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Country Editor

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If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. John 15:10

JULY 16, 2021

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Volume 11 Number 6



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Herkimer BOCES honors local adult students

Fifty-two local adults were recently recognized for earning their diplomas through the Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES Adult Education Literacy Program over the course of the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years.

The Herkimer BOCES adult students graduated either by taking the National External Diploma program or the high school equivalency test known as the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC).

They were then honored at the Adult Literacy Graduate Recognition Program on Wednesday, June 23 at the Herkimer BOCES William E. Busacker Complex in Herkimer.

Herkimer BOCES wasn't able to host a graduation ceremony last summer for the 2019-20 graduates due COVID-19, so the 2019-20 graduates were invited to join the 2020-21 graduates at this year's ceremony.

The following is a list of the 2019-20 and 2020-21 adult literacy graduates:

- National External Diploma graduates: Christine McLean, Manesha Miner, Kaylee Nichols, Lori Seeley, Alyssa Smith and Stephanie Winn

- High school equivalency graduates: Taylor Baker, Collin Barker-Frederick, Karleigh Bormann, Tessa Brock, Shelby Brunette, Jennifer Carpenter, Jared Craft, Orlando Crim, Andrew Crimmins, Jason Diedrich, Rhyannon Dunn, Jonathan Eberle, Michael Finley, Sarah Grainer, Callista Griffin, Christian Groom, Cassidy Grubba, Elizabeth Hall, Jessica Hall, Madeline Helmer, Bryce Jewell, Braden Johnson, Alexander Jones, Gabriella Joslin, Andrew Kampf, Christian Lasher, Tenisa LaQuee, Daniel Lincourt, Kimberlee Loomis, Katie Luke, Rachel Maziarz, Devin Middlemiss, Gregory Neuschel, Devon Nobile, Krista Paulson, Maximo Peña, Marianela Perez-Rosario, Erica Petkovsek, Damian Prior, Joseph Putrelo, James Rider, Martin Robinson, Jeffrey Salamone, Joshua Scalise, Adrienne Smith and James White



Some of the Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES Adult Education Literacy Program graduates from the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years pose during a graduation ceremony in June at the Herkimer BOCES Complex. Photo courtesy of Herkimer BOCES

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Special guest artists join Concert at Hyde Hall

On July 23, the Musicians of Ma'alwyck return to Hyde Hall in Cooperstown for a concert with special guest artists. Jörg-Michael Schwarz, violin and Katrina Smith, viola, join the Musicians of Ma'alwyck's Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz, director and violin, to perform Dvorák's Miniatures paired with the trio of George Templeton Strong. The program draws on the insights of George Templeton Strong who chronicled the musical scene in early America in his diaries. His sons were friends of the Clarke family and spent time at Hyde Hall; a portrait of Louis Strong still hangs in the Drawing Room. In this elegant string trio, Strong's other son, George, a well-respected composer, is coupled with music from Antonin Dvorák and readings from Strong's insightful diaries.

The artists are first-rate and promise a memorable performance. Jörg-Michael Schwarz is a prize winner in several international violin competitions, one of North America's leading Baroque violinists and co-founder and co-director of the award-winning REBEL-Ensemble for Baroque Music, one of the world's premier early music groups. Katrina Smith is a member of the Glimmerglass Festival Orchestra since 1999, is Co-Principal Violist of the Dallas Opera Orchestra and Assistant Principal Violist of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic, and substitutes regularly with the Rhode Island Philharmonic and Hartford Symphony Orchestra. Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz is director and violinist of Musicians of Ma'alwyck, performs with the Glimmerglass Opera Orchestra, teaches as an adjunct professor of violin and viola at Schenectady County Community College (SCCC) and at Union College.

Jonathan Maney, Hyde Hall's Executive Director pointed out that "George Templeton Strong was one of America's most important 19th-century diarists. The fact that his son lived at Hyde Hall for many years makes this concert both fitting and fun."

"George Templeton Strong, Jr. was a fascinating figure," said Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz. "His musical works reflect the romanticism of Richard Strauss and Gustav Mahler, full of harmonic color and intensity. We pair his trio with the music of Dvorák, who visited America in the 1890s, and left with an ample impression of America's musical potential."

The program will include readings from the Strong diaries about 19th-century America and its culture."

The Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. on Hyde Hall's south lawn. Concertgoers can purchase tickets through HydeHall.org or at Eventbrite. In the event of inclement weather, the performance will be moved to the Milford Community Center.



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2019 seems like an eternity ago... but it wasn't all that far in the past. It was pre-COVID so this year some changes will be implemented for the safety of us all BUT... it will be a celebration and we are happy to be back! Watch for more details to follow!!!



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Getting the garden ready for vacation

by **Andrea Knepper, Extension Master Gardener Intern, UVM**

As we finally begin to emerge from the pandemic, and travel options are opening up, many of us are planning to be away from home this summer or fall. Just as we need to make arrangements for the care of our homes and pets, our gardens also will need some attention in our absence.

Other gardeners in your neighborhood may be planning trips as well, so it may be worthwhile to ask around. Take turns checking in on each other's gardens. As an added bonus, you can see how other gardeners manage their space and what they are growing.

There are some things you can do to ensure your garden is thriving when you return, even if you are fortunate enough to have a neighbor or friend who is willing to check periodically.

If your planned absence is a month or more in the future, begin to water

your garden more deeply and less frequently now. This will help the plants adjust to going longer periods without water.

You also can try adding mulch to those beds that require more water. Straw is a great option for this. Avoid using hay as it can contain weed seeds.

You can make a simple drip irrigation watering system out of used plastic water bottles for plants that need to be watered regularly. Dig a hole near the plant to hold the upside-down bottle upright. Use a nail to poke a few holes in the lid of the bottle. Fill the bottle with water and place upside down in the hole you dug. Water will slowly drip out and keep your plant watered. This also is a great solution for containers that dry out quickly.

One to two weeks before travel, begin to work on clearing your garden of weeds. Getting the weeds out will maximize the water available for your garden plants and ensure smaller plants are not

blocked from sunlight.

This is also the time to harvest everything that is ripe. Remove all the ripe vegetables from your garden and eat, share or preserve them. Those ripe vegetables will start to rot

and make more to clean up on your return.

Keep an eye on the forecast just before you leave. If it looks like it will be dry during your trip, water the garden well in the days leading up to

your departure.

Resist the temptation to fertilize plants just before you go. The plants will need more water because of the increase in growth.

Herbs, tomatoes and other vegetables planted

in containers typically need frequent watering throughout the season so can suffer in your absence. Move them into a shady spot that is protected from wind.

Consider setting up drip irrigation using the plastic bottle technique discussed above. Watering spikes, which work in the same way, can be purchased at your local gardening center.

These tips will still apply for travel during September and October as the growing season winds down. You should prioritize being aware of the forecast and adjust watering accordingly. With the cooler temperatures of autumn, you will likely want to water less intensely before you leave.

When you return from your trip, check for ready-to-harvest vegetables and tidy up any that have fallen or rotted. Water as needed.

Follow these tips, and your garden might not even notice you were gone.



Planning ahead when leaving on vacation will ensure that container plants and gardens will continue to thrive.

Photo by Andrea Knepper

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by Lucie Winborne

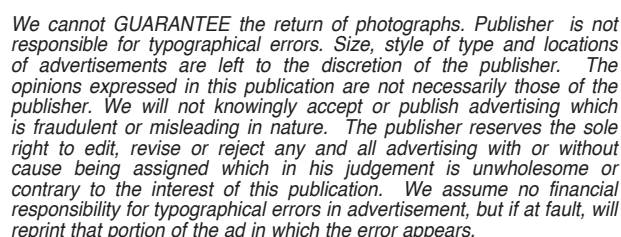
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- Children of identical twins are genetically siblings,

- The green code in “The Matrix” was actually created from symbols in the code designer’s wife’s sushi

Thought for the Day: "There is something beautiful about all scars of whatever nature. A scar means the hurt is over, the wound is closed and healed, done with." – Harry Crews

Utica Tunnel to Towers 5K Run/Walk at the Utica 9/11 Memorial at The Parkway & Sherman Drive and ending on Genesee Street in Downtown Utica. For more info, contact utica@tunnel2towers.org or visit t2t.org.



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315-826-7115
Sunday Worship 10:30am
Intercessory Prayers Tuesday 7pm
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NEW HOPE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Pastor Peter Spiak
32 Spencer St.
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM
Tuesday Bible Study 7 PM

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH OF DOLGEVILLE
Pastor Len Byerly
12 Van Buren St.
Morning Worship 11-12:30 PM
Lunch 12:30-2 PM
Afternoon Worship 2-3 PM

DOLGEVILLE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Anthony Bradseth
21 N. Helmer Ave.
Church Phone 429-7381
Sunday Church Service
Oppenheim @ 9:30 AM
Dolgeville @ 11 AM

DOLGEVILLE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Pastor Marvin Isum
3 Elm St. Phone 429-8390
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM
Mid-week Service Tuesday 7 PM

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Worship 11 AM

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Mass 9 AM Sunday

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Choir Rehearsal 11:30 AM
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Confessions by appointment

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Thursday Bible Study 6:30 PM

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Sunday School 9:15 AM
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or 315-520-4723
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The Medicine Shoppe in Ilion recently donated PPE to the Mohawk Homestead. Steve and Colleen Pardi (pictured) are the owners of the pharmacy and enjoy giving in their community. Steve said, "We consider ourselves very lucky to work with some great organizations." The Medicine Shoppe is located at 10 Central Ave. in Ilion. Photo courtesy of the Mohawk Homestead

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Morning Star UMC trip to Dollywood

Morning Star UMC is sponsoring a bus trip to Dollywood and Christmas in the Smokys Nov. 8-13, 2021. The cost is \$780 per person double occupancy and \$1,080 per person single occupancy, and includes transportation, lodging, breakfasts, four

Christmas shows, three dinners, a tour of the Ole Smoky Moonshine Distillery and other area attractions. A \$50 deposit is due Aug. 3 and the balance September 16. For more information and reservations, contact Margaret at 315.894.9581.

Paw's Corner

by Sam Mazzotta

**Cat Owner Defends
Free-Range Felines**

Dear Paw's Corner:

As an owner of six indoor cats, I would like to respond to your recent article ("Cats shouldn't get free pass to poop"). In the past two years we have had to pay over \$300 for damage done by chipmunks to our car. We cannot have a raised garden here due to rabbits, groundhogs, deer and chipmunks.

When my cats used to be outdoors, I saw very few birds killed by them. Generally, it was mice and moles. My cats would kill snakes and scare off the squirrels.

I brought my cats indoors because of coyotes in the area. Also, one of my cats was attacked by a neighbor and had to be put to sleep.

If there were no cats, you would be totally overrun by mice and rats. How would you like that? I suggest that you print

this letter, that you do not shorten it, that you apologize for what you said about cats and that you think twice before you put something like this in writing again. Thank you.
- Debra in West Virginia

Dear Debra: I will apologize ... for shortening your letter, as we have limited space. You raise many good points based on your personal experience. Cats do keep many rodents at bay, because they are incredibly good hunters. But they are at grave risk being outdoors, from coyotes, from feral cats carrying diseases and from humans who do evil, foul things.

The article that offended you raised many good points about the damage that outdoor cats can do to neighbors' property, and the danger they pose to small creatures. I'm glad you're keeping your cats safe indoors. Doesn't your experience prove the point that cats are safer inside?

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ABOUT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: The event has been held annually since 1984, and is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch in the United States and Canada. National Night Out began simply with neighbors turning on their porch lights and sitting in front of their homes. The first National Night Out involved 2.5 million residents across 400 communities in 23 states; National Night Out 2016 involved 38 million residents in 16,000 communities across the United States. Please join us in the 2021 National Night out... Help us keep a good thing going and help us beat the record!

Herkimer BOCES adult nursing students graduate at 57th Commencement and Pledge Ceremonies

The healthcare field has some much-needed help on the way after 36 local adults graduated from the Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES Adult Practical Nursing Program on Tuesday, July 13.

Graduates of the licensed practical nursing program are now in position to work as LPNs and/or continue their education in healthcare.

Herkimer BOCES District Superintendent Sandra Sherwood shared her appreciation for the nursing students during their graduation ceremonies and pointed out that they studied to become nurses during a pandemic.

"Congratulations to all of you, and thank you for your dedication to this field," Sherwood said. "It is really remarkable. You're going into a field that has never needed you more than now."

The Herkimer BOCES Adult Practical Nursing Program 57th Commencement and Pledge Ceremonies took place at the German Flatts Town

Park. Three separate ceremonies took place – one each for the full-time program, part-time day program and part-time evening program.

The nursing program is currently recruiting students for upcoming LPN classes. For information, call 315.867.2210 or visit www.herkimer-boces.org/LPN or www.facebook.com/HerkimerBOCESLPN.

During the graduation ceremonies, Herkimer BOCES Adult Practical Nursing Program Coordinator Sara Nicolette said a special thank you goes out to the town of German Flatts for allowing a last-minute switch to the use of the indoor community center at the park due to high humidity outside and the possibility of thunderstorms.

Nicolette said the graduates dealt with many other changes along the way – particularly in regard to COVID-19.

"They worked very hard," she said.

For each of the three ceremonies, Sherwood

and Nicolette spoke to the graduates and their guests, nursing faculty members gave speeches, Sherwood and Nicolette presented the diplomas, guests selected by the graduates placed their nursing pins on them, Nicolette announced award winners, faculty member

Janet Vickers led a candle-lighting ceremony and nursing pledge and Herkimer BOCES Director of Adult, Early Childhood and Outreach Education Mary Kline officially announced the classes as graduated.

Erin Brien, the faculty speaker for the full-

time program graduation, thanked students and their supporters for their work in reaching graduation.

"You entered this field in a pandemic," Brien said. "You chose this field in a pandemic. That says a lot about you."

Brien said the students

should be proud of their accomplishments.

"This is hard," she said. "Clinical is hard. Nursing school is hard."

COVID-19 made things particularly challenging.

"Thank you for

Herkimer 11



Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES Adult Practical Nursing Program students in the part-time evening program participate in a candle-lighting ceremony during the 57th Commencement and Pledge Ceremonies on July 13 at the German Flatts Town Park.

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Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES Adult Practical Nursing Program students in the part-time day program participate in a candle-lighting ceremony during their ceremonies.



Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES Adult Practical Nursing Program students in the full-time program participate in the commencement ceremonies.
Photos courtesy of Herkimer BOCES

Herkimer from 10 —

showing up in masks, six feet apart, in a snowstorm and even when your kids were sick," she said.

The part-time day program had two faculty speakers: Marcia Thomas-Bruce and retiring faculty member Mary Prokopienko.

Thomas-Bruce recognized graduates' family and friends for offering outstanding support for the students' journeys.

"This is something that can't be measured and can't be described in words," she said.

Thomas-Bruce discussed how students went to nursing school during a pandemic since March 2020 – including used mannequins that were sowed together, being involved with vaccines and more.

"You guys are part of history," she said.

The flexibility and adaptability that students learned through this time are skills valuable for a nurse now and into the future, and students are needed now more than ever, Thomas-Bruce said.

Prokopienko offered thanks to BOCES administrators and nursing program staff for supporting the program.

"But the people who need the biggest thanks are you," she said, while pointing to the audience.

The graduates' family and friends offered great support and worked very hard along with the graduates, Prokopienko said, so she is glad they were there to help celebrate the student's accomplishments.

Prokopienko also spoke directly to the students.

"I'm so proud of you," she said. "You've worked hard, stayed focused and realized your goal."

Prokopienko encouraged graduates to continue to their next steps of their nursing careers.

"Each of you will be an asset to the healthcare profession," she said.

Janet Vickers was the faculty speaker for the part-time evening program. She mentioned that she graduated from the Herkimer BOCES LPN program in 1981 and is just a week away from being a nurse for 40 years.

As a former student and long-time faculty member, Vickers said she knows well how many aspects are involved with graduating from the program – including learning terminology, anatomy and physiology, diseases and disorders, how to help people deal with their health issues and more.

"It's a long process," she said. "It is truly daunting. They've done a great job."

Herkimer 12

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Herkimer from 11

Switching for a period of time to virtual learning during the pandemic isn't ideal for a hands-on profession such as nursing, but if there's one thing we know for certain it's that nursing requires flexibility and changes occur quickly, Vickers said. A nursing education never ends, she said.

"Nursing is ever-changing, and you'll continue to learn every day," she said.

Vickers said nurses must be honest, compassionate and inquisitive and able to be the person that walks into a room with a smile and allows patients to know that someone cares about them.

"Congratulations," she said, in closing. "Go out there and make a difference."

2021 Graduates

Full-time program:

- Nyisha Alston
- Tarik Boyd
- Shelby Brooks
- Alyssa Cleary
- Jenaye Convertino
- Katrina DePietro
- Sarah Dooley
- Almedina Habib
- Destiny James
- Adela Pekmez
- Amber Polley
- Genesis Rojas Mora
- Emily Santiago

Part-time day program:

- Kari Foster
- Michelle Lasnick
- Hannah Laurion
- Aimee Lewis
- Eddy Meza Altamira-

no

- Brooke Pratt
 - Shannon Rowlands
 - Anne Ryan
 - Elisha Seamon
 - Katherine Wayman
 - Kimberly Wilson
- Part-time evening program:
- Samantha Clark

- Nithsana Dongsavanh

- Nihada Dzehverovic
 - Tasha Floyd
 - Tempestt Martin
 - Jennifer Mazzei
 - Amethyst Murphy
 - Jaymilee Plaza
 - Nicole Purpura
 - Melissa Seelman
 - Kyle Stevens
 - Tammy Wilday
- LPN graduation awards
Highest Average in
Fundamentals of Nursing:

- Full-time: Jenaye Convertino

- Part-time day: Kari Foster

- Part-time evening: Samantha Clark

- Highest Average in Medical Surgical Nursing:

- Full-time: Alyssa Cleary

- Part-time day: Kari Foster

- Part-time evening: Samantha Clark

- Best Clinical Nurse:

- Full-time: Amber Polley

- Part-time day: Hannah Laurion

- Part-time evening: Nicole Purpura

- Most Improved:

- Full-time: Sarah Dooley

- Part-time day: Anne Ryan

- Part-time evening: Tasha Floyd

- Florence Nightingale Award:

- Full-time: Nyisha Alston

- Part-time day: Kimberly Wilson

- Part-time evening: Tammy Wilday

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Tuesday Night Big Band in concert

The Remsen Arts Center is reemerging from the national pandemic. This summer they have teamed with the Remsen Depot to offer outdoor concerts at the Remsen Depot Outdoor Stage. They are also developing a live concert series for late summer and fall to be held at the Remsen Arts Center. Most performances are scheduled for Friday evenings. Their mission is promoting the performing and visual arts in Central New York.

The Remsen Arts Center and Remsen Depot present Tuesday Night Big Band in concert on Tuesday, July 27 at 7 p.m. at the Remsen Depot Outdoor Stage, 10613 Depot St., Remsen. This is an outdoor concert



The Tuesday Night Big Band was formed in the summer of 1991. All experienced musicians, the 14 members reside in the Utica region. At this time, four players from 1991 still remain in the group. Many have been in the group for nearly 20 years.

Photo courtesy of Remsen Arts Center

so bring a lawn chair. Rain site: Remsen Arts Center, 9627 Main St., Remsen. Free general admission. Donations accepted.

The band is a jazz ensemble performing music from the early 20th Century "Big Band Era" plus more recent compositions. Most of the music played by the band was first popular in the 1930s and '40s by big bands, such as ones led by Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, Count Basie, Benny Goodman and many others. The Tuesday Night Big Band enjoys keeping this music alive for audience enjoyment into the 21st century.

The Tuesday Night Big Band was formed in the summer of 1991. All experienced musicians, the 14 members reside in the Utica region. At this time, four players from 1991 still remain in the group, and many have been in the group for nearly 20 years.

More event info at remsenartscenter.org or facebook.com/RemsenArtsCenter. Proceeds from the events will benefit the Remsen Arts Center and Remsen Depot programs.

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Safety first when clearing land

New homeowners often see their homes as blank canvases. Looking at a home as a blank canvas is typically associated with its interior, but it also can apply to landscaping.

Homes are empty of furniture and decorative items like photos and art on the walls when new homeowners move in. That makes it easy to see the interior of a home as a blank canvas. But that's not always so easy in the garden or the yard, where brush, overgrown plants or trees and other eyesores might have been left behind by the previous owners. A landscape must be cleared out before it can be seen as a blank canvas. Though clearing land may seem like a straightforward process, no one knows what lies beneath overgrowth or neglected areas of a yard or garden. Do-it-yourselfers can typically clear land on their own, but some safety strategies should be kept in mind to ensure the process goes smoothly.

- Wear appropriate PPE. Personal protective equipment should be worn when clearing land. The appropriate PPE when clearing land includes attire and other gear that many homeowners likely already have on hand. A long-sleeve shirt, puncture proof pants and gloves and slip-resistant work boots should be worn when clearing land. Homeowners also may want to invest in a hard hat if they will be cutting branches off of trees or cutting trees down. A face shield also may be a good bet depending on the scale and potential dangers of the project.

- Contact your utility company. Overhead power and telephone lines are visible to the naked eye, and homeowners should be conscious of those lines as they cut any high branches. But underground lines are not visible, and that can make clearing land dangerous. Homeowners are urged to contact their utility companies before they begin to clear any land so they can determine if any underground lines are beneath areas they intend to clear out.

- Get a lay of the land. Carefully inspect the area to be cleared prior to

starting the project. Inspections can reveal the density of any vegetation that may need to be removed and reveal if there are any harmful plants like poison ivy growing. Many DIYers can remove small trees on their own, but a professional tree service may be necessary for large trees or those located close to the house. Homeowners won't want to cut down a tree, even a small one, if it can potentially fall onto the house. In addition, homeowners who are unfamiliar with chippers or stump grinders may be better off hiring a tree service to clear trees.

- Don't go it alone. No one should clear land alone. Even small proj-

Carefully inspect the area to be cleared prior to starting the project.

ects are best tackled by at least two people. Should someone get injured during the project, the presence of another person ensures someone can immediately call for help. In addition, clearing land can be more difficult than it appears, and having at least two people to pull old shrubs or carry tree branches reduces the risk of injury.



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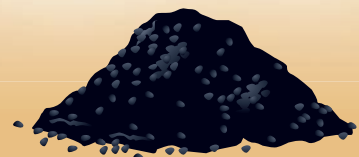
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Herkimer BOCES Board of Education elects 2021-22 leaders, appoints new member

The Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES Board of Education re-elected Thomas Shypski to his third one-year term as board president on July 8 and elected Michael Clements to his first one-year term as board vice president.

Herkimer BOCES Board of Education members also unanimously appointed Samuel Luce to the board to fill a seat vacated by Daniel Voce, who resigned due to time constraints from increasing demands of his job. Voce served on the Herkimer BOCES Board of Education for 11 years and as the board's vice president from July 2019 through the end of June 2021.

These decisions were made during the Herkimer BOCES Board of Education's annual reorganization meeting held July 8 at Herkimer BOCES.

Shypski, representing Richfield Springs Central School District on the BOCES board, has also served on the Richfield Springs Board of Education since 2004. He has been on the Herkimer BOCES Board of Education since 2009 and is now starting his third

year as Herkimer BOCES board president. He previously served six years as the Herkimer BOCES board vice president.

Clements, representing Frankfort-Schuyler Central School District on the BOCES board, has been on the Frankfort-Schuyler Board of Education for the past seven years. He is now starting his fourth year on the Herkimer BOCES Board of Education.

Shypski, Clements and board member William Miller, at-large representing Little Falls, were also sworn in during the reorganization meeting after being re-elected to the Herkimer BOCES board by component district school boards this spring to serve three-year terms from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024.

Prior to Herkimer BOCES board members

appointing Luce, Herkimer Central School District Board of Education members nominated him to fill the seat representing their district on the BOCES board. He will serve the remainder of Voce's term, which ends on June 30, 2022. The seat will be up for election in spring 2022 for a three-year term.

Luce has a bachelor's degree in theology, a mas-

ter's degree in biblical and theological studies and a master's degree in Christian and classical studies. He has served for three years on the board of the International Network of Children's Ministry including two years as board president. Luce is a pastor at Redeemer Church in Utica and has served as the education director there for 24 years.

The Herkimer BOCES Board of Education reorganization meeting additionally included setting

the schedule of meetings for the 2021-22 school year. Board meetings will all take place at 5:30 p.m. on the following Thursdays:

- Aug. 12, 2021
- Sept. 2 (special meeting)
- Sept. 16
- Oct. 14
- Nov. 4
- Dec. 9
- Jan. 13, 2022
- Feb. 10, 2022
- March 10, 2022
- April 21, 2022
- May 19, 2022
- June 9, 2022



Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES Board of Education member Thomas Shypski is sworn in for his third one-year term as board president by Board Clerk Shawn Maxson. Photo courtesy of Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES

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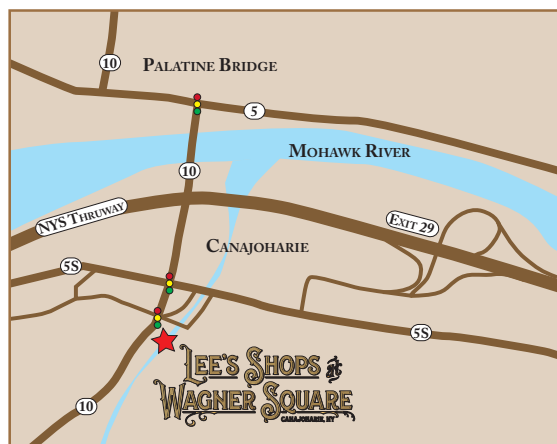
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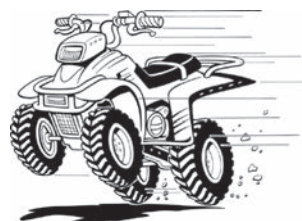
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Coffee Break



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

3		7			8			5
		5	1			2		
	1			7			4	3
	4		6	1				7
		6	5				1	
2					4	9		
	8				2	5		1
		9		3			6	
1			4			7		

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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Consumer Alert: The Division of Consumer Protection and DMV warn of text message phishing scam

Scammers Use Fake Text Message to Try to Get Users to Click on Fraudulent Link

The NYS Division of Consumer Protection and the Department of Motor Vehicles recently warned New Yorkers of a text message phishing scheme. Phishing texts are fraudulent messages designed to obtain data or sensitive personal information to be used to commit identity theft or trick the recipient into installing malicious software onto a computer or mobile device.

The illegitimate text messages reference the Secretary of State NY Drivers License Facility and tells recipients they are required to update their data for their current NY Drivers License. Anyone who received such a text message should delete it right away.

To help protect against phishing or smishing (SMS phishing) scams, the NYS Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) and the Division of Consumer Protection recommend the following precautions:

- DO exercise caution with all communications you receive, including those that appear to be from a trusted entity. Inspect the sender's information to confirm the message was generated from a legitimate source.

- DO keep an eye out for telltale signs of phishing - poor spelling or grammar, the use of threats, the URL does not match that of the legitimate site. If the message does not feel right, chances are it is not.

- DON'T click on links embedded in an unsolicited message from an unverified source.

- DON'T send your personal information via text. Legitimate businesses will not ask users to send sensitive personal information through text message.

- DON'T post sensitive information online. The less information you post, the less data you make available to a cybercriminal for use in developing a potential attack or

scams.

For more information on phishing scams, as well as steps to mitigate a phishing attempt, visit the NYS Office of Information Technology Services Phishing Awareness resources page at its.ny.gov/resources or the Division of Consumer Protection Phishing Scam Prevention Tips page at dos.ny.gov/identity-theft-prevention-and-mitigation-program.

The NYS Division of Consumer Protection serves to educate, assist and empower the State's consumers. For more consumer protection information, call the DCP Helpline at 800.697.1220, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. or visit the DCP website at dos.ny.gov/consumer-protection. The Division can also be reached via Twitter at @NYSConsumer or Facebook at www.facebook.com/nysconsumer.

MAGIC MAZE • WORDS MADE OF CELLS

X M J M E G D A X V S N Q N K
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L E E N M J O H C N C C C F C
A L C T Y W E H U E O E R P N
L L E I I J H X P L L L F D B
Z M L C X L C V C L B L T R Q
O A L E O E U M U E L E I K I
H T U L L T F L D C L E B S Z
Y E L L E C O Y L X E L C W T
V T A O R I Q H O E C N E T L
K R R S D I H F P D C C A D Z

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: A Room Below Ground Level

Cellblock	Cellphone	Excelled	Nacelle
Cellist	Cellular	Excellent	Photocell
Cellmate	Cellulite	Lycell	T cell
Cellos	Celluloid	Monticello	

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Parking place
4 Toy block name
8 Narcissist's love
12 Bashful
13 Cameo shape
14 Russian river
15 Home
17 Wheels of fortune?
18 One of the Fab Four
19 Doze
20 Con games
22 Facebook action
24 Director Wertmuller
25 Tyrannize
29 Vichy water
30 Church keyboard
31 Big D.C. lobby
32 Realm
34 Hertz rival
35 Swiss peaks
36 Justice Kagan
37 Waterlogged
40 Mideast airline
41 Say it's so
42 Rectangular game pieces
46 Painter Magritte
47 Regarding
48 Shell-game

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16					17		
		18					19			
20	21				22	23				
24				25				26	27	28
29				30				31		
32			33					34		
		35					36			
37	38	39				40				
41				42	43				44	45
46				47				48		
49				50				51		

- item
49 Initial chip
50 Optimum
51 Stately tree
- DOWN
- 1 Leary's drug
2 Discoverer's call
3 Ear membrane
4 Venue
5 Satan's forte
6 Lass
7 Flamenco cheer
8 Morose
9 Buffalo's lake
- 10 Hobbling
11 Broadway failure
16 "— Rock"
19 Epidermis
20 Rosebud, to Kane
21 Pisa farewell
22 Trademark symbols
23 One-named supermodel
25 Faucet problem
26 Letter holder
27 Ms.
28 Tabula —
- 30 Unique
33 "Amen to that!"
34 Actor Rickman
36 "Adam Bede" author
37 Poet Teasdale
38 Roasting spot
39 Bloke
40 911 responders
42 Wee dollop
43 Sugary suffix
44 Moray, for one
45 America's uncle

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Coffee Break

Home Country

by Slim Randles




There is in the splashing of the creek a great spray of diamonds. As each youngster sails like an astronaut out on the tire swing, then releases the hold on the earth to flail, suspended in time and space for that brief second or two, there is a timelessness, a postponement of all things evil and destructive, an affirmation of joy.

The swimming hole in Lewis Creek has been there since Indian times, of course, and the tire swing was probably preceded by simply a rope with knots in it. It is one of the summer lodestones of our existence. Each summer we have to make our pilgrimage in the hot sun to the hole below the little waterfall, to the place where Lewis Creek widens and deepens for the benefit of hot, dry people before becoming just a creek again. And in this widening of the creek, this sacred place in our summer lives, we also play witness to the passage of years.

Across the creek from the tree with the tire swing, the gravelly bottom extends gently with almost no current for 10 feet or so. This is the baby beach, where

squealing tots are allowed to cool off without benefit (or hindrance) of any more covering than the smiles of their parents. As the children grow, they venture farther out into the current of the creek and test their strength against the forces of nature. By the time a youngster is eight or 10, the seduction of the tire swing becomes overwhelming and the flailing of the arms and legs against the blue of the sky begin. Later still, when gangliness becomes fluidity and sleekness, and we want to make catlike moves to attract the opposite sex, the tire is used as a swinging platform for exquisite dives into the deep part of the creek where the big trout lie in cold holes.

And as we age, and we watch our children come to love the hole in Lewis Creek, and as we sip lemonade in the shade as our grandchildren work their ways up the swimming hole chain of life, we can look at the splashing of the creek and see, with each sleek dive, with each laughing bellyflop, the diamonds of the creek sent skyward, and the laughter stays with us and keeps us strong and makes us feel rich, and fortunate.



It is unnecessary to say the hole in Lewis Creek is an important part of our lives, because it, along with so many other treasures of the years, really is our lives.

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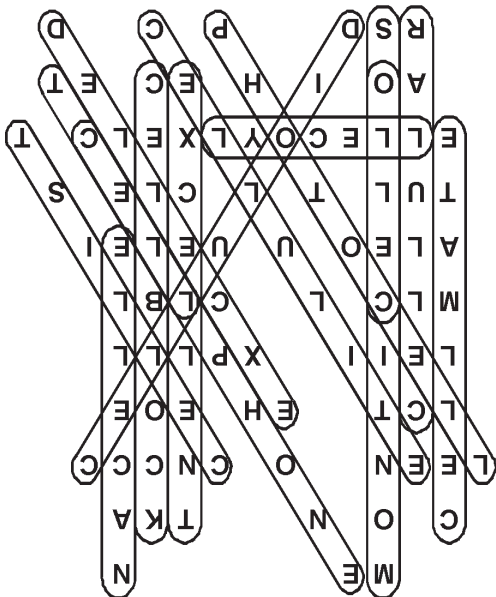
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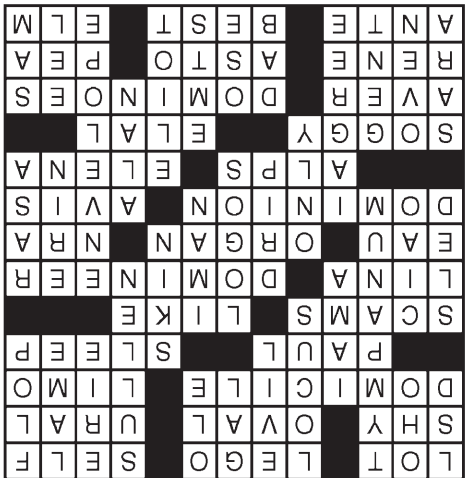
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WORDS MADE OF CELLS



"I'm tired of keeping myself beautiful for him!"



Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	5	9	8	3	1	4	6	2
6	8	4	7	9	2	5	3	1
2	7	1	3	8	4	9	5	6
9	3	6	5	2	7	8	1	4
5	4	8	6	1	9	3	2	7
8	1	2	9	7	5	6	4	3
4	9	5	1	6	3	2	7	8
3	6	7	2	4	8	1	9	5

Bible Trivia

by **Wilson Casey**

1. Is the book of Haman in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Genesis 21, who did Abraham banish to the desert in addition to

- Hagar? Laish, Haman, Ishmael, Laban
3. Which two disciples asked Jesus if they could sit on his right and his left? Philip, James, Thomas, John
4. Samson was put into prison as a

political enemy of whom? Romans, Israelites, Philistines, Assyrians

5. From Matthew 17, who did Jesus send fishing to find tax money? Andrew, Peter, Paul, Judas

6. After her first husband died, who did Ruth marry? Isaiah, Ahab, Boaz, Jehu
- Answers: 1) Neither; 2) Ishmael; 3) James/John; 4) Philistines; 5) Peter; 6) BOAZ

Now Here's A Tip

by **JoAnn Derson**

• Dill planted near tomatoes will draw caterpillars away from the fruits, and it's delicious.

• Potato salad will have more flavor if you whisk together all the dressing ingredients and add it to the potatoes when they are warm. The potatoes will absorb the ingredients better, and the flavor will develop even more during refrigeration.

• "I love to grill, and when it's nice out, we grill every weekend. I always put on extra and use the leftovers through the week. Chicken in salad, a nice flank steak for fajitas, etc. And it means less cooking for me!" - Y.L. in Maryland

• Here's a great recipe for an icy treat: Freeze orange juice or apple juice in ice trays. Throw a handful in the blender for a fruit slush that can't be beat on a hot day.

• "A lot of smoke was coming off our grill, and our patio doors were wide open. Long story short: It swamped the living room with smoke. The smell was a little overwhelming. After we closed the door, my neighbor doused a kitchen towel with white vinegar, wrung it out and waved it around the room. It

cleared out the smoke smell right away and the vinegar smell went away just as quickly. What a miracle!" - F.F. in South Carolina

• Got poison ivy? The maddening itch might find relief from coffee grounds or a cooled cuppa. It contains anti-inflammatories.

Good Housekeeping

Cantaloupe Boats

Drizzle honey and toasted almonds over raspberries, frozen yogurt and sweet melon for a simple summer treat.

Ingredients:

1/4 cup sliced almonds

1/4 cup honey

1 medium ripe cantaloupe, cut into quarters, with seeds removed

1 pint vanilla frozen yogurt

1/2 pint raspberries

Directions:

1. In small nonstick skillet, toast al-

monds over medium heat just until golden, stirring frequently. Remove skillet from heat and stir in honey; set aside.

2. To serve, place cantaloupe quarters on 4 dessert plates. Top with frozen yogurt, raspberries and warm almond mixture. Serves 4.

* Each serving: About 330 calories, 8g total fat (3g saturated), 2mg cholesterol, 125mg sodium, 64g total carbohydrate, 8g protein.

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Sat., July 24th – Sale held on the farm – Sharon Springs, NY. 10:30 AM Burr Farm Complete Machinery & Equip. Auction. Full line of Harvest & Tillage Equip plus 5 Tractors: JD 4440 w/cab, JD 4240 w/cab, JD 4020 w/48 loader, JD 2840 Farmall 200, JD 575 Skid steer. Owner: Peter Hansen. GPS address: 122 Burr Lane, Sharon Springs, NY. Watch future ads for complete details.

Mon., July 26th – Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Organic Day

Mon., Aug. 2nd – Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Fat Cow & Feeder Sale

Mon., Aug. 9th – Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Heifer Sale

Sat., Aug. 14th – sale held at our facility. 11:30AM Summer Production Sale – Selling 100 head of Registered All Breed Dairy Cattle. Already some exciting consignments from: Dutchview; Sweet-Peas; Mac-Mara, Retso, Morrill Dairy, Fantasy-Found, Ron Andrews, Peaceful Valley, Liddleholme plus more. Selling Holsteins, Guernseys, Ayrshires, Shorthorns & Jerseys. One Holstein Service Bull Call asap if you would like to consign before this sale fills up and to get into the advertising.

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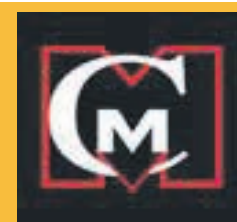
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