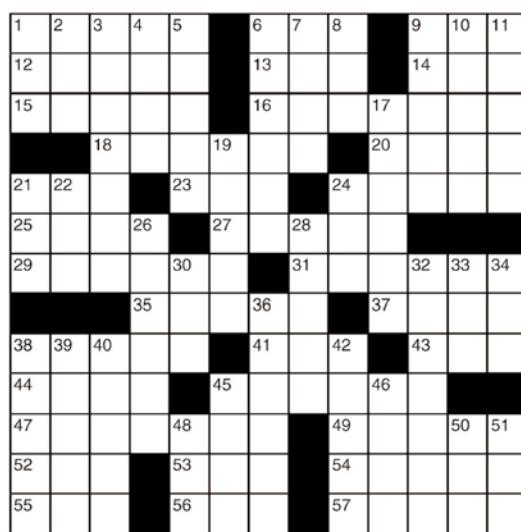
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## King Crossword

## ACROSS

- 1 Pythias' pal  
6 Try the tea  
9 Cleveland cager  
12 Memorable mission  
13 "— Little Teapot"  
14 Blackbird  
15 Make obscure  
16 "Material Girl" singer  
18 Bold alternative  
20 Check  
21 Dogtag wearers  
23 — good deed  
24 Founded (on)  
25 Love god  
27 Ill-suited  
29 Praying bug  
31 Tiny  
35 Vote for  
37 Prego rival  
38 Start a rally  
41 Moon vehicle acronym  
43 — Perignon  
44 Shaving cream additive  
45 Cut aid  
47 Insanity  
49 Free of frost  
52 Inseparable  
53 Bullring bravo  
54 Beetle  
Bailey's bully



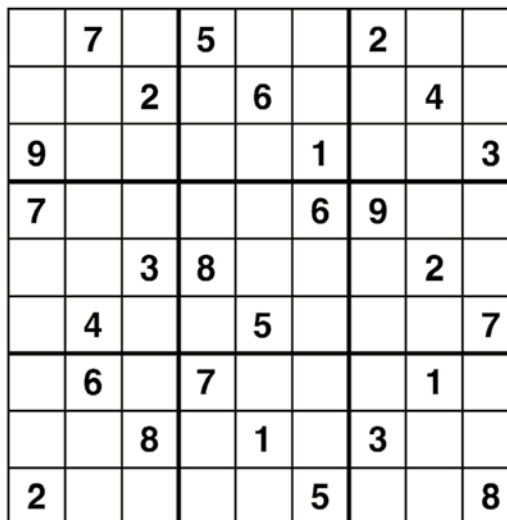
## DOWN

- 1 Slight touch  
2 Hearty quaff  
3 Wisconsin's capital  
4 Leave out  
5 Wanderer  
6 Ape  
7 Apple product  
8 Cushion  
9 Christmas candies  
10 Warbucks'  
11 Food item  
17 Speaker  
19 Grown-up nit  
21 Prized possession  
22 A Gershwin brother  
24 Morsel  
26 Spielberg or Soderbergh  
28 In the cards  
30 — -de-France  
32 Fortified Portuguese wine  
33 "But — on forever":  
34 Summa — laude  
36 Storage area  
38 Pago Pago's place  
39 Savanna grazer  
40 Wild West show  
42 Interior  
45 Capri, e.g.  
46 Approach  
48 A billion years  
50 Movie trickery (Abbr.)  
51 Wet wriggler

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

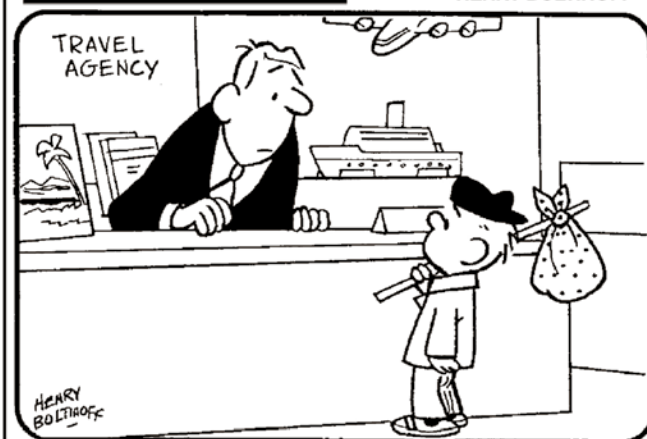
## DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

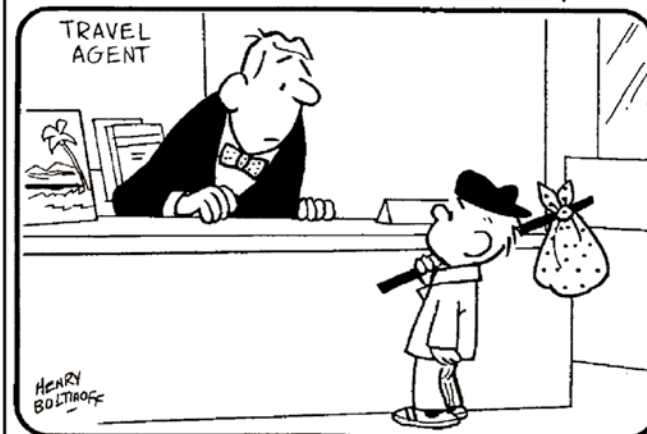
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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIROFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

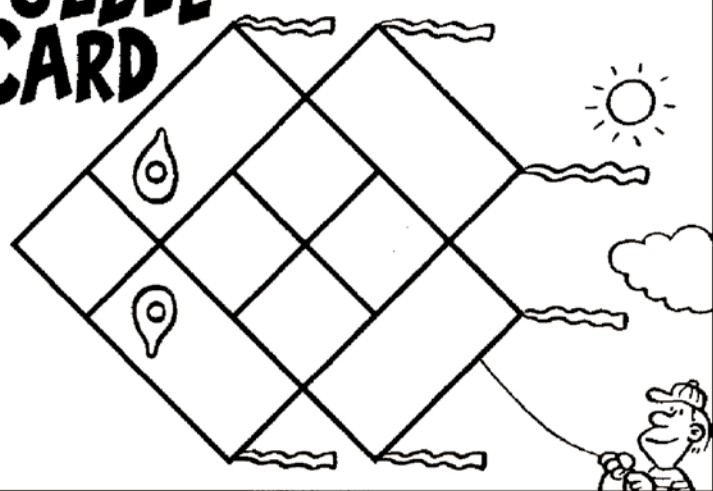


Differences: 1. Tie is different. 2. Plane is missing. 3. Ship is missing. 4. Window is added. 5. Hobo stick is different. 6. Word changed to "agent".

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## PUZZLE CARD

How many different size squares are there in this puzzle kite?



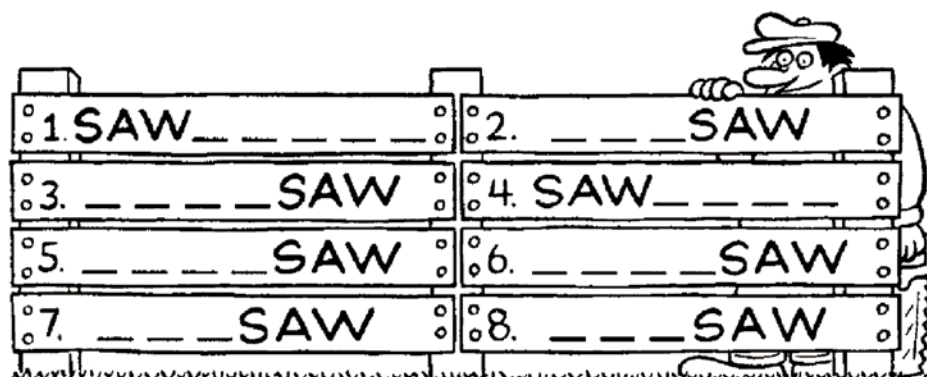
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Illustrated by David Coulson

Answer: 11 squares.

## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



**THE WINNING EDGE!** Hand anyone an ice-cream stick and bet them that they can't drop it from two feet above the table and have it land on its edge.

**SECRET:** When it's your turn to go, bend the stick in half before dropping it. This will cause it to land upright on its edge.



## SAWMILL SHENANIGANS!

The mill foreman, "Bucksaw" Williams, has painted eight partially spelled words on the fence. Each word contains a "saw" in it. Use the hints below to complete each word.

- Used to hold things up.
- Has a lot of ups and downs.
- Scrutinized with care.
- A \$10 bill.
- Long, two-handled saw.
- Knew beforehand.
- Used to cut sharp curves.
- Used to cut along the grain.

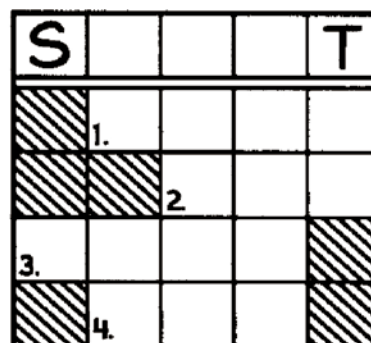
Answers: 1. Sawhorse. 2. Seesaw. 3. Oversaw. 4. Sawbuck. 5. Whipsaw. 6. Foresaw. 7. Jigsaw. 8. Ripsaw.

**FIND-A-WORD!** On the top line is our mystery word. You need to fill in the missing letters. Clue words (smaller words contained in letter-by-letter order within the mystery word) are defined below.

- Lean to one side
- A social insect.
- To look over quickly.
- An airtight container.



Answers: 1. Cant. 2. Ant. 3. Scan. 4. Can.  
Mystery word: Scant.





## How families can confront remote learning

Amid concerns of coronavirus clusters and efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19, and based on social distancing recommendations from medical professionals, schools across the

country began to close their doors and adopt a remote learning model in March. One of the largest communities affected was New York City, which closed schools across the five boroughs.

The New York City school system is vast, with 1,800 schools servicing more than one million students.

School administrators and educators quickly scrambled to find a

workaround to meet children's educational needs.

Remote learning has been a part of many school curriculums for some time. While remote learning had predominantly been reserved for higher learning institutions, in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak, it became a necessity for grades K - 12 as well. Teachers have had to design curriculums and assignments virtually on the fly in an attempt to minimize disruptions that could adversely affect students.

Remote learning requires the cooperation of school staff and also parents and guardians. Patience is necessary, and parents and educators may need to completely transform their daily schedules. The following tips can be an asset as students continue to navigate remote learning.

- Record class sessions. Teachers can consider recording or "going live" with class instruction so that students can view the video and still have access to their teachers. This helps parents who may be unfamiliar with explaining the curriculum.

- Utilize chat features. Remote education software programs likely have a chat or "hangout" feature, which enables classrooms to keep in touch and ask questions in real time.

- Keep a schedule. It's easy to begin to sleep late and fall out of routine when not required to go to a school building. Families should make scheduling a priority, which can help students stay on top of lessons

and complete their assignments on time.

- Ask questions. Everyone is learning as they go, and further clarification may be needed. Students should email or chat with teachers if they don't understand an assignment or are unsure about instructions. Teachers may be able to clearly model a math problem or explain a concept via video chat for students who need help.

- Explore educational options. Many companies are offering free educational services while kids are home from school. Scholastic.com is offering online courses, Nat Geo for Kids, Fun Brain, PBS Kids and Highlight Kids are other places to turn to for activities.



## Calendar of events

**NOTE: Calendar items must be submitted by Tuesday prior to the publication date to be included in the Calendar of Events. Entries may be emailed to [cfeditor@leepub.com](mailto:cfeditor@leepub.com) CONCERNS ABOUT THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) HAVE CAUSED THE CANCELLATION OF MANY MEETINGS. PLEASE CONFIRM ALL MEETINGS WITH THE HOST LOCATIONS BEFORE TRAVELLING TO THE MEETING LOCATION.**

### April 25

**Herkimer County Salvation Army Craft Fair** 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at 431 N. Prospect St., Herkimer. Contact Rose Fohs at 315.867.4996 or Capt. Laurie Wood at 315.866.1240 to be a vendor. Mother's Day theme. Lunch available.

**Arts, Craft and Vendors Fair** at the East Herkimer Fire House has been cancelled due to the coronavirus.

### April 26

**Basket Bingo.** Basket Bingo at Blessed Sacrament Church in Mohawk has been postponed.

### April 28

**Immunization Clinic Cancelled** There will be no walk-in Immunization Clinics at the Herkimer County Public Health office this month. For more information, call the Public Health office at 315.867.1176.

### May 2

**Spring Spectacular** 12-5 p.m., Hosted by the Mohawk Homestead and the Mohawk American Legion Riders, a fundraising event to benefit the residents of the Mohawk Homestead and the American Legion Riders donation fund. Contact The Mohawk Homestead at 315.866.1841 Ext. 404.

**28th Annual Kuyahoor Valley Rotary Auction.** Viewing will start at 8 a.m. Auction at 10 a.m. Anyone wishing to donate may call John at 315.725.2393 or Tom at 315.794.2995 or email to [tomlin@roadrunner.com](mailto:tomlin@roadrunner.com).

### May 9

**Arc Herkimer Transportation 2020 NTSI Traffic Survival Workshop** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Arc Herkimer's main building at 350 South Washington Street in Herkimer. \$38 per person. Books and materials provided. Call Kelly Bunce at 315.574.7982 to register and make payment.

### May 16

**25th Kuyahoor Valley Rotary Fishing Derby.** Funded by the Kuyahoor Valley Rotary Club for the grade school students (pre-school through 6th grade) of the Poland Central and West Canada Valley Central School Districts. Visit [www.kuyahooravalleyrotary.org](http://www.kuyahooravalleyrotary.org)

### May 18

**Paint and Sip** 6 p.m. Hosted by The Mohawk Homestead and Easels on The Gogh - at the Ilion Frankfort VFW 4274 Acme Rd., Frankfort. Contact The Mohawk Homestead at 315.866.1841 Ext. 404.

### June 5

**The Mohawk Homestead's 5th Annual Golf Outing** 9 a.m. at The Hidden Valley Golf Club, 189 Castle Rd., New Hartford for more info contact Deb Marley 315.588.9788.

### June 13

**41st Annual Friendship Craft Festival** The Church of Christ Uniting, Richfield Springs, is canceling its Friendship Craft Festival this year due to COVID-19.

### September 12

**Arc Herkimer Transportation 2020 NTSI Traffic Survival Workshop** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Arc Herkimer's main building at 350 South Washington Street in Herkimer. \$38 per person. Books and materials provided. Call Kelly Bunce at 315.574.7982 to register and make payment.

### November 14

**Arc Herkimer Transportation 2020 NTSI Traffic Survival Workshop** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Arc Herkimer's main building at 350 South Washington Street in Herkimer. \$38 per person. Books and materials provided. Call Kelly Bunce at 315.574.7982 to register and make payment.

# top ten

## Kids' Favorite Brands\*

1. YouTube
2. Oreo
3. M&Ms
4. Hershey's
5. Doritos
6. Chips Ahoy!
7. Netflix
8. Cheetos
9. Lay's
10. Goldfish

\*ages 6-12 Source: Smarty Pants



## Mount Markham Board of Education announces D'Apice as new superintendent

The Mount Markham Board of Education is pleased to announce that the contract negotiations for the next superintendent were successfully concluded with Joseph D'Apice on Monday, April 13, making him the new Mount Markham superintendent.

D'Apice, who is the Richfield Springs Central School District Jr./Sr. High principal, is anticipated to start as the Mount Markham superintendent on Aug. 1.

"I am honored and excited for this op-

portunity," D'Apice said. "I will prioritize establishing genuine, trusting, productive and collaborative relationships with stakeholders and proactively ensure that all voices are heard and engaged in the process of continuous improvement."

The Mount Markham Board of Education launched the search for a new superintendent following a Jan. 7 letter to the board from Superintendent Paul Berry that he will be resigning and retiring as of July 31. Herkimer-Fulton-Ham-

ilton-Otsego BOCES District Superintendent Sandra Sherwood served as the superintendent search consultant for Mount Markham.

Following screening and initial interviews, the Mount Markham Board of Education narrowed the field of candidates down to two finalists, who participated in virtual interviews with the board, virtual meetings with stakeholders and a virtual community forum.

"I certainly want to thank the community, students, staff and the candidates," Mount Markham Board of Education President Thomas Huxtable

said. "It was a long process – made more difficult by the coronavirus and having to conduct a large portion of the search virtually."

Huxtable said board members are looking forward to D'Apice taking on the role as the new superintendent.

"We are excited about having someone from so close by recognize the opportunity of our district – sometimes, that's overlooked," Huxtable said. "There's a lot to be done given the current circumstances, and we'll be eager to get going."



Joseph D'Apice

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or

In Herkimer County contact NOEP at  
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## Twenty warning signs of stress

Stress affects so many people and infiltrates so many parts of daily life that it can be tempting to write it off as harmless or just a normal part of being human. But the negative effects of stress are significant, and persons who can recognize that are in a good position to find healthy ways to cope with their stress.

The American Psychological Association notes that stress can take a considerable toll on a person's mind and body. Chronic stress, which is a constant stress experienced over a prolonged period of time, can increase the risk of hypertension, heart attack or stroke. In addition, the APA notes that chronic stress causes the muscles in the body to be in an essentially constant state of guardedness, which can potentially contribute to tension-type headache and migraines. And these are just two of the many ways the body is adversely affected by stress, which the APA says also has been linked to problems with the gastrointestinal, nervous and reproductive systems.

Since stress can contribute to such unpleasant and potentially life-threatening side effects, it's important that people from all walks of life learn to recognize the warning signs of stress. The American Institute of Stress lists the following among its 50 most common signs and symptoms of stress.

1. Frequent headaches, jaw clenching or pain

2. Gritting, grinding teeth
  3. Stuttering or stammering
  4. Tremors, or trembling of lips or hands
  5. Neck ache, back pain and/or muscle spasms
  6. Light headedness, faintness and/or dizziness
  7. Ringing, buzzing or "popping sounds"
  8. Frequent blushing or sweating
  9. Cold or sweaty hands and feet
  10. Dry mouth and/or problems swallowing
  11. Frequent colds, infections and/or herpes sores
  12. Rashes, itching, hives and/or "goose bumps"
  13. Unexplained or frequent "allergy" attacks
  14. Heartburn, stomach pain and/or nausea
  15. Excess belching and/or flatulence
  16. Constipation, diarrhea, loss of control
  17. Difficulty breathing and/or frequent sighing
  18. Sudden attacks of life-threatening panic
  19. Chest pain, palpitations and/or rapid pulse
  20. Frequent urination
- Stress is a part of daily life. Learning to recognize signs of stress can help people overcome it and reduce their risk for various conditions.

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## Rickard named VHS Employee of the Quarter

Danielle Rickard has been named Valley Health Services's Employee of the First Quarter 2020. Rickard is the payroll clerk/human resources assistant and has been an integral member of the Human Resources Department since May 2, 2016.

Rickard has a history with VHS. In 2009, as a high school senior, she worked in the Dietary Department. After high school, she relocated to Florida but then returned to New York State in 2014, and to VHS's Dietary Department. Her desire to grow personally and professionally in her career led her to continue her education at Herkimer College, where she received her Associate's in Applied Sciences Degree in Accounting. She is currently working on obtaining a bachelor's degree from Empire State College, where she is majoring in Business Management and Economics with a concentration in Human Resource Management.

Rickard has been an integral member of the HR Department, taking on new assignments, most recently assuming management of the department during the first three weeks of the COVID-19 crisis. Human Resources Director Lynn Hocking stated, "Danielle has completely immersed herself in the role of HR assistant and continues to do so positively and genuinely."

Rickard is elated with being selected as VHS's Employee of the First Quarter 2020. She said, "The powers that be want to see employees succeed, and having a good attitude will help in getting you noticed." Rickard said she enjoys working in HR because it is rewarding helping people. Her favorite part of the job is doing the payroll because she also loves working with numbers.

Rickard resides in Dolgeville with her fiancé, Caleb Comstock, their dogs Maya, Amora and Dublin, and one cat, Iris.

*Danielle Rickard,  
Valley Health  
Services' Employee  
of the First Quarter  
2020.*

*Photo courtesy  
of Valley Health  
Services*



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## Ways to dine 'out' when staying in

As restaurants, bars and taverns have closed their doors under government orders amid the public health crisis surrounding COVID-19, a population accustomed to the freedom of dining out for special occasions or as part of daily life has found they must make an assortment of changes. However, it's still possible to enjoy the offerings of your favorite restaurants. Restaurants have made some dramatic changes in an effort to meet the needs of their customers.

- **Oven-ready meals:** Some restaurants are offering oven-ready meals that fully prepared dishes that customers need only heat up at home.

- **Deep discounts:** Certain businesses are cutting prices on menu items in order to generate revenue. The Los Angeles-based Morrison Pub recently slashed prices to \$10 or less for items that typically cost more than that. Other restaurants are shuttering dining rooms and providing discounts on take-out as incentives to customers.

- **Prepaid options:** The reservation service Resy has opened up its service to

restaurant owners to offer take-out meals restaurant guests can book and pay for online. Other reservation businesses may soon follow suit.

- **Delivered spirits:** Businesses with on-premise liquor licenses might be able to deliver alcohol and offer it for takeout. The New York State Liquor Authority temporarily allowed alcohol takeout beginning in March.

- **To-go party plans:** CEC Entertainment, the parent company of the Chuck E. Cheese and Peter Piper Pizza restaurants, said the concepts would launch new family and birthday packages that included takeout pizza, birthday cake and goodie bags, in addition to two game apps for Chuck E. Cheese that provided virtual tickets redeemable at a later date when restaurants reopen.

- **Pre-packaged favorites:** Certain chain restaurants have long offered frozen selections of their popular appetizers and other dishes. When at the supermarket, check the freezer section for items from restaurants like TGI Fridays™ and PF Chang's™.



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## Another way to honor Skip and his legacy

Many of you know of the recent untimely passing of Willis "Skip" Barshied. Many kind words have been printed about Skip. The Van Alstyne Homestead Society keepers of the "Fort" would like to add our thoughts.

Skip, as stated in other articles, was a true font of knowledge of the history of our area. We have an 18th century barn frame loom that he reassembled after finding it in disrepair in a local barn. Our visitors can see the parts that he had to manufacture to make it complete and functional.

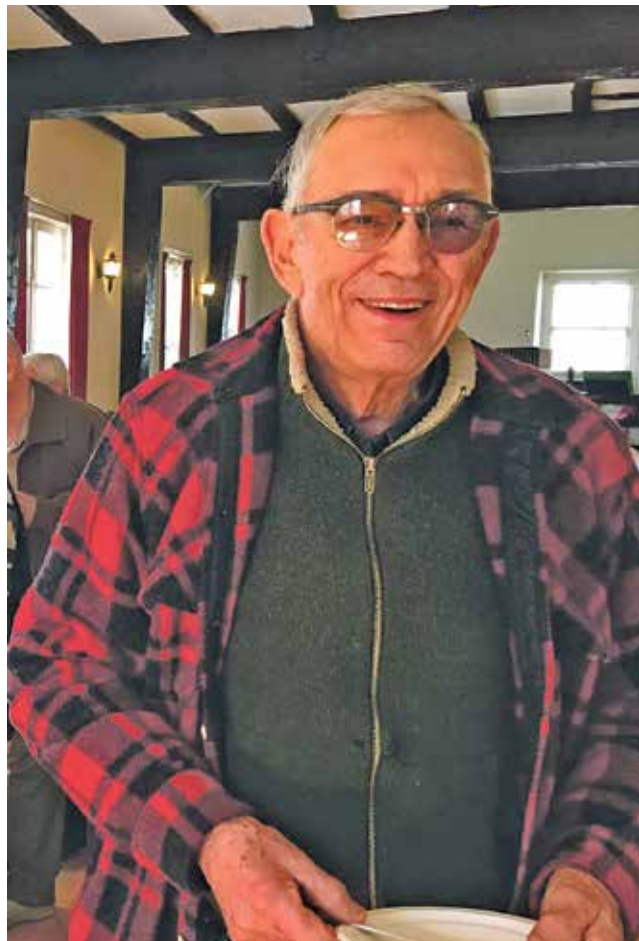
Skip was invaluable in the recent restoration of the cannon in our front yard. He arranged with his Amish friends to have new wheels made for it. This was done in memory of his longtime friend, John Buck.

Skip would always visit the Homestead when we hosted our annual reenactment of a Colonial meeting. The picture shows him at one of our chili cook-offs. He enjoyed refreshing his memory of the collections on display, some of which he had donated. He enjoyed recalling where the items had been obtained and who may have donated them. His knowledge of firearms was particularly valuable. Because of his information, it was decided to provide better and safer means for displaying them.

As a result, with some financial assistance from the Arkell Foundation we purchased protective cases for four items. These items included a Revolutionary War musket, a Bible printed in the Netherlands in 1698 and two very early minute books from the Fort Rensselaer Club.

What we would like to do now is have another musket – specifically, a Hudson Valley Fowler – similarly protected as a memorial to Skip. He mentioned to us that this should be done, since the gun is extremely rare, probably dated to the early 1700s. Skip would be pleased to know that we had taken his advice and done this. The cost for this is \$875. The financials of the Homestead Society limit our ability to totally fund this effort, and therefore, we are asking of his many friends and acquaintances to assist us in this project in Skip's memory.

Any contributions would be welcome, and all donors would be suitably recognized. Donations can be sent to Van Alstyne Homestead Society, P.O. Box 372, Canajoharie, NY 13317.



Local historian and author Willis (Skip) Barshied enjoyed history and chili at the event.  
Photos courtesy of Van Alstyne Homestead

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## Beef Checkoff announces Top 10 Best NY Burgers

New York Beef Council launched their Best NY Burger Contest for a third year on April 1, in hopes to bring fun and spotlights on struggling New York State restaurants during COVID-19. New York burger lovers submitted their nominations for their favorite burger. The restaurants making the Top 10 list for 2020 (in alphabetical order) include:

- Ale & Angus Pub, Syracuse, "Barn Yard Burger" (returning 2018/19 Champion with "Power Play" and "Beef on Weck" Burgers)

- **Crazy Otto's Empire Diner, Herkimer, "Mushroom Cheese Burger"**

- Finally Ours Restaurant, Syracuse, "Thick Grilled Cheese Bacon Burger"

- Jake's Grub and Grog, Central Square, "Bourbon Burger"

- Juicy Burger Bar, Hamburg, "Bigg Poppa Burger"

- Madison Bistro, Wampsville, "Texan Burger"

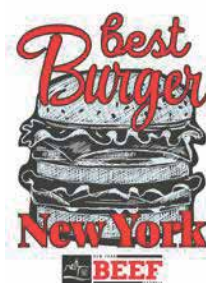
- Mijo's Bar and Grill, Marathon, "Bacon, Mushroom Swiss Burger"

- Monirae's, Pennellville, "The Mighty Declan"

- R-Diner, Central Square, "Mushroom Swiss Burger"

- Swifty's, Albany, "Hangover Burger"

"New York has over 14,300 beef and dairy producers and



New York Burger Lovers submitted their nominations for their favorite burger and placed the "Mushroom Cheese Burger" at Crazy Otto's Empire, Herkimer, in the Top Ten list for 2020.

Photo courtesy of New York Beef Council

## 2020's TOP 10!

Sponsored by New York Beef Council / Supported by YELP

this contest is a great way to celebrate the beef they produce and the impact they have on New York's economy," said Jean O'Toole, executive director of NYBC.

To qualify, the burger must be a 100% beef patty or patties, although other ingredients may be added such as spices, and served on a bun or bread product. Burgers may include any combination of condiments, sauces, cheese or toppings.

The quest for the winner of the Best NY Burger will now begin. The Top 10 restaurants will submit a hi-res photo of their nominated burger, which will be voted for online until midnight on April 30, to decide the "Final Four." Each of the Top 10 will have a Facebook Live Burger Building Demonstration on the New York Beef Council's Facebook page starting April 20 (check the events to tune into when your restaurant will cook its burger). The winning burger will be announced on May 1. The Final Four will then have another opportunity for a Facebook Live when all gets "back to normal."

"We encourage everyone to visit the Top 10 restaurants," said O'Toole. "These are only a few of the many restaurants in New York that do an outstanding job of promoting and serving beef to their customers on behalf of New York's beef and dairy farmers."

To learn more about the contest and the Top 10 restaurants, visit [www.nybeef.org/social-outreach/monthly-contest](http://www.nybeef.org/social-outreach/monthly-contest).

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It's always the right time of year for fresh apple pie

Certain foods are synonymous with particular holidays or times of year. For example, few people can imagine celebrating Valentine's Day without ample supplies of chocolate on hand. And what summer barbecue is complete without grilled hot dogs and hamburgers? While these foods and others are must-haves during certain times of the year, that doesn't mean they cannot be enjoyed whenever a craving arises.

Apples, and particularly apple pie, are a staple of many holiday season celebrations. But apple pie is just as delicious in March, April, May, etc., as it is during the weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas. That's especially true when the apples are fresh. Whether yours is a seasonal or non-seasonal craving for apple pie, be sure to satisfy it with this recipe for "French Apple Pie" from Mollie Cox Bryan's "Mrs. Rowe's Little Book of Southern Pies" (Ten Speed Press).

**French Apple Pie**  
*Makes one 9-inch pie*  
1 recipe Plain Pie Pastry (see below)  
Raisin Filling  
2/3 cup raisins  
6 tbsp water  
½ tsp lemon juice  
¼ cup light corn syrup  
1½ tsp all-purpose flour  
1½ tsp sugar  
2 apples (preferably a tart variety)  
¼ cup brown sugar  
½ cup sugar  
¼ tsp ground cinnamon  
½ tsp ground nutmeg  
1½ tsp cornstarch  
Icing  
1 cup confectioners' sugar  
2 tbsp water  
1 tbsp butter, softened

To make the raisin filling, combine the raisins, water and lemon juice in a heavy saucepan over medium heat. Bring to a boil, then lower the heat to medium-low and cook, stirring occasionally until the raisins are plump, about 15 minutes.

Separately, combine the corn syrup, flour and sugar and mix well, then add to the raisins and continue cooking, stirring occasionally, until thick and syrupy, about



10 minutes. Remove from the heat and cool until the mixture is just warm, about 10 to 15 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 400° F. Line a 9-inch pie plate with one rolled-out crust.

Peel the apples, cut them into thin wedges and put them in a large bowl. Separately, combine the sugars, cinnamon, nutmeg and cornstarch, then add to the apples and gently stir until evenly mixed.

Spread the apple mixture

in the crust in an even layer, then spread the raisin filling evenly over the apples. Brush the rim of the crust with water, cover with the second rolled-out crust, seal and flute or crimp the edges and cut a steam vent in the center.

Bake for 40 to 50 minutes, until golden brown. Cool on a wire rack for 1 to 2 hours, until completely cool.

To make the icing, combine the sugar and water and mix until

smooth. Brush over the top of the cooled pie before serving.

**Plain Pie Pastry**

*Makes two 9-inch pie crusts*  
2 cups all-purpose flour

1 tsp salt  
2/3 cup vegetable shortening  
5 - 7 tbsp cold milk

Sift the flour and salt into a bowl. Cut in the shortening with a pastry blender until it is the size of small peas. Sprinkle 1 tablespoon of the milk over part of the flour mixture. Gently toss with a fork and push to the side of the bowl. Sprinkle another tablespoon of milk over another dry part, toss with a fork and push to the side of the bowl. Repeat with the remaining milk until all of the flour mixture is moistened.

Press the dough together to form 2 equal balls, then flatten into disks. Roll out the crusts right away, or wrap the dough tightly, smoothing out any little wrinkles or air pockets and refrigerate for up to two weeks. On a lightly floured surface, roll out each ball to a thickness of 1/8 inch. Use a light touch and handle the dough as little as possible.

— King Crossword —

Weekly SUDOKU —

Answers

Answer

Solution time: 27 mins.

D	A	M	O	N		S	I	P		C	A	V
A	L	A	M	O		I	M	A		A	N	I
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1	7	4	5	8	3	2	9	6
5	3	2	9	5	7	8	4	1
9	8	6	4	2	1	7	5	3
7	2	5	1	3	6	9	8	4
6	9	3	8	7	4	1	2	5
8	4	1	2	5	9	6	3	7
3	6	9	7	4	8	5	1	2
4	5	8	6	1	2	3	7	9
2	1	7	3	9	5	4	6	8

Stickelers Answer

- 1) Colorado
- 2) Arkansas
- 3) Oklahoma
- 4) Idaho
- 5) Illinois



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answer

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Solution



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 Sunday Worship 10:30 AM  
 Tuesday Bible Study 7 PM

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 12 Van Buren St.  
 Morning Worship 11-12:30 PM  
 Lunch 12:30-2 PM  
 Afternoon Worship 2-3 PM

**DOLGEVILLE UNITED**  
**METHODIST CHURCH**  
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 21 N. Helmer Ave.  
 Church Phone 429-7381  
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 Oppenheim @ 9:30 AM  
 Dolgeville @ 11 AM

**DOLGEVILLE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
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 3 Elm St. Phone 429-8390  
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 Mid-week Service Tuesday 7 PM

**UNITED LUTHERAN**  
**PRESBYTERIAN PARISH**  
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 Holy Day Liturgy 9 AM  
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 Wednesday Worship 6:30 PM

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 Morning Worship 11 AM

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 May 1 - November 1  
 36 Second Street, Ilion

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 Sunday Mass 10:30 AM

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 Nursery & Sunday School 9:45 AM  
 (Sept.-May)  
 Fellowship Coffee Hour 11:15 AM  
 Choir Rehearsal 11:30 AM  
 Holy Day Masses as announced  
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 Thursday Bible Study 6:30 PM

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 Sunday School 9:15 AM  
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 Sunday School 10 AM

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**GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
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 or 315-520-4723  
 Holy Eucharist 10 AM

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 Email mohawkpastor@verizon.net  
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 Youth Sunday School (Pre-K - Sr. High) 9 AM  
 Adult Sunday School (Men, Women  
 & Couples) 9:30 AM  
 September - June

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 Afternoon Bible Study 1:30 PM  
 Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 6 PM

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 Sunday Worship 10 AM  
 Wednesday Bible Study  
 & Prayer Meeting 7 PM

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 Pastor's Phone 315-790-1877  
 Sunday Worship at 9:45 AM

**UNITED METHODIST**  
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 Sunday School 11 AM  
 Morning Service 11 AM

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 West Canada Valley  
 High School Auditorium  
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## Number / Classification

20 Air Compressors  
25 Air Tools  
35 Announcements  
45 Antiques  
55 Appraisal Services  
75 ATV  
80 Auctions  
82 Auto Body  
110 Bedding Plants  
120 Bees-Beekeeping  
130 Bird Control  
140 Books  
155 Building Materials/Supplies  
157 Building Repair  
160 Buildings For Sale  
161 Bulk Foods / Spices  
165 Business Opportunities  
170 Butchering Supplies  
173 Carpentry  
175 Cars, Trucks, Trailers  
180 Catalogs  
182 Catering  
190 Chain Saws  
195 Cheesemaking Supplies  
205 Christmas  
214 Clocks & Repair  
215 Collectibles  
216 Clothing  
235 Computers  
253 Consignment  
265 Construction Equipment For Rent  
275 Construction Machinery Wanted  
277 Construction Services  
280 Construction Supplies  
312 Crafts  
325 Custom Butchering  
330 Custom Services  
360 Deer-Butchering & Hides  
370 Dogs  
410 Electrical  
415 Employment Wanted  
440 Farm Machinery For Sale  
445 Farm Machinery Wanted  
447 Farm Market Items  
460 Fencing  
470 Financial Services  
480 Fish  
483 Flooring  
494 For Lease  
495 For Rent  
500 For Sale  
510 Fresh Produce, Nursery  
525 Fruits & Berries  
527 Furniture  
529 Garage Sales  
530 Garden Supplies  
535 Generators  
537 Gifts  
575 Greenhouse Supplies  
585 Guns  
587 Hair Styling  
589 Hardware  
600 Health Care/Products  
605 Heating  
610 Help Wanted  
653 Hotel / Motel  
683 Jewelers  
700 Lawn & Garden  
711 Lessons  
760 Lumber & Wood Products  
790 Maple Syrup Supplies  
805 Miscellaneous  
810 Mobile Homes  
811 Monuments  
812 Multi Media  
813 Music  
815 Motorcycles  
817 Nails  
820 Nurseries  
910 Plants  
950 Real Estate For Sale  
955 Real Estate Wanted  
960 RVs & Motor Homes  
975 Rentals  
980 Restaurant Supplies  
1040 Services Offered  
1075 Snowblowers  
1080 Snowmobiles  
1096 Sports  
1109 Thrift  
1140 Trailers  
1147 Trains  
1148 Travel  
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1170 Truck Parts & Equipment  
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## Paw's Corner

by Sam Mazzotta

**Play it safe,  
keep cats inside**

**Dear Paw's Corner:** I'm staying inside during this emergency, as the state government has requested, but I still let my tomcat Dodger out during the day. He would go crazy being stuck inside. However, my daughter told me to stop letting him out, because she says pets can get coronavirus too. Is Dodger in danger? Could he get it and spread it to me? – Darlene B., Springfield, MA

**Dear Darlene:** Currently, no pets within the U.S. are known to have contracted the coronavi-

rus. A tiger at the Bronx Zoo reportedly tested positive for COVID-19 (and six more tigers are showing symptoms). But there's very little data to work with right now.

While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention does not have definitive evidence that pets can contract COVID-19, they are playing it safe and urging owners to protect their pets from exposure to the virus. So you should too.

You don't know where Dodger goes when he's out, so you don't know if he is being exposed to this virus or other viruses or bacteria that are

much more easily contracted and can cause serious illness. Keep him inside and find ways to keep him from losing his mind. That includes spending more time playing with him, making sure he has plenty of toys and giving him scratching and climbing spots, plus a hideaway. If his behavior gets worse, contact the veterinarian – Dodger may need to take medication to calm him down for the short term.

Also, because he's been outside, you need to take precautions for yourself. Wash your hands after petting or picking up Dodger, and

after cleaning his litter box. Wash his food and water bowls daily in

hot soapy water. Here's to both of you staying healthy and safe!

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## Donna's Day: Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

### Print 'roses in bloom' with celery stalk stamp

Earth Day, celebrated in April, is a good annual reminder to imagine creative ways to reuse what we typically throw away, even little things. Here's one that may lurk in the produce bin of your refrigerator: a celery stalk rose just waiting to be revealed with some ink or fabric paint.

Curious? When you prep celery for your next recipe, cut through the stalk about 2 inches from the core end, grab that end in your hand and instead of tossing it into the compost bin, take a look at the roselike pattern the stalks make nestled together. Use it as a natural stamp (it's an ideal size and shape for young children to hold) for printing artistic rose designs.

As you prep your printing station for this crafty idea, ponder all the things you can decorate. Think Mother's Day! Why not stamp rose prints all over tissue paper that will pop out of a gift bag for Mom, Grandma or a special friend? She'll be oohing and aahing over the "roses in bloom" before she even gets to the gift tucked inside.

Keep stamp, stamp, stamping the blooms on gift

tags, lunch bags, place-mats, a playroom wall! You name it.

Here's the stuff you'll need for printing on tissue paper:

- Celery stalk
- Kitchen knife
- Plain sheets of white or light-colored tissue paper
- Acrylic paints or stamp inkpads in colors of your choice for roses and leaves
- Paper plates, if using paints
- Markers for outlining the stamped shape (optional)

Here's the fun:

First, make your celery stalk rose stamp. For a nice design, cut evenly through the entire stalk of celery, about 2-3 inches from the core end. Wipe off moisture on the cut ends. For leaves, cut a 3-inch length from one of the celery ribs. Wipe off moisture on one cut end.

Pour a puddle of paint on a paper plate and lightly dip the cut end of the rose stamp in the paint, or press on an inkpad. Stamp onto tissue paper.

Voila! C'est la rose, a clever design by nature. Continue printing all over the tissue paper.



Decorate with celery 'roses'

Embellish by dipping a cut rib in paint for leaves and stamp lightly around the "roses." Let dry.

Use markers to outline and embellish the

designs, if you wish.

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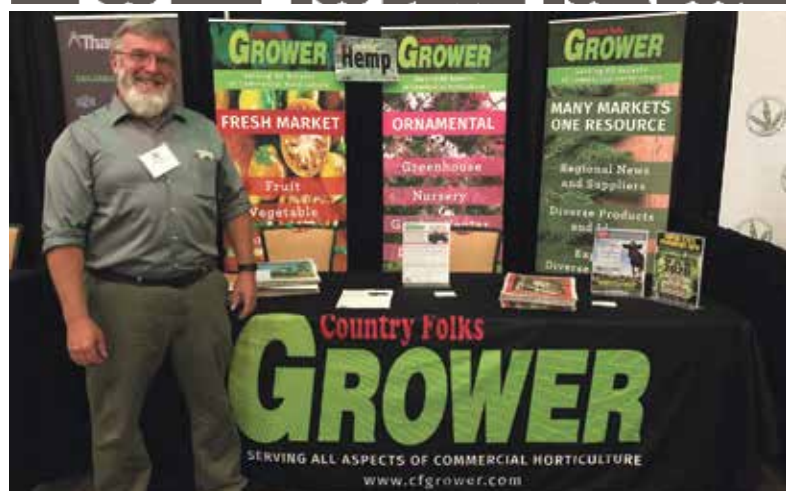
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Poles are not included with the banner

Ground Stake w/Pole: Outdoor

8'x2': \$190 ea. • 10'x2.5': \$230 ea. • 12'x2.5': \$263 ea.

Cross Stand w/Pole: Indoor/Outdoor

8'x2': \$90.75 ea. • 10'x2.5': \$94.50 ea.

12'x2.5': \$102.75 ea.

Replacement Parts:

Ground Stake w/Pole or  
Cross Stand w/Pole:

8': \$139.50 ea.

10': \$145.50 ea.

12': \$153.50 ea.



Free carrying case included with pole.

## VINYL BANNERS

Single Side: \$4.25 per ft<sup>2</sup> (\$4.75 < 10ft<sup>2</sup>)

Double Side: \$8.50 per ft<sup>2</sup>

2x3: SS \$30 ea. DS \$60 ea.

2x6: SS \$51 ea. DS \$102 ea.

3x6: SS \$76 ea. DS \$152 ea.

4x6: SS \$102 ea. DS \$204 ea.

4x8: SS \$136 ea. DS \$272 ea.

Options:

Grommets Included

Additional Cost:

Wind Slits

Pole Pockets

Also available:

HD Polyethylene, Canvas, Fabric & Mesh



## FOLDING PLASTIC A-FRAME SIDEWALK SIGN (2-4mm Coroplast signs included)

24"Wx36"H

Single-Side: \$146.15

Double-Side: \$152.31

18"Wx24"H

Single-Side: \$90.77

Double-Side: \$96.92

24"Wx18"H

Single-Side: \$75.38

Double-Side: \$83.08

SHIPPING: \$20.00

SETUP: \$15.00

## COROPLAST ROADSIDE SIGNS

Full Color Incl.

4 Mil

Single Side: \$77 per pkg.

Double Side: \$93 per pkg.

10 Mil

Single Side: \$110 per pkg.

Double Side: \$142 per pkg.

\$1.50 /stake

Stakes are not included in price of the sign,  
must be ordered upon sign request

Packages Available:

11x11 (32)

12x16 (24)

12x24 (16)

12x34 (10)

12x12 (32)

12x18 (20)

18x24 (10)

10.5x29 (12)

WILL FIT SIDEWALK  
SIGN ABOVE

CUSTOM SIZES  
AVAILABLE -  
CALL FOR QUOTE

## Get Ready for 2020 Cash-N-Carry Coroplast Roadside Signs

Call for Inventory Available • 18" W x 24" H  
\$15.00 Per Sign • Stake & Tax Included • Shipping Additional

Apple Cider  
Apples  
Baked Goods  
Cashier  
Corn Stalks  
Doughnuts  
Estate Sale  
Farm Fresh Eggs  
Farm Fresh Meat

Farm Fresh Pumpkins  
Farm Fresh Turkeys  
Farm Market  
Firewood  
Flowers  
For Rent  
For Sale  
Fresh Produce  
Fresh Sweet Corn

Fruit  
Garage Sale  
Hay For Sale  
Help Wanted  
Honey  
Ice Cream  
Maple Syrup  
Mums  
Parking

Perennials  
Poinsettias  
Pumpkins/Gourds  
Sweet Corn  
Tasting Room  
Tree Farm  
Vegetables  
Wreaths  
Yard Sale

Custom Signs Available - Call For Pricing