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and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. 1 John 4:16



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The 315 Foodies Guinness World Record Event: Why it's more than just fun and games

by **Mike Cassella,**
Co-Founder

On Sept. 26 in Little Falls, amongst the carnival atmosphere of music, craft beer, eating contests, kids fun zone, and much more, a record will be set for the world's longest charcuterie board.

But that's only the headline. More interesting are the details which make such an event possible; details which speak to a larger and more important purpose.

315 Foodies is a group of over 75,000 members across multiple social media platforms. Its founding principles are to highlight Central New York home cooks and restaurants, provide an outlet for culinary expression and dialogue, and to bring world-wide attention to The 315 as a food, beverage and travel destination. This event, this massive community effort, was conceived as a means to advance those ideals.

So if it's not all fun and games then what IS this thing about?

Having been involved from the start over two years ago I can tell you...

It's about hundreds of individuals volunteering

their time and energy. People taking a day off from their jobs just to be there. People living in other parts of America buying tickets even though they can't attend, simply to show their support. People making phone calls, sharing ideas, advice, making connections, and offering solutions to this massive planning effort because they want to be part of something positive in their community.

It's about the over 50 area businesses coming through in big ways, not just financially but with donations for tents, tables, shuttle service, a music stage, plates and dining items, hundreds of pounds of meat and cheese, and of course the event centerpiece, a 315 foot charcuterie board which was designed, built, and generously donated by North Hudson Woodcraft of Dolgeville.

It's about the dozens of

media outlets including Spectrum News, My Little Falls and *The Country Editor*, who have graciously covered the lead up

economy, business community, and charities who will benefit, including the Food Bank of Central New York. Last holiday season

our region, one notices festivities such as the Madison-Bouckville Antique show, Clinton Farmers Market, food truck

community, as with this event. But the foundations each are built upon provide a base for future success.

The 315 Foodie community is already having great success promoting our region. Membership continues to grow and now consists of foodies in over 30 countries, and this event will no doubt gain headlines around the globe.

For complete festival details or to become a volunteer or business sponsor, visit 315foodies.com/world-record. To buy tickets, visit 315foodies.com/tickets and use promo code COUNTRYEDITOR to save \$10 off general admission or early access. Children 12 & under are FREE.

Senior, student and military discounts available at the gate.



to this event and helped spread the word.

And it's about giving back... to the people who live here, our local

this group raised \$11,500 for the food bank. This year's goal is an ambitious \$31,500.

When looking around

successful because the community embraced them. Alone, these events cannot revitalize a

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SQSPCA announces formation of Helping Paws Society

Still in celebratory mode after the move to a state-of-the-art animal shelter in mid-July, the Susquehanna Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SQSPCA) is already looking to the future.

In order to meet the growing need for SQSPCA

services and still cover ever-increasing recurring costs, SQSPCA officials have announced the launch of a new Annual Fund donation tier, the Helping Paws Society, aimed at securing donors at the \$1,000+ level.

"A generous benefactor has thrown down the

gauntlet, so to speak," said SQSPCA Executive Director Stacie Haynes. "To help us build the Helping Paws Society, which will in turn increase operational support, this donor has offered to match donations of \$1,000 or more dollar for dollar, up to \$100,000."

Coming off an extremely successful capital campaign that raised more than \$5 million in just under three years, the SQSPCA is currently adjusting to life in both new shelter and thrift store facilities just 1.2 miles north of the former location on State Route 28 between Cooperstown and Oneonta.

"Our new shelter is comparable to a state-of-the-art healthcare facility, with sophisticated and complex plumbing, electrical and HVAC systems designed specifically for our needs," Haynes explained.

These upgrades are not without continued associated costs, though, Haynes said.

"The reality is that the new building requires additional expense and investment to maintain," she continued, "and the shelter revenue streams don't come close to covering recurring operational costs, even prior to the move.

"The combined total of

adoption fees, thrift store sales and municipal contract income is far lower than our expenses, especially now, in light of the fact that the maintenance requirements of the new building are more complicated and more expensive," Haynes explained.

The SQSPCA is dependent upon philanthropy to bridge that gap.

"We are converting from capital campaign to Annual Fund mode not only to meet these new expenses but also to cover recurring costs that continue to escalate, such as insurance and wages," Haynes said.

The new facilities will further improve the daily lives of sheltered dogs and cats by better conforming to guidelines established by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians. Upgraded features include two entrances separating incoming animals from visitors and animals leaving for their new homes, a sterile surgery suite with safe recovery area, a fresh air

ventilation system to benefit visitors as well as animals under shelter care and convenient parking.

"A vibrant Helping Paws Society will allow us to continue these positive trends in the organization's efficacy as well as in the public services we are able to provide, and will ensure that we can maximize all the possibilities of the new campus," Haynes said.

To become a charter member of the Helping Paws Society, visit sqspca.org/support/make-a-donation or call 607.547.8111 ext. 101. Donors who have already made gifts of \$1,000 or more in 2021, or who have SHELTER US pledge payments scheduled, will be included among the list of founding members.

Donor recognition of Helping Paws Society members will include a plaque in the shelter building and a reception later this year. The new shelter is located at 5082-5088 State Route 28, Cooperstown.



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Ways to stay connected during COVID-19

In response to COVID-19, community-based organizations around the country have developed programs to provide a variety of ways to help older adults stay connected to others in their communities. Whether you move an exercise class online or creating new activities to build connections, local organizations in your community are likely offering new interactive options for activities that had taken place in person prior to COVID-19.

Below are some great suggestions on how to stay connected:

Reaching out to others – Send a letter to a friend or loved one to brighten their day. Or, make a phone call to share a recipe or talk about the latest TV show or movie you watched.

Volunteering to help others – Another way to

stay connected is by volunteering to share your skills with others. There are a variety of ways to do this virtually.

Honing your online capabilities – Many people are using online tools

to connect with friends and family. If you need assistance with learning how to get started online, you can always visit www.seniorplanet.org. There is a great article, “Stuck at Home Guide: How to Get

Online” that explains getting online in depth.

Being Creative – Engaging in art can be a great outlet for our brains and self-expression. There are a variety of online classes offered on the internet

(singing, dance, drawing, etc).

Getting Physical – Staying active can boost endorphins and help eliminate feelings of loneliness. Whether you take a walk, exercise on your own, or even get involved with an online exercise group, this can offer great benefits.

Fortunately, the **Elder-care Locator**, a public service of the U.S. Administration for Community Living, can connect older adults and caregivers across the country to

organizations that offer a variety of activities to help individuals stay engaged and connected to their communities.

Visit engagingolderadults.org to learn more.

For more information, contact Herkimer County Office for the Aging/NY Connects at 315.867.1124 or visit herkimercounty.org and go to departments then Office for the Aging or check out Facebook at facebook.com/HerkimerCountyOfficefortheAging-2049211391975981.



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Sat. Oct. 9th – Morrisville, NY. 38th Annual Magic of Morrisville Autumn Review Sale. Consignments are underway by contacting us or Sale Chairs or Consignment Chairs: Callum Hutchins 802-393-2850, Devin Kuhn 607-242-7651, Haley Christie 603-504-4502, Grace Stroud 585-993-6675, Bryce Warriner 607-426-1374.

Mon. Oct. 11th – Normal Monday sale & Monthly Heifer Sale

Sat. Oct. 16th – sale held at our facility - **FALL MACHINERY CONSIGNMENT SALE – WE WILL BE ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS CALL TO GET INTO EARLY ADVERTISING.**

Mon. Oct. 18th – Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Sheep, Lamb, Goat & Pig Sale. **ALSO OUR FALL ROUND-UP BEEF SALE.** We will be having our special beef sales selling Cow/calf pairs, feeders, brood cows. Call to advertise your group. We will be taking the cattle in on Sunday, Oct. 22nd if needed before by appointment – plenty of hay and water provided.

Sat. Oct. 23rd – Sale held on the farm – Moravia, NY. 10:30AM. Faith Farms LLC. Complete Grassfed Organic Herd Dispersal & Machinery Auction. Selling 95 Milking age a year around herd with a lot of cows due in the fall and 40 youngstock – Crossbred Herd. Owner: Larry & Debora Barron 315- 729-5393. Watch for future ads on this sale!

Sat. Oct. 30th – 11:30AM Fall Premier All-Breeds Dairy Sale. Accepting 100 head of All Breed Registered Dairy Cattle selections are underway – this sale always fills fast so contact us today. Watch for more info on this great sale!

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Autumn rhubarb care

by Joyce Amsden,
Extension Master
Gardener Intern, UVM

Are you one of those people who loves rhubarb pie, cake, sauce and even preserving rhubarb for off-season use?

Although not everyone enjoys eating rhubarb, few dispute its majestic beauty. Whether grown for aesthetics or food, this hardy perennial can be a long-lived addition to the gardening landscape.

Every five to 10 years you need to divide your rhubarb plants to prevent the roots from becoming too dense. Signs of this are smaller, more plentiful stalks and failure to produce stalks at the center of the plant.

While most gardening experts recommend dividing the roots in spring, it can be done successfully in autumn, if timed carefully.

Dividing and planting needs to be done early enough for the roots to become established but late enough that the newly transplanted root does not push up leaves instead of going dormant. Think mid to late September.

If you decide to wait until spring to plant rhubarb, you can prepare your bed now and be prepared for early spring planting. Rhubarb needs good drainage, plenty of water and fertilizer or compost.

To prepare the bed, you will need to dig out a three- to four-foot-wide



Rhubarb can be divided in autumn by digging up the existing plant and dividing at the natural weak points between buds, leaving at least one or two buds per division. Photo courtesy of Di Reynolds/Pixabay

by two-foot-deep area for each plant. If your soil has poor drainage, consider creating a raised bed. An undersized bed may discourage optimal root growth and hold water leading to root rot.

Work three to four inches of compost or composted manure into the soil. If not planting until spring, cover the bed with an inch of straw mulch, and add an additional two inches after the ground freezes.

For autumn division, dig up your existing plant and divide at the natural weak points between buds with at least one or two buds per division. Plant your division in the

new location one to two inches deep with the bud on top.

Cover with soil and press down to eliminate air pockets. Be careful not

to damage the buds. Add an inch of straw mulch.

If you're not dividing your rhubarb plants this autumn, you can remove the stalks and leaves after the first killing frost. While fine for the compost heap, do not eat the stalks at this time. The oxalic acid, a powerful toxin in rhubarb leaves, moves into the stalks when the leaves are damaged.

Remove grass and weeds as they crowd the plants and can harbor insects that damage rhubarb. You can add a little compost or composted manure once the plant

is fully dormant. Adding too much in fall can delay dormancy needed for winter hardiness.

After the ground freezes, add about three inches of mulch to your existing rhubarb plants or new transplants. Waiting for the freeze helps the plant become fully dormant and discourages rodents from establishing routes under the mulch and snacking on your plants' roots over winter.

As winter waxes long, look for new rhubarb recipes to try so you will be ready for spring with a shovel in one hand and a spoon in the other!

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How social isolation and loneliness harm our mental and physical health

Our minds and bodies can respond to the stress of social isolation and loneliness in many ways:

- There is a significant relationship between social connections and our health.
- Some effects, such as feelings of anxiety and loneliness, are felt almost immediately.
- Other effects, such as heart disease, inflammation and cognitive decline, may develop over time.

By increasing our connections to others and to those around us, we can help eliminate the effects that social isolation and loneliness can have on our minds and bodies. Whether it is through finding new methods, or revisiting old ways of staying connected to others, we can take control of our health and happiness; one connection at a time.

Recognizing Social Isolation in Yourself and Others

To help determine whether you or a loved one is experiencing feelings of loneliness and social isolation, experts recommend using an instrument such as the UCLA3-Item Loneliness Scale. By answering "hardly ever," "some of the time" or "often" to the three questions below, we can determine the extent to which friends, family, loved ones and ourselves are undergoing social isolation and loneliness.

- How often do you feel isolated from others?
- How often do you feel that you lack companionship?
- How often do you feel left out?

If you, a family member or a friend answered "some of the time" or "often" to any of the ques-

tions above, it may be time to seek engagement opportunities in your community.

Fortunately, the Herkimer County Office for the Aging can assist in offering ways to stay connected to others. In addition to this, the office also offers Animatronic Pets as a means of eliminating the effects of Social Isolation and loneliness. If you or a loved one are interested in obtaining an Animatronic Pet, do not hesitate to contact us.

For more information, contact Herkimer County Office for the Aging/NY Connects at 315.867.1124 or visit herkimercounty.org and go to departments then Office for the Aging or check out Facebook at facebook.com/Herkimer-County-Office-for-the-Aging-2049211391975981.

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

September 25

New Book "Wicked Herkimer County" Booksigning 10 a.m.-Noon on the front lawn of the 1834 Herkimer County Jail, 327 N. Main St., Herkimer, NY.

Herkimer College on-campus Information Session at 10 a.m. Open to all prospective students and their family members. Interested attendees can register at herkimer.edu/visit.

September 25-26

45th Annual Fall Antiques in Schoharie at Schoharie Valley Railroad Complex, Depot Lane, Schoharie Village. Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 26 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free parking.

October 2

New York State's premier gathering of cheesemakers at **Little Falls Cheese Festival**, Main Street, Little Falls 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Prevailing CDC guidelines regarding COVID-19 will be followed by festival organizers and expected of all participants. For more information, contact littlefallscheesefestival@gmail.com or visit www.littlefallscheesefestival.com

October 4

Rabies clinic at Susquehanna SPCA 4 - 7 p.m. Register at 607.547.8111 ext 111.

October 7

Rabies Clinic 5:30-7 p.m. at Dolgeville Fire Department, 20 South Helmer Ave., Dolgeville. Pre-registration will end at 12 p.m. Oct. 6. Pre-register by calling 315.867.1176.

October 10

Fort Plain DAR Open House 3-5 p.m. at the Fort Plain DAR Chapter House. For more information call 518.774.3384.

October 15 and 16

Fifth Annual Basket Raffle 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. both days at Mohawk Reformed Church, 20 South Otsego Street, Mohawk. Many themed baskets and gift cards. Masks required. Contact 315.866.4292 or mrcoffice@verizon.net for further information.

October 15-17

Sir William Johnson and the Wars for Empire Conference. Visit tinyurl.com/8f8v4yfk to register online.

November 6

Rabies Clinic 7-9 a.m. East Herkimer Fire Department, 193 Main Rd., East Herkimer. Pre-registration will end at 12 p.m. on Nov 5. Pre-register by calling 315.867.1176.

Annual Christmas Carousel, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Morning Star UMC, 36 Second St., Ilion. For more information, send e-mail to barbara.horwald@gmail.com. Reference Christmas Carousel.

November 7

Yearly meatloaf dinner St. Pauls UU Church 565 Albany St. Little Falls NY to-go only 4-7 p.m. or until sold out. Delivery available to limited area.

November 13

Central Valley Central School District Foundation Turkey Trot road race on the Erie Canal Trail at German Flatts Town Park at 555 State Route 5S in Mohawk. Visit tinyurl.com/ypc726ft to register.

November 15

Rabies clinic at Susquehanna SPCA 2 - 5 p.m. Register at 607.547.8111 ext 111.

December 5

St. Nicholas Day 12-3 p.m. Fort Klock, 7214 State Route 5, St. Johnsville. Call 518.568.7779.

December 13

Rabies clinic at Susquehanna SPCA 2 - 5 p.m. Register at 607.547.8111 ext 111.



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The basics of hunting seasons

Hunting has been around a long time. According to Britannica, hunting as many know it today began in ancient Greece. Various game were hunted to provide food, fuel and materials to make clothing and blankets. In the Middle Ages, hunting was the privilege of nobility and linked to land ownership. Hunting is now strictly regulated in many countries and is typically used as a



Hunting limits and clearly defined hunting seasons are often spelled out in detail in local hunting laws.

way to control wildlife populations that would otherwise overrun certain areas.

Hunting limits and clearly defined hunting seasons are often spelled out in detail in local hunting laws. Wildlife commissions across states set up strict time periods that govern which game can be hunted. Legislation also dictates size limits and the amount of game that can be killed. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission breaks down hunting seasons into big game, waterfowl, small game, and webless migratory game birds. Seasons vary depending on where hunters live.

The hunting education resource Hunter-Ed says hunting seasons are determined by the type of animal, the environment and animal characteristics like

maturing season. Wildlife biologists in various regions study animal populations and make recommendations on hunting seasons. "Open season" is when a species may be legally hunted, and tends to coincide with when the population of that species is at its highest, without interfering with breeding times.

Many hunters eagerly await "opening day" so they can start their hunting right away. The season is "closed" when hunters are no longer allowed to go after that game. Food shortages, extreme temperatures and low population numbers may affect season duration. Archery seasons tend to begin before firearm seasons in many states. Hunting outside of seasons is known as poaching and is punishable by law.

Turkey is typically hunted in spring or autumn. Migratory waterfowl hunting tends to open in late Sep-

tember and early October. The seasons to hunt deer, and their close cousins like caribou, moose and reindeer, open in late September and early October, continuing into November for firearms hunting.

Hunters will be required to obtain a hunting license. At the time of licensure, hunters also may be given tags for their game animals. A tag is a physical permit the hunter carries with them that must be attached to an animal immediately after it is felled. Hunters are reigned in by the number of tags they have, which will coordinate with game limits. The tag will need to be completed with the date and time of harvest and the location.

To learn more about hunting seasons where you live, contact your local fish and wildlife organization or visit huntingseasonhq.com for a state-by-state listing of hunting seasons.

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- Inspire and inform farm families and their supporters
- Increase awareness of the benefits that small farms contribute to society and the environment
- Share important research, extension, and other resources with our readers

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Herkimer BOCES welcomes back 10-month staff, recognizes employees for reaching milestones

Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES 10-month staff returned on Sept. 1 for the start of the 2021-22 school year.

Herkimer BOCES Superintendent Sandra Sherwood and Herkimer BOCES Board of Education President Thomas Shypski welcomed all Herkimer BOCES employees for the event.

During Sherwood's opening presentation, she reviewed COVID-19 protocols and discussed the hopes of providing in-person instruction to students throughout the school year.

"The goal is not just to have a successful opening, but to stay open," Sherwood said.

Herkimer BOCES conducted Superintendent's Conference Days on Sept. 1 and 2, in line with 10-month staff returning for the school year. Refreshments also were provided to start the day in the WEB Complex lobby and the Remington Educational Complex cafeteria.

The opening day took place with employees split into groups in various rooms at the William E. Busacker Complex in Herkimer and the Remington Educational Complex in Ilion. There also were receptions with refreshments at each location to start the day.

Sherwood and Shypski spoke from the WEB Complex lobby, and they were live-streamed to the various rooms at the two BOCES buildings.

Shypski welcomed back employees and discussed how many extra challenges employees faced in the past year and a half due to COVID-19 and how those challenges



Sharon Risley received an apple sculpture for reaching 35 years at Herkimer BOCES.

Photos courtesy of Herkimer BOCES



(L - R) Staff who have been at Herkimer BOCES for 25 years are Terri Scialdone-Buckley and Melinda Maycock.

Herkimer 11

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Herkimer from 10 — continue this school year.
 “I’m very, very confident that you have the ability



Diane Tooley, who was unable to attend the ceremony, was recognized with a plaque for 30 years at Herkimer BOCES.

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– that you’re going to rise to the challenge,” Shypski said.

Sherwood’s presentation included recognizing employees for reaching milestones in their number of years at Herkimer BOCES, introducing new

employees, going over COVID-19 protocols, providing highlights from last school year and comparing them to the expectations for this school year.

Herkimer 13



(L - R) Staff who have been at Herkimer BOCES for 20 years: Lynn Hawkins and Kimberly Creater.

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At maximum capacity, SQSPCA announces ‘Study Buddy’ discounts

Reduced adoption fees subsidized by the Staffworks Fund

For several months, the Susquehanna Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SQSPCA) has been chipping away at a triple digit surrender waiting list for cats. With 14 dogs surrendered unexpectedly on Sept. 8, and 16 more dogs the weekend of Sept. 11-12, the shelter is now at maximum capacity and offering a “Study Buddy” discount to help animals find their forever homes.

“We’re taking 20 percent off adoption fees for all animals six months and older for the rest of the month,” said SQSPCA Executive Director Stacie Haynes. Funding from the Staffworks Fund Homeward Bound Program makes the reduction in fees possible.

“Our adoption counselors can help you make the

perfect match, whether you’re looking for a study buddy for your children or would simply like a companion for yourself,” Haynes said.

The Staffworks Fund Homeward Bound Program was created to assist overcrowded shelters and rescues by subsidizing reduced adoption fees and fee-waived programs. This support provides reduced fees for potential adopters and still allows animal welfare organizations to maintain their operating budgets.

Staffworks Inc. profits support the Staffworks Fund established in 2005 at the Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties. Over \$19 million in Staffworks funds supports nonprofit organizations provid-

ing direct care and services for at-risk animals and people throughout Central and Southern New York and Pennsylvania. Since inception, the Staffworks Fund has donated \$6.8 million to 57 organizations.

Adoption fees at the SQSPCA include spay/neuter, microchip, rabies/distemper vaccinations, Feline Leukemia/FIV testing, fecal testing, deworming, flea treatment and basic grooming.

To learn more about the Susquehanna SPCA and to view available animals, visit sqspca.org. To schedule an appointment to adopt, call 607.547.8111, or stop by 5082-5088 State Highway 28, Cooperstown from noon to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.



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Herkimer from 11

Staff who were honored for their number at Herkimer BOCES visited the WEB Complex lobby to receive certificates, a plaque or an apple sculpture and be greeted by Sherwood, Shypski and association leadership. The following employees were recognized for their years at BOCES:

- **10 Years:** Connie Byrne, Victoria Hauser, Kathleen Keady-Dooley and Jesse Marosek
- **20 Years:** Kimberly Creater and Lynn Hawkins
- **25 Years:** Melinda Maycock and Terri Scialdone-Buckley
- **30 Years:** Diane Tooley
- **35 Years:** Sharon Risley



(L - R) Staff who have been at Herkimer BOCES for 10 years: Connie Byrne, Victoria Hauser, Jesse Marosek and Kathleen Keady-Dooley.

DMV encourages NY pro football fans to show pride in their team with NFL custom license plate

The New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) encouraged professional football fans in New York to show their pride in the state's NFL teams by ordering their favorite team's license plate. Custom license plates representing the Buffalo Bills, New York Giants and New York Jets are available to order on DMV's website.

"The NFL season kicked off this past week, so this is a perfect time for fans to show their passion for their favorite team by ordering plates," said DMV Commissioner Mark J.F. Schroeder. "With an NFL custom plate, fans can display their pride in and appreciation for their team not just during football season, but all year long."

The initial charge for these custom plates is

\$60; thereafter, an annual renewal fee of \$31.25 will be charged in addition to the regular renewal fee. NFL team plates can be personalized for an additional fee. Motorists are billed for the plates every two years when they renew their registrations. New York's NFL team plates are available for both passenger and commercial vehicles.

To qualify to purchase an NFL plate, a motorist must have:

- A valid NYS registration that does not expire within 60 days
 - An up-to-date name and address on file with DMV
 - A credit or debit card that DMV accepts
 - A valid email address for confirmation purposes
- The quickest and easiest way to order NFL

plates is online at dmv.ny.gov. Customers can also order custom plates by mail, at their local DMV office or by calling the DMV Custom Plate Unit at 518.402.4838.

In addition to NFL plates, DMV offers more than 200 different designs for custom plates representing other professional sports, military and veterans, regions of New York and more. More than a dozen of the plates are also available for motorcycles. For more information and to browse a gallery of available custom plates, visit the DMV website at dmv.ny.gov.



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Increased services come at a cost

Since 2015 – following restructuring, intensive work with Shelter Management Consultant Barbara Carr, and organizational rebranding – the Susquehanna Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SQSPCA) has substantially increased its footprint throughout Otsego County and the surrounding region.

In the last year and a half alone, despite the global pandemic, the SQSPCA has:

- Started and maintains a pet pantry, and eliminated surrender fees, to help individuals and families facing financial difficulties
- Expanded its emergency boarding program for animals belonging to those in crisis
- Provides emergency medical care for animals outside the shelter walls

- Partnering with Otsego County Department of Health to organize and execute free rabies vaccination clinics

- Formed the “PAWS (Puppy Mill Awareness with Shelters) Before You Pay” initiative in collaboration with the Humane Society of the United States, the New York State Animal Protection Federation, the ASPCA, and local shelters

- Absorbed and is continuing the Greater Oneonta Fund for Animal Responsibility (GOFAR) feline low cost spay-neuter clinic

Formed the Here to Help Hotline and Farm Friends Network to assist with an ever-increasing number of cruelty and hoarding cases and other situations involving farm animals such as pigs, horses, sheep, and

goats

“Our intake and adoption statistics are also incredibly improved,” SQSPCA Executive Director Stacie Haynes said. “Animal intake has increased by 143 percent over the past five years. Total animals cared for is up 129 percent, and adoptions have increased by a whopping 226 percent.”

Length of stay for shelter animals has decreased by 55 percent at the SQSPCA, dropping from an average of 67.6 days in 2015 to 30.4 days in 2020.

In operation since 1917, the Susquehanna SPCA is a 501c3 nonprofit organization committed to caring for homeless, surrendered, and seized companion animals and finding them loving, forever homes. For more information or to donate, visit sqspca.org.

Did you know?

Hunters and non-hunters alike are familiar with bright orange coats, hats, vests and other gear that is worn during hunting season. Even though it seems counterintuitive to wear “blaze orange” in the fields or woods for fear that animals may spot you, hunters need not worry much. Deer typically

cannot recognize blaze orange attire designed to make hunters visible to other people. According to researchers at the University of Georgia, a combination of factors make deer less likely to be startled by blaze orange. Deer have less binocular overlap than humans. Binocular overlap (the area

that both eyes view at the same time) allows focus on a single point and enables depth perception. Deer must shift their heads much more than humans to gain a good three-dimensional perspective of an object. Deer also have fewer cones in their retinas compared to humans. Cones are photoreceptors

that enable color vision and distinguish fine details. Furthermore, deer cannot readily perceive longer wavelengths of color, so oranges and reds appear more like brown or gray to them. However, deer can see blue colors more easily, so hunters may want to avoid blue jeans paired with their orange gear.

The 45th Annual Fall Antiques in Schoharie

On Sept. 25 and 26, Schoharie Colonial Heritage Association (SCHA) will once again host their annual 45th Fall Antique Show. Plans are set, dealers are signing up and members of the organization are excited to be back at the Schoharie Valley Railroad Complex on Depot Lane in Schoharie Village.

Dealers will set up on the grounds and in the buildings of the historic Railroad Complex. The Railroad Museum’s 1865 Station House and 1891 passenger car of the Middleburgh and Schoharie Railroad will be open to the public.

The freight shed, which houses all kinds of railroad memorabilia including a restored 1917 Delaware and Hudson Railway caboose will also be open to attendees.

The buildings and grounds will be filled with quality dealers showing and selling historic trea-

sures. There will also be a special exhibit and sale of Shirley’s Stoney Creek Quilts & Wovens on the second floor of the Creamery Building.

This year, organizers

will also welcome Heritage Artisans, including: a butcher, a baker, a candlestick maker, a broom maker and a blacksmith, to name just a few.

The SCHA cooks have

put together a scrumptious selection of picnic items including famous homemade desserts, should attendees wish to have lunch under the picnic tent.

The event will be held on Saturday, Sept. 25 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 26 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. There will

be plenty of free parking.

Proceeds from the antique shows fund the ongoing historic activities of the SCHA

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HealthNet presents transportation check to CTS

Herkimer County HealthNet recently presented a check in the amount of \$2,500 to Community Transportation Services (CTS) in an effort to increase access to healthcare through providing transportation resources in the northern region of Herkimer County. In recent years, Herkimer County HealthNet has identified access to healthcare as a barrier to better health.

"The need for transportation to medical appointments and specialized care continues to grow in our region," said Executive Director of Herkimer County HealthNet Elyse Enea. "We enjoy working with transportation providers such as Community Transportation Services in Old Forge."

With the significant growth in the numbers of

residents needing assistance in Herkimer County, this initiative will serve Herkimer County and help to assure that people have access to the health care they need. In addition, an increase in the use of primary care and urgent care will reduce less-appropriate use of Emergency Room Departments in area hospitals.

In the southern region of Herkimer County, HealthNet recently presented a check to the Catholic Charities RIDE Program for the same purposes.

In 2020, CTS established Safety Policies and Procedures following NYS Department of Health guidelines with respect to COVID-19. For more information about Community Transportation services, call 315.369.2830 or e-mail ctsny@frontier.com.



Nicholas Rose, CTS Board Member, accepts the check from Elyse Enea, Executive Director of Herkimer County HealthNet.

Photo courtesy of Herkimer County HealthNet

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Herkimer Country Editor

Mailed to Dolgeville, Herkimer, Little Falls, Middleville, Mohawk, Salisbury Center, Stratford plus store drops.

Mohawk Valley Country Editor

October 16 - Deadline 10/8

October 30 - Deadline 10/22

Herkimer Country Editor

October 15 - Deadline 10/8

October 29 - Deadline 10/22

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION CONTACT
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tkrieger@leepub.com
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Becky Mauk
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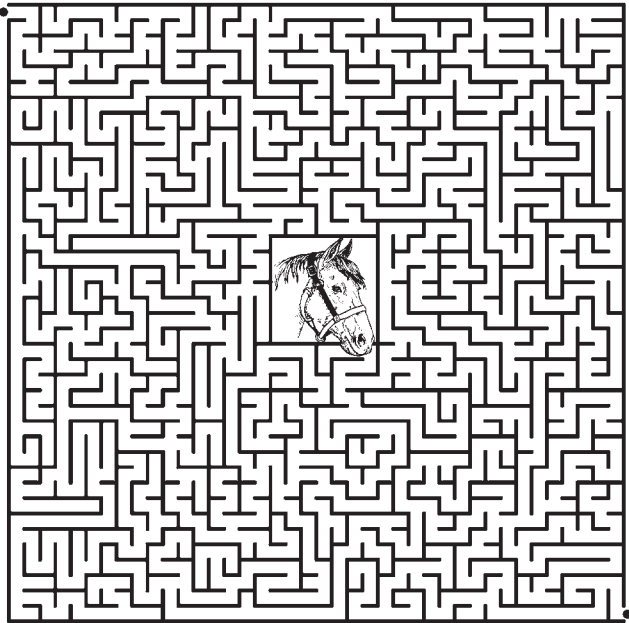
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Coffee Break

Mega Maze

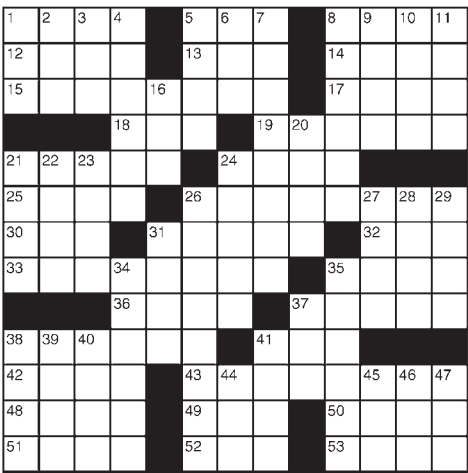
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Havana's land
5 For each
8 — Valley, Calif.
12 Miles away
13 Parisian pal
14 Former Yankee slugger, to fans
15 Abe Lincoln's first home
17 Cello's ancestor
18 In the style of
19 Shiny, as a photo
21 Trombone part
24 Swizzle
25 Ireland
26 Backyard structure
30 Old
31 Oldsmobile
31 Move to one side
32 — roll (winning)
33 Theme park attraction
35 Landed
36 Mater lead-in
37 Test score
38 Spider's creation
41 Spill catcher
42 Location
43 Cozy spot on the slopes
48 Sandwich



- shop
49 Last (Abbr.)
50 Jeopardize
51 Pieces for one
52 Evening hrs.
53 Hose woe
tune
8 Relishes
9 Eye part
10 Cattle calls?
11 In a lazy way
16 Hearty quaff
20 Joyful tune
21 Lowly worker
22 Stead
23 Press agent?
24 "The March King"
26 "OK" gesture
27 Spanish greeting
28 Oklahoma city
29 See socially
31 Only
34 Aloha State
35 Garden shelters
37 Baseball's Hodges
38 Scoundrels
39 Sandwich treat
40 Phone inventor
41 Morsels
44 Carrier to Amsterdam
45 Cacophony
46 Fed. property manager
47 Heart chart (Abbr.)

DOWN

- 1 Nev. neighbor
2 Flying saucer
3 Satchel
4 Video-game hub
5 Sunscreen additive
6 Brit. record label
7 Cellphone

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MAGIC MAZE ● WORDS CONTAINING A DRINK

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: A LIGHTWEIGHT CORD

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Armchair | Decider | Lollipop | Tantrum |
| Brother | Forsake | Platte | Virginia |
| Coffecake | Hopscotch | Stalemate | Waterloo |
| Colander | Key punch | Steaming | |

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word
3. Trance; 4. Remit
1. Outside 2. Mingle;
solution



"I feel better about myself, and it scares me!"

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

- Beyond
TEDIOUS
Blend
LEMING
Coma
NECTAR
Pay
MITER

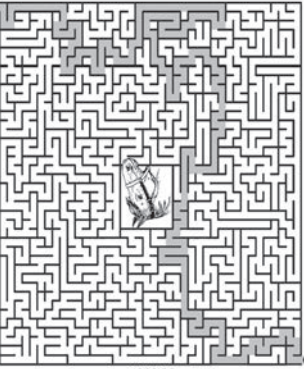
TODAY'S WORD



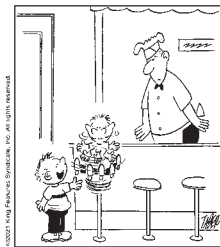
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Mega Maze



"No thanks, we just came in for the _____!"

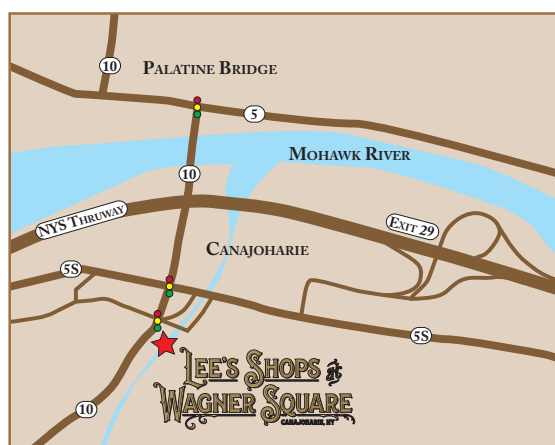
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