

**NOVEMBER 13, 2021** 

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1 Corinthians 13:13



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## Family Counseling Center's Mobile Crisis Unit helps youth in need

The Family Counseling Center is highlighting the work of its Mobile Crisis Unit, a service provided to Fulton County schools when children are expressing moments of extreme crisis - from suicidal thoughts to aggressive behavior that puts either the child or others at risk.

Staff from the Family Counseling Center's Children & Family Services program work with the child, the school staff and their parents. The Mobile Crisis team helps to identify why the child is experiencing a crisis, if there have been similar incidents, whether or not there is a way to de-escalate the behavior, if the team member and

child can create a safety plan or if the child needs medical support. In many cases, the Mobile Crisis team member can work with the child, avoiding hospitalization.

Jeremy Purtell, mobile crisis counselor, joined the Family Counseling Center in September. Purtell is a graduate of SUNY Oneonta and has over 20 years of experience in behavioral health. He began his career as a teacher working with at-risk youth and most recently, worked for Liberty ARC where he held roles as behaviorist, family support manager and Without Walls Habilitation coordinator.

"We are exceedingly impressed by the experience and quality of

care Jeremy has shown," said Sheila Wood, Children & Family Services director. "Fulton County schools have seen an increase in crisis behaviors from children this year and our Mobile Crisis Unit is a vital service - helping the children and their families. Purtell works closely with our Family and Youth Peer Advocates. The coordinated approach to care helps inform each situation, putting the child's safety and mental health first.'

For more information about Children & Family Services, Mobile Crisis or other programs offered through the Family Counseling Center, visit thefamilycounseling-

## Camping provides an opportunity for immersive outdoor experiences

Camping is an opportunity for individuals

into the great outdoors. Camping can be an im-

of all ages to venture mersive outdoor activi-

ty that includes hiking, cooking and sightseeing all in a single, memorable trip. According to KOA's

2021 Annual North American Report, more than 70% of North American campers changed their camping habits in 2020. First-time campers increased fivefold between 2019 and 2020, and experts note the pandemic likely had a great deal to do with that spike.

Even though camping seems like a relatively easy activity, firsttime or novice campers should familiarize themselves with some of the basics of camping before embarking on their trips. Camping beginners can consider these tips to make the most of their time in the great outdoors.

• Practice in your backyard. If you have a backyard, practice setting up a tent and other camping equipment in the yard first so this becomes second nature by the time you reach the campsite. Sleep outside in the yard and learn the sounds of nature to get a feel for camping, including spending time in a sleeping bag. It's a lot easier to make initial adjustments in the backyard as opposed to at the campsite.

• Camp in warm weather. Novices may want to camp in warm weather first. This way you will not have to purchase a lot of gear just to keep warm. In addition, you'll have more daylight to set up your tent and enjoy long evenings out-

• Rent or borrow gear at first. Try out gear before you purchase anything to figure out what you need. The experts at REI say that if budget allows, go bigger on the tent to give occupants a little more wiggle room, such as a six-person tent for a family of four. Experiment with sleeping bags with different temperature ratings so you'll be able to gauge just how hot or cold you'll be inside of them.

· Check out other camp setups. Visit a campsite by tagging along with an avid camper to see what others use. You'll need to bring all of your supplies, so find out how people pack light and how they differentiate between necessities and luxuries. You'll likely want foldable camp chairs, lanterns, camp cooking utensils, a cooler and a camp stove. If you camp at an established campsite, there may be grills or designated areas

for campfires. Camping is an enjoyable pastime that has inspired scores of devoted campers across the globe. Novices can learn the basics and then expand on their camping knowledge with each ensuing adventure.





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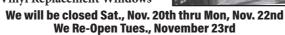
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**NOVEMER 2021** 

#### **Drama Club Auditions:**

Auditions for this year's winter musical will be held on November 29th and 30th. They will take place at the Canajoharie High School at 6:30 p.m. The show is open to students in grades 7-12 from both schools. Contact Mr. Ryan at the high school or Mrs. Broady at the elementary school with any questions, or for further information about this year's show.

#### Weekly Menu Change Info:

As many are aware, our nation is experiencing supply chain issues in many areas, and especially in the food service industry. Due to these constraints, there will be times when our school menu needs to change from what was originally posted. Visit our website each week to see a list of any breakfast or lunches changes in each building.

Closing & Delays: Along with utilizing ParentSquare for closing and delays, information is also provided to local TV channels and radio stations: WRGB 6, WTEN 10, WNYT 13, WKTV 2, Fox 23, Spectrum News, WGY (radio 810 AM), WENT (radio 1340 AM), WRVE (radio 99.5 FM), WBUG (radio 101.1 FM), and WFLY (radio 92.3 FM)

Calendar Updates: The coming winter weather sometimes leads to event changes. Keep up to date with any school calendar changes at www.fortplain.org

### **Emergency Release Day:**

Families are reminded that the district practices its emergency dismissal procedures on Tuesday, November 23rd. All students, in both schools, will be released 15 minutes earlier than normal. Please make sure that arrangements have been made to accomodate this early dismissal time.

## **Upcoming Events:**

Nov 17 Board of Education Mtg 6:00

Nov 23 Dismissal 15 minutes early

Nov 24-26 Thanksgiving Break

Dec 15 Board of Education Mtg 6:00

Dec 20 Jr/Sr Picture Makeup Day

Dec 20-31 Christmas Break



The

District Begins Superintendent Search:

Fort Plain Central School District has announced the commencement of a search for a permanent superintendent. The district will work with HFM BOCES to conduct a seach, which is expected to take about 6 months. The anticipated timeline includes an April appointment, with a start date in or around July 1st. The Board of Education feels that it is critical to obtain community input about the desired characteristics of the next superintendent, as well as the challenges and opportunities that they will encounter. Input from stakeholder groups will be sought, as the search process moves forward. The community can receive updates and information by visiting the dedicated Superintent Search page on our school website: www.fortplain.org

#### School Board Honored by Students:

October celebrates the NYS School Boards Recognition Week. In thanks and appreciation for all that they do for our district, the students in Mrs. Cooley's "Cheap Eats: Eating on a Dime" class recently prepared a spread for the board meeting. The premise of the class is to teach students how to make family food dollars stretch, by utilizing recipes, making shopping lists, and learning which products combine the characteristics of being healthy, nutritious, and affordable. With donated fresh produce, the entire menu cost only \$25.43 and included items such as: Zucchini Chocolate Chip Bread, Apple and Walnut Coffee Cake, Apple and Bacon Scones, Bacon Rollups, Pepper Jelly Cream Cheese, and Brie with Apricots and Jalapeno Salt. The participating students were: Amber Hayes, Amber Dillenbeck, Lauranne Chambers, Kerri Johnson, Jaden Hillsgrove, Michael Harris, Tyson Nichols, Kaitlyn Dodson, Cameron Kaye, Tyler Mykel

#### PushUps for Veterans:

Students

Mr. Russom's Physical Education classes have been raising awareness of veteran suicide. The classes have teamed up with Fort Plain VFW Commander Tom Ellwood on the challenge, which culminated on Veterans Day. The students did 22 push-ups for 22 consecutive days! Great job, everyone!

Elementary Students Visit with K9 Bud: ebrate National Heroes Week, the Morning Program students recently had a visit from working K9 Bud, along with his handler Sgt. Smith. The students heard about all of the things that police dogs are trained to do, and how they assist the officers in their daily work. Bud demonstrated some of this skills, and had a nice visit with the kids after the presentation. Thank you to Sgt. Smith, and K9 Bud, for all that you do for us!

Design Class Tackles Zipper Pulls: The students in Mr. Heroth's Technology and Design class were recently challenged to design a product that would assist indiviuals with operating a zipper, which can be difficult for those suffering with arthritis. The students were able to choose from materials such as wood, wire, plastic and magnets. Once their design was complete and a prototype made, the class came up with packaging and branding. They used their marketing skills to design a logo and name, and talked about how a company would get their product out to the people who would need it. The students really enjoyed both the hands-on work and the creative end, and their products were a huge success!

Fire Prevention Week: The annual visit by the Fort Plain Fire Department may have been rainy, but that didn't dampen the students' enthusiasm for the big trucks, flashing lights, and booming hoses! Each primary class had the chance to meet with fire fighters and talk about fire safety in their homes. They toured a truck, both inside and out, and found out how the fire fighters work to etinguish a fire and ventilate a structure. The highlight of their visit was getting to see the powerful streams of water that the fire hoses produce, and taking their turn at holding the hose and getting a peek of what it's like to be a real fire fighter! Pictured below are PreK students enjoying their visit!



Golf All-Stars Announced: The Western Athletic Conference recently chosen the following Fort Plain golfers as All-Stars....Girls 1st Team: Jordan Brown, Boys 1st Team: Austin VanGorder, Boys 2nd Team: Seth Rivkowich and Owin Landry. Great job!

Elementary TaG News: Mrs. Broady's Elementary Talented and Gifted Program recently held two sessions of "Make a Fairy Garden." In this art project, third grade students decorated boxes to serve as the garden home, and filled them with moss, houses, trees, rocks, bugs and fairies. The particpating students included: Lilly Mang, Audrina Gomez, Harley Logan, Isley Ruszkowski, Aiden Bunker, Serenity Leverock, Tyrone Burnside, Jace Stanley, Willow Richards, Paige Tompkins, Beverly Sherwood, Quinn Hisert, Kurt Weed, Harley Ostrander, Addison Weaver, Nauni Fink, Oliver Parkinson and Mya Nichols.

Jr/Sr Lifeskills Class Runs a Business: The students in Mrs. Goodwin's Lifeskills class have become entrepenaurs, operating a coffee cart for faculty and staff! The students prepare beverages, stock the cart, and make homemade baked goods. Skills used include following directions, measuring, and proper baking techniques. Throughout the week, the class takes orders and collects money. They use a variety of skills, including social skills, counting and totalling, and money handling. They are responsible for keeping an inventory and have learned to make lists of what is needed as it runs low. The students have learned a great deal about keeping their accounts balanced and money in order. The program is providing a wealth of practice in many areas, and is also great fun!

7th Graders Enjoy Utopia Project: Students in Mrs. Clute's English class have learned about the concept of Utopian Societies. They came up with plans for a society where everything is free, happy and perfect. They quickly found out that such a society can't be maintained, as student Lilly described "because everybody's idea of perfect is different." The classes have posted pictures, plans and outcomes on the wall outside of room 210 at the Jr. High School. They were very proud of their project and felt very prepared to begin reading "The Giver" by Lois Lowry, which describes a Utopian Society which is full of injustrice and suffer-

## DMV, DOH encourage New Yorkers to register as organ donors

In honor of Organ Donor Enrollment Day, which took place Oct. 7, the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles and the Department of Health is urging New Yorkers to consider becoming organ donors.

By registering with the NYS Donate Life Registry (donatelife. ny.gov), people can offer hope to thousands of New Yorkers awaiting a life-saving transplant.

According to the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, 8,787 NY residents including more than 110 children are currently awaiting a life-saving transplant.

"It gives me great pride that DMV plays such a critical role in getting people to enroll as organ donors," said DMV Commissioner Mark J.F. Schroeder. "There is no greater gift that one can give than life, and I hope all New Yorkers who have not yet registered will consider doing so today."

"New York's fight against the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us how valuable life is and the decision to become an organ donor is one of the most significant and selfless decisions a person can make, said Dr. Howard Zucker, NYS Health Commissioner. "Enrolling in the NYS Donate Life Registry is a simple way each of us can save the lives of up to eight people. Organ donation is truly lifesaving."

Aisha M. Tator, executive director of Donate Life NYS, said, "We are proud to be working with Governor Hochul and her administration to inspire New Yorkers ... to take action, to save lives and to heal our state through organ and tissue donations by enrolling today in New York's Donate Life Registry. One organ donor can save eight lives and restore health to 75 more people through tissue donation. I am confident that New Yorkers will choose to give hope to the 8,500 people who are in need of a lifesaving transplant by enrolling themselves as organ and tissue donors. On Organ Donor Enrollment day, and on every day, New Yorkers can take this important step and give the gift of life at donatelife.ny.gov/ register."

Helen Irving, president and CEO of LiveOnNY, said, "Over the past

year and a half we have seen New Yorkers support each other in remarkable ways. Signing up to be a lifesaving organ donor is one more simple way to help your neighbors. I hope ... we are all able to come together in support of organ, eye and tissue donation to bring hope to those awaiting a lifesaving trans-

Nationally, 17 people die each day while awaiting a transplant, according to the federal Health Resources and Services Administration. A person is added to the wait list every nine minutes, and one organ donor can save up to eight lives. While 90% of adults nationwide say they support organ donation, only 60% are registered.

Registering through the DMV is among the simplest ways to sign up to be part of the organ donor registry. By far, the majority of people who enroll as organ donors do so through DMV. The agency enrolled more than 5.7 million of the 6.8 million consenting organ donors.

DMV customers can register as an organ donor by completing the donation section of their driver license or non-driver ID renewal application, by completing the voter registration form, or by visiting the DMV website at dmv.ny.gov.

New Yorkers can also enroll in the NYS Donate Life Registry at donatelife.ny.gov.

Other ways people interested in becoming donors can enroll in the Registry include obtaining health insurance through the NY State of Health Insurance Marketplace or by mailing a completed enrollment form to the NYS Donate Life Registry.

In recent years, NY took steps to boost organ donor enrollment. In 2017, 16- and 17-year-olds became able to enroll in the Registry and the NYS Health Insurance Marketplace became a portal for registry enrollment.

Under Lauren's Law, the DMV includes on its license renewal form the choice for New Yorkers to enroll in the NYS Donate Life Registry. Customers are required to check one of two boxes about organ donation for their application to be processed. The law is named for Lauren Shields, a Rockland County resident who received a life-saving heart transplant at age nine and who is now a strong advocate for organ donation.

DMV also offers a Donate Life custom license plate to raise awareness and support critical research. When a consumer orders the plate, \$20 of the annual fee is provided to the "Life - Pass It On Trust Fund," which is used for organ donation and transplant research and educational programs promoting organ and tissue donation. Plates can be ordered on the DMV website at dmv.ny.gov/plates/life-pass-it.



In these difficult times, there is a place of refuge and peace anyone can access by calling these phone numbers to hear various offerings of spiritual inspiration assuring you of God's great love and power in your life.

- 1. The Daily Lift 1(617)450-3430 -3 Minute Recording 24/7
- 2. Sunday Church Service, Live at 10AM 1(646)558-8656 (access code 96993928161#)
- 3. Spiritual uplifiting ideas of various kinds with a menu 1(214)447-9675

## Bible Trivia

by Wilson Casey

- 1. Is the book of Jeremiah in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- 2. From Leviticus 24's rules for restitution, what other body part is mentioned besides "eye for an eye"? Nose, Tooth, Finger, Toe
- 3. The Lord sent Jeremiah to the house of what type of tradesman? Carpenter, Shopkeeper, Tailor, Potter
- 4. In Acts 5, how were the apostles released from prison? Broke out, Walls caved, Freed by an angel, Triumphantly
- 5. What did James say is "set on fire of hell"? Adulterer, Tongue, Ribald, Unfathered
- 6. From Matthew 8, whose mother-in-law did Jesus heal? Elijah, Solomon, Daniel, Peter Answers: 1) Old; 2) Tooth (for a tooth); 3) Potter; 4)

Freed by an angel; 5) Tongue; 6) Peter Comments? More trivia? Gift ideas? Visit TriviaGuy.

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## 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

#### November 16

Tai Chi Class at Arkell Center. Tuesdays 10-11 a.m. Sponsored by OFA of Montgomery County. Call Earl at 518.868.9341 or e-mail him at obryane52@yahoo.com. For all seniors citizens. Donations accept-

#### November 17

Senior Citizens Pinochle Card Party 12:30 - 4 p.m. at Arkell Center. Donation \$2. Prizes and refreshments. Looking to sub? Call Terry at 518.673.5635.

#### November 18

**Blood Pressure Clinic at Arkell** 

Center 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. at Arkell Center. Call Joan Cimino Given by Home Health Care Partners and co-sponsored by St. Mary's and Nathan Littauer Hospitals. Call Joan Cimino at 518.673.4408.

### November 19

Canajoharie Senior Citizens Club meeting 1 p.m. at Arkell Center. Anyone 55 or older is welcome. Questions: Call Joan Cimino at 518.673.4408.

Diet club in the Gallery at Arkell Hall 11 a.m. The goal is to be held accountable while maintaining weight. Call Grace D at 518.673.2112.

Gary Van Slyke will perform Harvest & Halloween Songs 1:30 p.m. at 518.673.4408.

Yoga with Sharon C. in the Gallery at Arkell Center 8:30-10 a.m. \$10. Call Joan Cimino at 518.673.4408.

#### December 4

Christmas at the Fort 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Fort Plain Museum, 389 Canal Street. Includes an Author Book Fair 12-3 p.m. For more information call 518.993.2527 or visit fortplainmuseum.org

#### December 5

St. Nicholas Day Noon - 3:30 p.m. Fort Klock, 7214 State Route 5, St. Johnsville. Call 518.568.7779.



## **Church Directory**

**Amazing Grace Baptist Church** Clark Rd., Fort 518-568-7606

Pastor Frank Calabrese

Sunday School 10 AM Morning Service 11 AM, Sun. & Wed. Eve. Service 6 PM Youth Group Wed. 6:30 PM, Sat. Visitation 10 AM www.amazinggracebc.org

Ames - Sprout Brook UMC 613 Latimer Hill Rd., Ames, NY 13317 518-673-3495

Pastor Jan Markle

Bethesda Fellowship

34 S. Division St., St. Johnsville, NY 13452 518-568-2678 Summer Schedule Sunday Worship 10 AM Wed. Worship and Prayer 6 PM

> Cherry Valley Assembly of God den St., Cherry 607-264-3306

Pastor David Carpenter, Jr. Sundays 9:30 AM

Christian Church of Charleston Four Corners 1380 E. Lykers Rd., Sprakers 518-922-9088

Paster Brett Popp

Paster Brett Popp
Sunday School (ages 3-adult) 9:45 AM
Worship 11 AM
Sunday Prayer Meeting 5:30 PM
Thu. Evening of Encouragement &
Community Kid's Bible Club 6:30 PM

Church of Christ Uniting o, Richfield Springs, NY 13439

Rev. Mark loset
315-858-1553
vice: Sunday 245 PO Box

Service: Sunday 9:15 AN Church School: Sunday 10:30 AM

**Church of the Good Shepherd** 26 Moyer St., Canajoharie 518-673-3440

The Rev. Virginia L. Ogden, Rector Sunday Worship 9:30 AM with Communion Church Email: churchgoodshep26@gmail.com Website: www.churchgoodshepherd.com

Church of the Nazarene E. Rt. 29 W, Johnstown, NY 12095 Offices: 518-762-2982 Cell: 857-523-8417

Pastor, Rev. Mark Fowler Sunday Morning Service 11 AM Sunday School for All Ages 10 AM

Cornerstone Baptist Church Pastor Todd Lozie

Sunday AM Service 10 AM Sunday School/Adult Small Groups 11:15 AM Sunday Evening 6 PM Wednesday PM Service 7 PM Via Zoom nail us for the link email us for the link Youth Group Sunday Evenings during the school year. Family Night - First Sunday Evening of the month from Oct - May 7274 State Highway 10, Ames, NY 13317 www.cornerstoneames.com 518-673-3405

> Currytown Reformed Church St. Hwy. 162, Spraker: 518-922-8422

Rev. Donald Hoaglander ting Pastor Jane Hubschmitt

518-705-2201 Sunday School 9:15 AM Worship Service 10 AM

Dolgeville Christian Fellowship St., Dolgeville, NY 315-429-9142

Dr. Marvin Isum, Pastor

Worship Sunday 10:30 AM Midweek Fellowship Tuesday 7 PM www.dolgevillechristianfellowship.org

**Dolaeville United Methodist Church** 

Rev. Jack Forf 315-429-7381 Worship 11 AM Sunday School @ 9:30 AM beginning September 18th

Bible Study - Wednesdays @ 12:30 PM Emmanuel Episcopal Church

588- 594 Albany St., Little Falls, NY 315-823-1323 Sunday Mass 10 AM

Coffee Hour following Sunday Mass
Sunday School & Youth Group
Tuesday 10 AM Mass & Bible Study
Friday 10 AM-2 PM Thrift Shop

**Ephratah Reformed Church** 40 Co. Hwy. 140, Ephratah, NY To live and share Jesus Christ both locally and globally. Everyday, Everywhere, Everyone Pastor Jeff Hindrlite

Sunday School for all ages 10 AM September-June Sunday Morning Worship 11 AM Prayer & Praise Thursdays 7 PM

Everlasting Joy Believers Fellowship

14 Park Place (in with Seekers Fel St. Johnsville, NY 13452 315-858-2112 Pastor Carolee Cov Sunday Service 10 AM

Faith, Hope and Love Church Rev. David W. Bowley, Pastor Sundays, 5 PM at the Upstate Chapel

63 Cliff St, Canajoharie
Call 518-673-5128 or see Facebook
"Faith, Hope and Love Christian Church" and our website http://faithhopeandlovechurch.com

> First Baptist Church Springfield Center, N' Rev. Terence Brant 607-264-3035 Sunday School 10 AM

Morning Worship 11 AM Wed. night Bible Study 7 PM

Fonda Fultonville United Methodist Church
11 Montgomery St., Fultonville
Pastor Nancy Pullen • 853-3311
Sunday Morning Worship 9:15-10:15,
Sunday School 9:15-10:30,

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Fort Plain United Methodist Church Audie Miller

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Freysbush Rd., Fort Plain 518-429-9936 or 518-424-8488 Worship 9 AM, Sunday School 10 AM ALL ARE WELCOME

Fultonville Reformed Church Pastor Jane Hubschmitt

Sunday School 10 AM Family Worship 10:30 AM

Glen Reformed Church
State Hwy 161 in the Hamlet of Glen
4 miles South of Fultonville glenreformed@nycap.rr.com Sunday Worship at 9. Sunday School nmediately following Children's Message

**Grace Christian Church** 

Pastor Michael Torres 20 Center St., St. Johnsville, NY 13452 518-775-0366 ail gccpastor2021@gmail.co

**Grace Episcopal Church** gomery St., Cherry Valley 315-585-4016

Fr. Kyle Grennen, Rector Sunday School 11 AM Holy Communion/sermon 11 AM Active Youth Group - call for details

Grandview Baptist Church
15 Washington St., Fort Plain
518-993-9929

Pastor Dan West

Sunday School 10 AM Morning Service 11 AM Bible Study & Prayer Meeting, Wednesday 6:30 PM

> **Holy Family Parish** Little Falls, NY 315-823-3410 Saturday 5 PM Sunday 9:30 AM

Jesus Never Fails Community Church Reverend Hans Drews 1161 Elizabethtown Rd., Ilion, NY 13357 518-568-7983 hansandrosaline@yahoo.con Sunday Service 11 AM

Joy Fellowship 296 Co. Hwy. 119, St. Johnsv 518-568-3217

518-588-3217

William Hayes, Pastor

Joyce Loughran, Assistant Pastor

Sunday School 9 AM,

Morning Worship 9:30 AM

Wednesday Evening Worship 6:30 PM

Lassellseville United Methodist Church State Hwy. 29 Pastor Robert A. Lindsay

Worship: Sunday 9:30 AM Sunday School to start soon

**Lighthouse Baptist Church** 1524 St. Rt. 29A, PO Box 114 Stratford, NY 13470-0114 315-429-8854

Pastor Martin Smith

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 AM; Wed. Eve. Prayer Meeting 6 PM; 2nd & 4th Sunday Dinner following Morning Service with Afternoon Service following dinner "Old-Fashioned Bible Preaching"

> Marshville Evangelical Church Pastor Mark Fowler Worship Sunday 9 AM

National Kateri Tekakwitha Shrine and Indian Museum 3636 St. Hwy. 5, PO Box 627 Fonda, NY 12068-0627

518-853-3646 Weekly Masses: Sat. 4:30 PM Sun. 10:30 AM friars@katerishrine.com www.katerishrine.com

New Beginnings Bible Church
3 Cliff St., Canajoharie, NY 13317
Pastor Larry Alkinburgh 518-848-4816

pastor@newbeginningsbc.org Sunday School 9:15 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM

New Hope Christian Fellowsh Pastor Pat Andreoli

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## Local stream fishing review for 2021

#### by Cary Davis, the On-Foot Fisherman

Reflecting back to the trout season of 2021, we can count our pleasures and our pain. The record amounts

of rains felt in Central New York since June made for rather challenging conditions for stream fishers this season. This fisherman experienced some productive

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days stalking trout as I have each season. The difference this year – the windows of opportunity were rather narrow.

This trout season did not end on Oct. 15 because on most inland streams in NY, fishing with artificial lures is permitted. Anglers may not possess trout; it's catch and release only. I do no fishing after October due to the fact that deer season begins to open so I leave the woods to the hunters for obvious safety reasons.

#### The On-Foot Fisherman

Once I used to own a boat, a small, 13-foot Gheenoe, built like a canoe but with a flat back that could accommodate a small 5 hp or trolling motor. I mainly lived in Florida then and chose not to put the boat in saltwater. The small lakes and ponds in West Florida held nice largemouth bass but too many alligators as big as that boat inhabited those waters. No thanks! Getting caught in a small vessel in the gators' own territory was not the excitement I was seeking. I only used that boat when I returned to Upstate NY (my home state) on vacation. I sold that boat in 1995 and have been on foot ever since, and probably always will be. I see much more nature up close when fishing on foot. Once an older fisherman told me, "Well, heck, all those folks fishing in boats fish near the shore anyway." So my feet are my only vessel now.

My primary approach to fishing the trout streams of Central NY is by wade fishing. I am not afraid to get into the water and get wet. This technique is always preceded by a careful assessment of water conditions: water level, temperature, force of current and access points to the water. Even when familiar with the body of water, I always give respect to the dangers that surround entering any body of water by wading. I have done this for many years and I do not suggest ever entering water you are not sure of. Only wade in waters that are compatible with your own swimming abilities.

When wade fishing, I wear long pants – not waders or hip boots that can fill with water if you fall in. This serves me well. Wading allows me to present bait from a distance to the intended hole. Fishing above the hole when water levels are up and presenting bait (or below the hole when fishing dry flies) allows me to sneak up on trout. Once a wary trout is spooked and scared into a hiding place the chances of that fish biting have been lost

Having fished using the wade method in the High Sierra of California for the three strains of trout found here as well as cutthroat rainbow trout, and the inner coastal waterways of West Florida catching seatrout, red fish, flounder and snook, I always seem to discover more nature by wading. Enough cannot be said for the solitude that can be experienced by having a section of stream to yourself and really immersing yourself in the beauty nature provides for free. New York State has an abundance of natural beauty to offer the sportsperson and our local waterways exemplify this.

Wading during the very early season (April and May) is something I rarely do. Ice cold streams and rivers can be unsafe. My best success comes later during late May through mid-July most years. A trout's metabolism is greatly slowed down in icy waters, and feeding habits are slowed as well. Water temperatures in streams of  $54^{\circ}$  -  $70^{\circ}$  F has yielded the most productive trout feeding days for me. I try in April but with minimal success.

#### This Season

The trout fishing season of 2021 was one that required patience of local fisherpersons. June provided some promise as the normal rise and fall of stream levels offered some nice catches of brook trout in Otsego County. The brown trout woke up a bit in Montgomery. When streams warmed following a nice gully-washing rain I found Mepps spinners and Mickey Finn streamer wet flies to prove irresistible to three different brown trout in one hole after early morning worm fishing slowed.

Then came July, with more rain than a person or a fish could ever want. With some locations in Central NY receiving 10 inches or more of rain in a threeweek period, fishing came to a halt. Local streams, the









Local 9

#### Local from 8 -

Mohawk River and the Erie Canal had far too much water for sporting activities to go on safely. Ask our friends in Fonda, who saw Rt. 30A transformed into a raging torrent of water dumping onto Rt. 5 and the village. The community of Western (just outside Rome) saw the upper Mohawk River breach its banks at least a couple of times this year, causing damage to roads and property there. Not really primetime fishing!

Floods and flood waters are not pretty. We experienced flooding 15 years ago in Montgomery County and I hope to never see that again. Flooding also changes the characteristics of local trout streams. Those floods I recalled then took away some bends and eddies in some streams that I had come to know for years. I can report that the trout population did not suffer then, and NY DEC did a good job of preserving trout spawning beds in the affected streams. My observations

from this year's high water indicate the character of local streams I fished have not been seriously compromised. The integrity of stream banks appears to be sound.

August provided two more productive fishing days. A productive day on the stream is determined by the aggressive nature of the trout strike and number of strikes felt that day. The ability to get bit or catch a number of trout that day in known trout-inhabited waters are the determining factors.

This season I caught at least 60 trout in eight or nine good days. I only go fishing if I think the conditions are right. I kept six trout all year. I practice CPR on fish: catch, photograph and release on healthy trout. Most years I have at least a dozen good days on the waters but this year there were just not as many good days. I saw the streams this year stay higher than any other year in the past 25 years. These high water levels made things very difficult for stream fisherpersons,

not to mention the Canal and Old Mohawk River bed that I enjoy wading most years between Herkimer and Little Falls, above Little Falls and below Five Mile Dam. These bodies of water were not navigable by boaters or approachable by waders

all summer.

Most years, during our drought or near drought conditions, I am able to wade fish for smallmouth bass and walleyed pike on the Old Mohawk. I missed fishing the Old Mohawk River this year. The old river exists in its natural,

pristine state, unaltered conditions this year. as a life-giving stream, as it has been for hundreds of years. It's easy to understand why indigenous people and early settlers made their homes along the banks of this waterway. All anglers suffered due to the flood-like

#### **Trout Trifecta**

"Trout Trifecta" is a feat I try to accomplish each year, when brook, brown and rainbow trout are all caught in local streams. Some years I am able to complete this task in one day; it took a couple of days this year.

#### **One Smart Trout**

There is one trout I know that is still swimming (I think). This brown trout was smart! As I baited with a nightcrawler one June morning at sunrise, I slid my bait into a large trout hole with a huge rock at the back of the hole. As soon as the line drifted around the rock this fish slammed the bait. I leaned my backbone into a firm hookset and was positive I had hooked the fish well. The 16-inchplus brown trout broke water and I could see this prize in all its vivid colors. While I waded across the stream to get a better angle for landing the fish with my net, this fish starts swimming straight at me. I was above the

Local 10



Brook trout from Otsdawa Creek in Otsego County, brown trout from Zimmerman Creek in Montgomery County and rainbow trout from Otsquago Creek in Herkimer County. Photos by Cary Davis

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#### Local from 9 -

hole and that trout darted between two rocks at the head of the hole just below my feet. My line was stuck. I tugged the line time and again to free line and fish while being careful not to break the six-pound test leader.

When pulling didn't work, I handed the line bit

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by bit until I reached the leader. Sliding my hand between the rocks I located the split shot weight 14 inches above the hook. Then I pulled up the hook leader and ... no hook, no trout! This trout swam toward me and executed an escape plan that, in all my years of fishing I had never seen. I thought, "Guess this will keep me coming back."

I tried to catch this fish two more times this year without success. It

wouldn't bite - or some other fisherpersons got lucky! Perhaps a more hardy strain of trout will evolve and render a more educated stream fisherman from this brief skirmish. This trout had probably been in the stream at least three years and had most likely been hooked before. This again demonstrates to me that the German brown trout is the smartest species of fish I have encountered and is one cunning quarry worthy of its sporting reputation.

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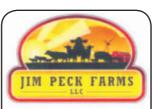
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#### Where Have All the Old Fishermen Gone?

When I was a teenager, just getting serious about trout fishing, I would go out fishing with my Uncle Pappy Mentis to local trout streams he knew. We would always see Mr. Browers, Mr. Reese or one of the Countryman brothers as they were coming off one or the other stream. They would always show us their catches of trout and discuss what baits they used or other bits of information we considered vital to our fishing success. These guys were savvy stream fishermen possessing a wealth of knowledge from years of experience. Nowadays I see far fewer trout fishers on local streams. I hope this type of fishing, although it may not be easy, will not become a

Beginners should con-

sider trout fishing in areas where access to the stream is easy and permitted by local land owners. Also, some nice trout holes have been created where culverts cross roads. These large holes many times hold trout and are good places to begin if stream trout fishing is new to you. You get less snags here too. Be careful of your surroundings and take precautions to prevent ticks from attaching to you that can spoil your party.

The sale of fishing licenses is directly tied to NY DEC trout stocking throughout programs the state each year. The past few years have seen a reduction in stockings in Central NY streams. Some local streams have not been stocked the last two years that had always been stocked in past years. Montgomery County streams have experienced the greatest reduction in trout stockings. Turn a friend or family member on to fishing. I hope you'll find the cost of a fishing license to be an investment well worth the enjoyment derived from the fishing experience.

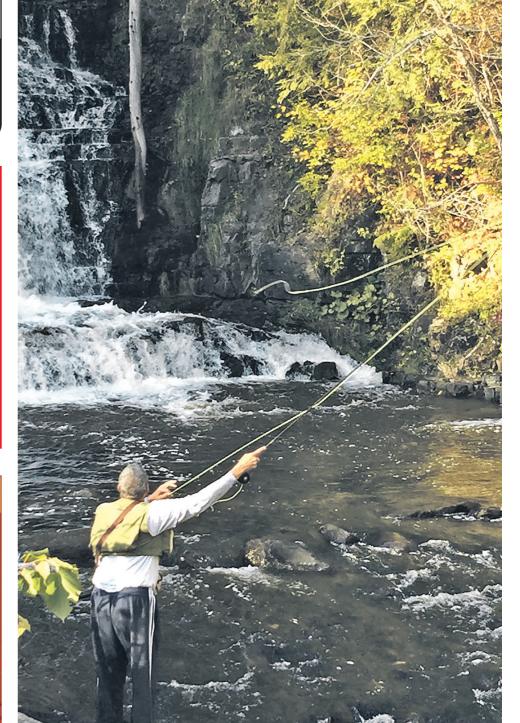
#### Off Season Dreamin'

Take the time during cold weather months to upgrade and organize your fishing gear for next season. It is also a good time to practice your knot tying for trout rigs. Knots to know:

- Nail knot leader to flv line
- Double loop square knot – leader to hook loop
- Improved clinch knot - fly to shock tippet leader or line to lure

These knots can be easily found on the inter-

Winter well! See you on the waters next season!



The author presenting a trout fly on a local stream during the 2021 season.

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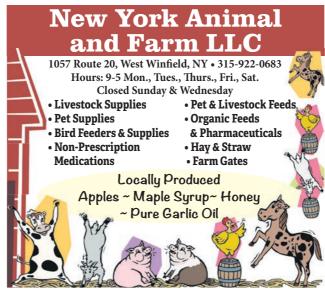
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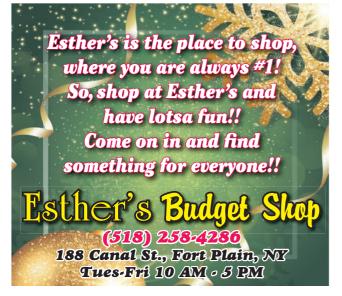


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# Gardening: Buy or make a rain gauge to get watering right

by Lee Reich, AP

In my experience, gardeners often overestimate rainfall. A cloud-burst might seem to have thoroughly saturated the ground, but scratch down an inch and you might find bone-dry soil.

Because watering – not too much and not too little – is one of the keys to a successful garden, it pays to be more analytical about that cloudburst.

The amount of rain that fell, how long to water your plants, or how much water plants need is often spoken of in terms of inches. As a general rule, plants need about one inch of water per week to really thrive. It's easily measured with a rain gauge, which you can either buy or make at home out of nothing more than a coffee or some other can, and a ruler.

Because I am the one with the rain gauge, my neighbor usually calls across the fence the morning after a night shower, "How many inches did we get?"

A rain gauge can tell you how long to use your sprinkler to put that inch of water onto the garden. Because the distribution of the water might not be uniform, set out a few cans at random over the area to be watered. Then turn on the spigot, and keep it on until the sprinklers have filled the cans with water one inch deep.

To cover an acre with water one inch deep requires about 27,000 gallons. On a garden of 150 square feet, an inch of water is equivalent to 90 gallons.

If you're watering with a bucket or watering can, use the one-inch measure to determine the amount needed for an individual plant. It is especially important for newly planted trees and shrubs to be watered their first season.

First, estimate the surface area – in bird's-eye view – over which the roots spread. Usually this is assumed to be the same as the horizontal spread of the branches. The roots of a rose bush I planted this past spring, for example, probably

now spread over a couple of square feet. Two square feet, or 288 square inches, times one-inch depth equals 288 cubic inches, or about five quarts, of water

The rule could also be translated this way: Each week, apply 2.5 quarts of water per square foot. With a watering can, it is easy to see how much water you are using. If you use a hose, compute its output over time, then figure out how long you have to stand there to get sufficient water for the area you are watering. It is probably longer than you expected.

This watering guideline applies to soil that has not dried out too much. If the soil is bone-dry because you haven't watered or because it hasn't rained for three weeks, you have to get it thoroughly wet first. Then, in a week, give that inch, or 2.5 quarts per square foot.

Also, this "inch" rule applies to plants whose roots are mostly in the upper foot of soil, which includes most annual vegetable and flower plants. Plants that root deeper than a foot need more water; corn roots, for example, run three feet deep.

Every gardener should have a rain gauge. Mechanical or computerized gauges will tell you the amount of rainfall (the depth, in inches) to the nearest hundredth of an inch. Even a straight-sided coffee can is probably accurate to an eighth of an inch.

A rain gauge will tell you if a shower dropped enough water that you can forget watering for a week, or if what you thought was a hard rain was just a piddling quarter-inch sprinkle. If you get only a quarter inch of rain, the remaining three-quarters of an inch, or couple of quarts of water per square foot, will have to come from your hose or watering can.



## Should you replace a struggling apple tree?

#### by Nadie VanZandt, Extension Master Gardener, UVM

Has your apple tree looked poorly all summer and produced little or no fruit this autumn?

Although the summer's abundant rainfall may have caused stress due to overwatering, there are other reasons why your apple tree failed to thrive. These include nutrient deficiency, an unfavorable growing environment, pests, diseases and the age of the tree.

In ideal growing conditions and when properly maintained, apple trees may remain productive for over 50 years. The bearing age - time from planting to bearing fruit - depends on the species, cultivar and whether the tree is grown on dwarf or standard-size rootstock. The average bearing age varies from three years for dwarf trees to eight to 10 for standard trees.

Apple trees prefer full, direct sunlight, which means at least six hours of daily sunlight. They require a site with good drainage and soil amended with the highest-quality compost to improve aeration and reduce compaction.

Proper feeding, maintenance and pruning go a long way in keeping trees healthy and helping them withstand attack from pests or diseases. Trees also benefit from strategic pruning in late winter or early spring to open the canopy to air and light to reduce incidence of apple scab and other foliar fungal diseases.

Mulching and weeding under the canopy facilitate access to nutrients. Keeping the base of the tree weed-free will minimize boring pests and feeding by small vertebrates. Protecting

the base with hardware cloth or mouse guards before winter will help prevent rabbit or vole damage in years with heavy

Low fruit production may not necessarily indicate a serious problem since apple trees normally bear heavily one year and less the following, known as biennial bearing. Thinning apples after fruit is set will help keep fruit loads more consistent.



Fall is the ideal time to remove apple trees that are diseased, pest-ridden or struggling to survive. Photo by Nadie VanZandt

Assuming your tree's poor health is not due to pests or diseases, it can be rescued. First, check to see if your tree is alive. Use sharp pruners to cut a small branch. Green tissue indicates that the tree is alive and worth putting in effort to improve vigor.

However, your tree may not be worth saving if it has other issues, such as large areas of dead wood, large sections of damaged bark, weeping wounds, large branches with internal rot, cankerous growth or the presence of pests or diseases. Leaf drop, shoot dieback, yellow or brown leaves in summer and small or brown fruit could signal fungal or bacterial diseases or other stress in the trees.

Removing an established apple tree is a tough decision, especially if it has sentimental value, provides structure to your garden or has produced delicious fruit in the past. But a weak tree will attract pests and diseases, further deteriorating its health. If you are not sure whether the tree should be removed, seek professional advice from a local arborist.

If you decide on removal, autumn is a good time for this task. While removing a young dwarf apple tree might be manageable on your own, removing larger trees requires hiring a tree removal service that also will grind the stump and get rid of large roots.

Planting a new apple tree at the same location depends on whether the old tree was diseased. Pathogens that caused the old tree to die can survive in the soil, as well as in dead or dormant roots. This contamination could cause a condition called replant disease. If so, plant the new tree a few feet away from the original location.

Assuming the site is disease-free, you can replant a new apple tree at the same site. First, move the mulch created from grinding the stump to your compost pile. Next, replace the soil in the old planting site with quality soil, preferably from a non-orchard site, to prevent transferring soil pathogens from other fruit trees. Let the prepared site rest over winter.

When choosing the perfect apple tree to plant next spring, look for cultivars resistant to common fungal diseases, such as apple scab and cedar apple rust, suitable for your USDA plant hardiness zone. Visit planthardiness.ars.usda.gov.

## **AMVETS POST 2000** "Veterans Helping Veterans"



AMVETS Post 2000 is collecting new toys to deliver to the Stratton Veterans Hospital, Albany, NY. The toys will be distributed to the children of veterans in need and to veterans' children while vets receive treatment at the VA Hospital. Help a veteran's child smile!

Drop off at AMVETS Post 2000, Fort Plain, Tuesday - Sunday 3-8 p.m. Call Ed (518) 384-5592, Steve Greene (518) 817-8089, or Dan Dawson (518) 410-5655 for pick up.

## Collecting toys until December 11th.







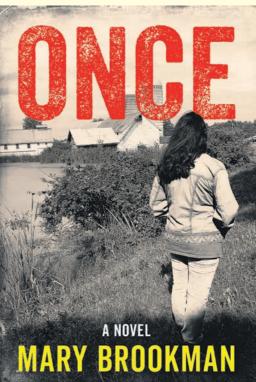
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## **Author in-person signing** Saturday, November 27 at Highwheeler Coffee



Journalist Valerie Jacobs investigates a perceived conspiracy to take over farmlands, water supplies, and energy sources in the U.S. As the probe intensifies, her search for the truth takes her across the country and beyond while her family and friends are put at increasing risk of harm. The theme throughout is the loss of family farms and the possible resulting decline of its culture of hard work, ingenuity, taking care of family, and working with others.

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## Five common learning disabilities

Students are often told that hard work is the path to success. Individuals who have learning disabilities may have to work even harder than their peers to be successful

The Learning Disabilities Association of America says learning disabilities occur due to neurobiological and/or genetic factors that alter the way the brain functions. This can affect one or more cognitive processes related to learning and interfere with various skills, potentially preventing a person from acquiring the same amount of knowledge as others of the same age.

There are many learning disabilities, and the following are five of the most common, according to LD Resources Foundation Inc., a nonprofit organization that helps find solutions to those who are affected by learning disabilities.

- 1. **Dyslexia**: This learning disability can impede a person's ability to read and comprehend text. Students may have trouble with phonemic awareness, or the way to break down words. Similar problems with phonological processing, or distinguishing between similar word sounds, can occur as well.
- 2. **ADHD**: Attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder is marked by behaviors that make it difficult to pay attention and stay on task. The Masters in Special Education, a resource for finding work and study in special education concentrations, says there is debate over whether ADHD is a learning disability. But there is no denying that ADHD can impede success in school settings.

- 3. Auditory processing disorder/ language processing disorder: APD affects how sounds are processed and interpreted by the brain, advises Web-MD. A person may not be able to recognize slight differences between the sounds in words and may not be able to distinguish the direction sounds are coming from. That's challenging in a classroom setting. LPD is a form of APD that affects how one attaches meaning to sound groups that form words, sentences and so on. An audiologist can diagnose APD.
- 4. **Dyscalculia**: LDRF says dyscalculia makes it challenging to understand even basic mathematical concepts, such as time, measuring and estimating. A person with dyscalculia may have difficulty following order of operations. And since math skills build on one another, a student quickly with dyscalculia can fall behind.
- 5. **Dysgraphia**: A person with dysgraphia may not be able to write legibly. He or she may take a long time to write, hold writing implements improperly and/or struggle with putting thoughts onto a page.

Additional symptoms of learning disorders include failing to tell left from right, difficulty recognizing patterns, lack of coordination, difficulty doing tasks with the hands and challenges associated with concepts of time. Educators and health care providers often collaborate to help those with learning disabilities get the services they need to be successful in the classroom.



There are many learning disabilities, and the following are five of the most common.



MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR

## Donna's Day: Creative Family Fun

#### **Leaves to Treasure**

Memories of times and places from my childhood flood my mind this time of year whenever I toss on a light jacket and grab a rake. I remember jumping in piles of newly raked leaves on a Saturday morning, and the smell of burning them by the curb at day's end. It was legal to do that then, even in the city.

I also recall sitting on the front porch with my friends, weaving colorful leaves into crowns just as we had done with dandelions and daisies the previous spring.

Years later, in a dorm at North Park University in Chicago, fall's leaves arrived early, in a box mailed by my friend's mom from Massachusetts. Carefully layered between sheets of waxed paper were dozens of the biggest, most brilliant red and orange maple leaves I had ever seen. We taped them to the walls, one by one, just like kindergartners decorating an elementary-school hallway.

Leaves and the memories they evoke are treasures for many families this time of year - even in Orlando, FL. Amy Anderson, mom of two girls ages 2 and 8, says that leaves just keep on falling in her yard long after the snow begins to fall in states "up north." "Sometimes it takes extra effort to motivate my family to do the constant raking, so we've turned the

chore into a game," she says. "We estimate the number of bags we'll fill with leaves in any given session. Afterward, we go out for ice cream - bragging rights and extra sprinkles on top of a scoop go to the best estimator. A simple game not only motives the kids to help, but it has become a great family tradition.

Here are a few leaf activities you can enjoy with your kids this season, even if you don't have a giant oak in the backyard:

- After a rainfall, find a stick and use it to poke under a pile of fallen damp leaves. Look for bugs, worms and other critters.
- Press leaves and use them for decor around your home. Spread them out between sheets of smooth paper towels. Place heavy books on top and let the leaves dry for about one week. Remove books and gently remove leaves.
- Draw pictures on pressed leaves using nontoxic paint pens or permanent markers. Draw a fall scene of pumpkins, a colorful tree or a simple design. Set on a plate for a festive place card at a special gathering of friends and family.

Find more family fun at donnaerickson.com. Write to Donna at Info@donn-

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Design adds interest to a fall leaf. Photo courtesy of Donna Erickson



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16 Ft. - 14K GVW

12 Ft. - 10K GVW







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Gooseneck 14 Ft. - 14K GVW

Gooseneck 16 Ft. - 14K GVW







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10 Ft. - 10K GVW

16 Ft. - 14K GVW

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## Holiday Gift Guide

## Major benefits to early holiday shopping

Some people begin their holiday countdown the day after festivities have concluded. With 365 days until the next celebration, it may seem like one has all the time in the world to complete holiday tasks. But before long, holiday crunch time arrives, and some people find themselves rushing around to buy gifts and other essentials.

A 2020 Gallup poll found the average holiday shopper planned to spend \$942 on gifts in 2019. The personal finance site Mint.com from Intuit reported roughly \$729 billion was spent during the holidays in 2019, making it the biggest holiday season to date.

Though the pandemic changed the holiday shopping

landscape in 2020, a return to normalcy appears to be on the horizon for the 2021 holiday shopping season. In fact, the adage of "the early bird catches the worm" could help shoppers scoop up gifts and bargains before the holiday shopping rush begins. Individuals who start their holiday shopping early this year may discover there are many benefits to such an approach.

Spread out spending. Those who begin shopping well before the holiday season arrives can spread their spending over several months rather than a short period of time. This can make shopping more affordable for those who may have limited financial leeway. It may be easier to swallow spending an extra \$100 per month throughout the year as opposed to having a \$1,000 bill at year's end.

Shop sales. A Coresight Research survey found that more than 25% of shoppers expected to start holiday shopping earlier than usual in 2020, when retailers offered their promotions earlier than normal to compensate for a decline in brick-andmortar shopping. While it remains to be seen what retailers will do this year, shopping early means people are not beholden only to holiday sales promotions; they can take advantage of major sales throughout the year.

**Avoid delays.** Continued pressure on shipping companies – as online shopping has become so prevalent – inadvertently leads to delays. Couple this with supply chain disruptions due to the pandemic and certain items may be out of stock or on back order.

"With potential product shortages continuing, if you see something you know you want, go ahead and buy it," said Karl Haller, retail industry expert at IBM Global Business Services.

Shopping early also assists those who have to ship gifts domestically or internationally. Shopping early ensures those presents get to their recipients on time.

Getting a head start on holiday shopping is advantageous to shoppers who want to budget, save and ensure items are available.







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https://www.facebook.com/2024churchstreet/ Search for Lee's Shops at Wagner Square MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR

## **National Cook for Your Pets Day**

by Tracey Yun Johnson



have five dogs that are my world. They range in age from 13 years old to six months old. With all the recalls on dog food, I decided a few years ago to either cook my dogs their own food or feed them a raw food diet. This way I know what's in their food and the grade of ingredients used. I feel it is healthier for them too. If done correctly, they have shinier coats, healthier skin, improved

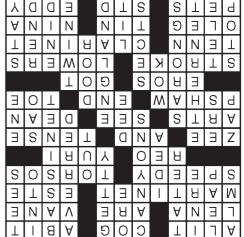
dental health, increased energy and smaller stools. It can be very over-

whelming for a first-timer. All the information that's out there both for and against raw food feeding can send your head spinning.

I have tried twice before, over the past few years,

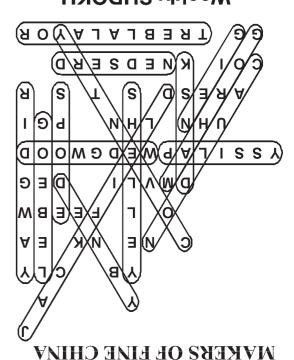
before I finally stuck with it. I have been feeding raw for the past two and a half years and I continue to do research on it. I make changes that I see fit according to my dogs.

For the complete story, visit countryculture. co/2021/11/nationalcook-for-your-pets-day



Solution time: 24 mins. Answers

## **Meekly SUDOKU**



## - King Crossword

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**Answer** 

## **Home Country** by Slim Randles



hat certain... crispness?... in the air reminds me of one of my favorite story assignments over the past thousand years or so. I was a reporter/ columnist/feature writer for The Anchorage Daily News, and since I had a tolerance for eccentricities in others... well, they called me the weirdo reporter.

And one of the annual tasks that dropped in my lap was doing a story on what kind of a winter it's going to be. And I did this story each August, you see. So will it be nasty cold, very mild, deep snow, no snow... that sort of thing.

It was fun. I'd call up old sourdoughs who'd give me some estimate and then tell me some

weird reason why they thought so. You know, the bird calls changed from the key of C to G sharp, that kind of thing. And I'd call up some Native villages and get expert opinions from the old guys there. Fun story.

Well, this one year I thought, hey... we have a division of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration right here in Anchorage, and they have satellites and computers and all kindsa neat stuff. I'll ask them.

So I called NOAA and said, what kind of a winter are we in for? And the guy said, "We really can't predict beyond maybe a week at the most." So, I said, look, you have all those neat tovs over there... why can't you figure it out? And he said, well, Slim, let me see what I can put together and I'll call you tomorrow, okay?

Now we'll get some really educated information for the readers. I couldn't wait.

So next day he calls and says his best guess is we'll have a colder than usual winter. Super. And how did he arrive at that conclusion?

He hemmed and hawed, then said, "Well, the beavers are building their lodges in deeper water this year, so we should expect thicker than normal ice."

Once again science triumphs over the tundra.

Brought to you by "Dogsled: A True Tale of the North," Slim's first book. Available on Amazon.com.



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Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally Unlisted clue hint: SAME NAME AS 2ND PRESIDENT

Cauldon Coventry Dansk Denby

Dresden Gien Goebel Gorham

Palissy Ridaway Royal Albert

Spode Wedawood

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## King Crossword

## **ACROSS**

- 1 Landed 5 Gearwheel tooth
- 8 Slightly 12 Sultry Horne "- you seri-
- ous?" 14 Barn roof spinner
- 15 Strict discipli-
- narian 17 Noble Italian
- family 18 Swift
- 19 Sculpted trunks
- 21 Old Olds 22 Doctor
- Zhivago 23 Wye follower
- 26 Moreover
- 28 On edge 31 Sciences
- partner 33 Observe
- 35 Campus VIP 36 "Hogwash!"
- 38 Finale 40 Water tester
- 41 Love god 43 Inherited
- 45 Painter's motion
- 47 Reduces 51 Nashville's st.
- 52 Instrument in a Dixieland band

Paul -

puters

29 - Paulo,

- 54 Couturier
- Cassini 8 Declared 55 Stannum 9 Baby's bed 56 Pinta's com-10 Division word
- 11 Casual tops panion 57 Favorites 16 Notion 58 Norm (Abbr.) 20 Ump's call
- 23 Hit with a ray 59 Vortex gun 24 Triage ctrs.
- **DOWN** 1 Charitable gift 25 System for linking com-
- 2 Bound 3 Concerning 4 Spud

5 Big gorges

6 Mine yield Brazil 7 Oil tycoon J. 30 Away from © 2021 King Features Synd., Inc

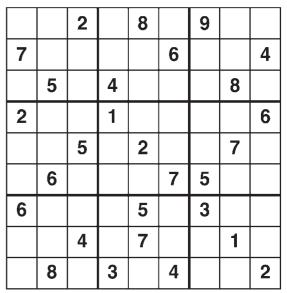
## WSW

- 32 Island wraps 34 Queen's domain
- 37 Stir-fry pan 39 Entryway 42 Factions
- 44 Packing string 45 Halt 46 Far (Pref.)
- 48 Author Bagnold 49 Tear
- 27 Ruby of films 50 Remain

## 53 Torched

## 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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#### **MARRIED**

Today's Word 3. Pamper; 4. Diaper 1. Artisan 2. Detour;

uonnios SCRAMBLERS

## **HOCUS-FOCUS**



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



ices: 1. Food "splat" on wall is moved. 2. Bow is bigger. 3. Outlet is 4. Bowl is missing. 5. Back of highchair is removed. 6. Sleeve is shorter.

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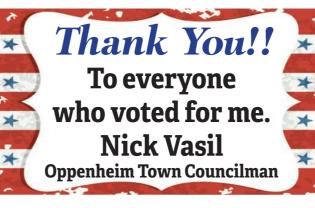


## Varsity Cheerleading Coach

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with any questions. EOE







## Tips to keeping holiday spending in check

Increased expenses that typically occur during the winter holiday season can make it hard for some consumers to avoid overspending, with many struggling to stay within normal spending limits, often taking months into the next year to pay off the resulting debt.

While this has become an annual issue for many consumers, the economic stress many faced last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic has many consumers saying this year they plan to spend more to make up for missed celebrations put on hold to prevent virus spread last year.

In fact, some 40% of consumers say that the pandemic won't impact their spending this year, and an additional 30% of consumers say they plan to spend more this year than last year, a time when fear and uncertainty caused by the pandemic resulted in many consumers lowering their holiday budgets.

According to the 2021 Holiday Outlook by PwC, total holiday spending this year will be 20% more than last year, with the average consumer planning to spend \$1,447 compared to last year's total of \$1,186. The international accounting firm's survey of more than 1,000 consumers also found that more people plan to increase their personal spending as well.

"After a 2020 holiday season of self-deprivation, consumers plan to pamper themselves this year: They will spend an average of \$442 on themselves this holiday, up 48% from 2020 and 28% from 2019," PwC said. "Consumers are ready to celebrate this year. They want to shop and travel and make merry after more than a year of various forms of pandemic-related abstinence.

"They're still wary about public-health considerations in the wake of the variants. But for many, the vaccine has offered more freedom to participate in holiday activities."

That's why it's so important – especially this year – that as you plan for

the holidays, you make sure that you have a clear picture of where you are financially, said Emily Marrison, an Ohio State University Extension program specialist in healthy finances. OSU Extension is the outreach arm of the Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

Already, seven in 10 consumers say they typically overspend during the winter holidays, according to a consumer spending survey by Affirm, a California-based company that offers consumers the ability to buy now and pay later. And over half of consumers say they typically have anxiety about holiday shopping, with 41% reporting staying on budget a top concern, and 31% concerned about incurring long-term debt, the survey found.

"We all have our own money personalities – our habits and attitudes toward money," Marrison said. "Individuals who especially value giving or being spontaneous may find it more difficult to be disciplined with spending this time of year compared to individuals who value planning and security."

One way to be disciplined is to create a budget, a list of priorities and then stick to it, she said.

"Check on your progress weekly and be as honest as you can with yourself about staying true to the spending limit that you've set," Marrison said. "If a gift or activity is going to exceed your budget, don't charge it on credit. Instead, review your list and budget and perhaps reprioritize your list."

Here are some other tips to help you formulate a holiday spending plan to avoid financial pitfalls:

- Make savings automatic. Set aside a portion of your paycheck. Start saving now. Transfer to your savings a set amount of money from each paycheck.
- **Start with a list** of everything you'll be spending money on during the holidays. Include all gifts, foods, drinks, decorations and charitable giving.

#### Tips from 20

- **Set reasonable expectations.** Take a look at your monthly budget, decide how much you can really spend on those holiday extras and plan your budget accordingly.
- To determine your holiday budget, **review what you spent last year**. Then, use that amount as a guide for this year. Remember to include all money spent on gifts, foods, drinks, decorations and charitable giving.
  - Once you've created your budget, stick to it.
- After your budget is made, **prioritize where and how you'll spend**. Be sure to account for everything: gifts, decorations, donations, a new piece of clothing, groceries and baking.
- **Prioritize.** If you come up short, determine where you can do some trimming. Can you forgo new holiday decorations this year? Can you pledge to avoid spending money on yourself when you're out shopping?

So many things about this year are nontraditional, so if your money is tighter this year than usual, think about starting new traditions that don't require you to spend as much money. For example, instead of buying for everyone in your family, you can opt for a family gift exchange that will allow you to buy for one person instead of the whole gang. That way, everyone still gets to be involved in the holiday experience. If you need to, adopt a new tradition that requires no money spent at all, like watching a holiday movie together, baking your favorite holiday treat or taking a festive holiday walk.

- Keep an eye out for online and in-store deals and sales. Retailers are offering Black Friday deals over multiple weeks this year. Grocery stores often offer specials on holiday-related food items. And limit the number of shopping trips: The more you are in the stores, the greater the chance you'll make impulse purchases.
- **Don't wait until the last minute.** That's one of the best ways to go into debt during the holiday season. Take advantage of pre-holiday sales and free online shipping.
- Look ahead. Now's the time to realistically start planning for next year. Take the holiday budget you've set for this year or what you wish it could be and divide it by 12. Then, set up an automated plan to deposit that amount directly from your paycheck into a special savings account for holiday spending next year.

Finally, Marrison stresses the point about overspending and avoiding burdensome credit card debt.

"Be kind to your future self," she said. "Purposefully set yourself up for a financially healthy start to a new year."

More consumer tips and helpful information from CFAES experts can be found at livesmartohio.osu.edu.



THREE MALE CATSfree to a good home; I am moving & am unable to take them with me. From two separate litters through the same mother. Litterbox trained & treat motivated to stay ina kennel when necessary. They are socialized, but have only been around older people, so they should probably be in a home with older kids/teens if any. They will do best if they can stay together or if they will have a companion pet in their new home. I believe they have their basic shots. Some basic supplies will likely come with them. Call for further information-607-349-3113

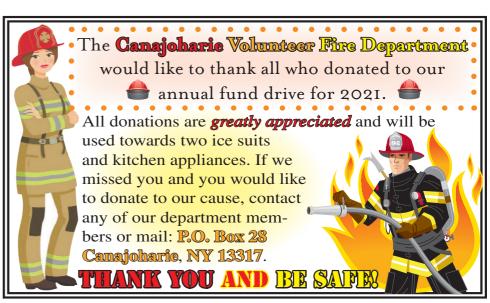
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## Unique ways local businesses can work together

The effects of a thriving small business sector are undeniable. Though the

COVID-19 pandemic challenged the small business sector in various ways, one



study from the U.S. Small Business Administration conducted prior to the pandemic found that small businesses account for 44 percent of economic activity in the United States. A post-pandemic return to normal could help small businesses regain that influence, especially if such establishments work together.

A recent study from Red Egg Marketing found that 82 percent of consumers indicate they would spend more to support small businesses after the pandemic. That support should go a long way toward aiding the recovery of small, locally owned businesses. But, such establishments can do themselves a favor by finding ways to work together. Such collaborations can be a great way for local com-

32FT. CAMPER, everything works, a few soft spots, would make a great hunting camp, 1 slide out, \$2,000 OBO. 717-344-2284

panies to connect with new customers while also supporting fellow small businesses. The following are a handful of ways local businesses can work together as they recover from the economic effects of the pandemic

Consider cross-promotional events. Cross-promotion is a marketing endeavor in which two or more businesses work together to promote a service or product. For example, a local brewery may partner with a local restaurant to showcase a new beer release and a special menu item that pairs well with that particular beer. These types of promotions shed light on what each business can offer, and many consumers would be happy to learn they're supporting at least two local businesses at the same time.

Change suppliers. Many partnership opportunities can be effective even if they're less public in nature. Global supply chains were in flux during the pandemic and have yet to return to normal. That makes now a great time for local businesses to reconsider their suppliers. When doing so, look into local suppliers and let it be known that your products are locally sourced. For example, local restaurant owners can highlight the fact that their foods are sourced from local farms and manufacturers. That may impress foodies with a fondness for freshness and also should reassure customers who want to keep as many of their dollars in the local community as possible.

Form a local business network. When one business on Main Street is thriving, others tend to follow suit. That's especially true when businesses network in the hopes of creating a bustling local shopping district. Local business owners can organize a network via social media or in person communication. Encourage business owners to share what worked, and didn't work, as they built their businesses. Local networks also can be a great forum to plan and pitch community-based events like festivals, holiday bazaars and other functions designed to bring more consumers to Main Street.

Rebuilding after the pandemic poses some unique challenges to small business owners. Working together can be an effective way to overcome those challenges.

## PUBLIC AUCTION ON SITE

# Organic Grass Fed Dairy Dispersal Thurs., December 2nd, 2021 at 10 AM

Elam and Naomi Fisher 248 South Buel Rd., Canajoharie, NY 13317 518-944-4122

All Cows will be A-2 Tested by Sale Day

65 Cows and Heifers - 4 Bulls

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## Hot Food Day of Sale

All Announcements Day of Sale Take Precedence Over Advertising

## **Strange But True**

#### **bv Lucie Winborne**

- Most NASCAR teams use nitrogen in their tires instead of air. This allows the tire to have a much more consistent rate of expansion and contraction to heat and cold.
- North Koreans must have one of 28 state-approved haircuts.
- There's alcohol in space! In 2006, astronomers discovered a cloud of alcohol in part of the Milky Way where stars are forming from gas and dust.
  - In Albania, some

Wed-Mon 6am-2pm

women make an oath to become "sworn virgins" in order to live life as a man, with the rights and privileges of a man. For the rest of their lives, they are never again addressed as female.

- Over 2,500 left-handed people a year are killed by using equipment made for right-handed people. The deadliest item? The right-handed power saw.
- A traffic jam in Beijing lasted more than nine days.
- If you yelled for eight years, seven months and

six days, you would produce enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee.

- A man with severe OCD and a phobia of germs attempted to commit suicide with a gun to his head. Instead of killing him, the bullet eliminated his mental illness without any other dam-
- In 2003, there were 86 days of below-freezing weather in Hell, Michi-
- Until 2018, there were only two English words

ending in "gry" - hungry and angry. Then the Oxford English Dictionary added a third - "hangry" (an irritable state induced by lack of food).

- A decibel is not its own unit, but actually 1/10th of the seldom used "Bel," a unit named in honor of Alexander Graham Bell for his contribution to acoustics.
- "Backpfeifengesicht" is a German term for a face that badly needs a punch.

Thought for the Day: "The world is round so that friendship may encircle it." - Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

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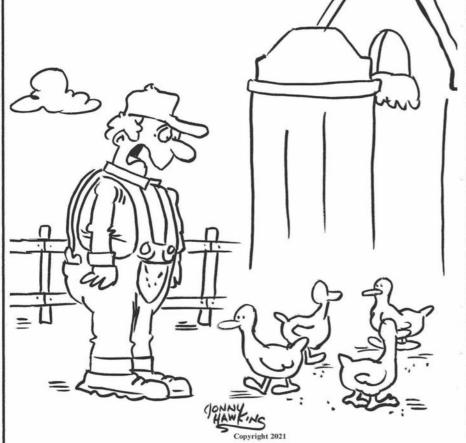


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24 • November 13, 2021



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## **NEW LISTING \$315,000** 9 VAN DYKE AVE, AMSTERDAM



STUNNING, Immaculate Brick Exterior Home Featuring 4 BDRMS, 2.5 Baths, including a gorgeous master bath with a Steam Tiled Shower super spacious home with a partially finished basement, office on 1st floor, Open Concept Kitchen, Living & Dining Area, & exterior 3 season sunroom with covered deck, 1 Car-Garage all situated on a beautiful corner lot located near Amsterdam Municipal Golf Course

## **NEW LISTING \$255,000** 204 MARKET ST, AMSTERDAM



Absolutely Gorgeous 4 BDRM, 2.5 Bath Home with 2 Car Garage, on a L shaped lot. All rooms are large, recently remodeled home provides some traditional elegance with modern style appeal. Kitchen, 4 Season room with Vaulted Ceilings, Formal Dining Room, Living Room with Fireplace and Large Foyer & 1st Floor Laundry. Finished Basement & Full Walk Up Attic.

## **NEW LISTING \$275,000** 587 PATTERSONVILLE RD, **PATTERSONVILLE**

## **TOO NEW FOR PHOTO**

Great Country Home offering 4 BDRMS, 2 Baths and 12 +/- Acres with a large 3 Car Garage (Estimated to be 38 x 28) & Pole Barn (Estimated to be 36 x 50). Convenient location makes for a quick trip to Schenectady or Amsterdam.

## Commercial & Multi-Family \$1,499,000 24 West Main St, Mayfield



**Excellent Condition Metal Frame** Building used as a warehouse now, with oil heat offering OVER 13,500 sq.ft. of space, plus 3 other buildings & large parking lot. We have a 2 story office building, single family home rented & a 2 family home rented.

Rents currently \$3,000 total for residential homes only. A must see to appreciate. Do you need a warehouse? This is situated super close to Mayfield Lake & The Great Sacandaga Lake.

## **REDUCED \$205,000** 1484 County Highway 107, Perth



Cute 3 BDRM, 1 Full Bath home with a large detached garage, and lots of off street parking. Cute backyard with deck and hot tub to enjoy. Annual taxes are only \$2,989.

## **NEW LISTING \$89,000** 209 Cleveland Ave, Amsterdam



ADORABLE, 2 BDRM renovated home located on the Southside of Amsterdam, ready for you to just pack and move into. New roof, new flooring,

newer hot water tank, pellet stove, horseshoe driveway & annual taxes are only \$3.087 with public water/ sewer & trash fees included with the taxes

## If you are looking to buy or sell, give us a call! Because Your Move Matters...

## $$219.000 \sim 49 + - Acres$ Eaker Road, Ft. Plain



49 +/- Surveyed Acres situated here with an approximate steel building that is 50x67, a small outbuilding and a large covered building being used now for T-Hangers for 7 planes that is approximately 48x234. This is used currently for a registered airport with a drained 2200' grass landing strip. Possibilities are endless with this property. What do you desire?

## **REDUCED \$310,000** Auriesville Rd. Fultonville



Beautiful 3 BDRM, 2 Full Bath well maintained Colonial Home with 20+/- Acres, oversized 2 Car Garage, Horse Sheds, Storage Sheds, Gazebo, above ground pool & hot tub. Beautiful property centrally located. This will not last long!

## \$325,000 2663 Duanesburg Churches Rd, Delanson



5 BDRM, 2.5 Bath Colonial Home with 2 Large Barns, a Pond and is being subdivided now to include 12 +/- Acres. Beautiful Country Property with a home that you can move into and remodel to make your very own!

## \$249,000 **SACANDAGA LAKE PROPERTY** 280 Vandenburgh Point Rd, Mayfield

3.38 +/- Acres of Lake Front Property with a 60 Ft Permit to The Great Sacandaga Lake. This property is hidden in a little cove and offers a lot of space between neighbors. There is no current lake view, but that is something you can work on through the years. Walk about 50 yards to the Dock that you choose to place to enjoy summer fun & build your dream home upon.

### \$19,500 Mosher Rd, **Perth**

1.749 +/- Surveyed Parcel on the Corner of Lepper Rd and Mosher Rd. Perc tested and ready for you to build on.

## CAVLL US TO LIST YOUR HOME TODAY OF SELLINGS

## **REDUCED \$305,000** 192 Gidley Rd, Esperance



Fabulous 4 BDRM, 2 Full Bath Home situated on 2 +/- Acres with a super large Driveway & Oversized 2 Car Garage. Seller just redid the interior fireplace in living room. Beautiful View. Enjoy country living at its finest.

#### NYS Licensed Real Estate Salesperson