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Hero Fund America Fund announces open grant round for first responders

The Hero Fund America (HFA) Fund, a field-of-interest fund of the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, has announced that its annual grant round that supports the education, training, lifesaving equipment and mental health needs of first responders is open from May 1 - June 30. Grant recipients will be notified by the end of July.

Eligible applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Program or project will directly support the education, training, lifesaving equipment and mental health needs of first responders

- Funding request must not exceed \$2,000

- All grant funds will be used for direct program expenses

- Recipient must be an eligible 501(c)(3) or government entity

Organizations that meet these criteria are encouraged to visit foundationhoc.org to submit an application.

The HFA Fund was founded in partnership with Hero Fund America Inc. by Garth Roberts of Sharon Springs. Inspired by the selfless and heroic efforts of first responders during the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings, Roberts initiated the Provincetown First Responders Appreciation Month, honoring 45 Boston EMS paramedics, emergency medical technicians, dispatchers and their



The HFA Fund was created in 2016 and now provides grants to EMS, Fire and Law Enforcement Agencies supporting equipment, training and education needs.

families. The success of this project resulted in the formation of HFA. Roberts was honored with a special citation from Boston EMS for his efforts in response to the Boston Marathon tragedy.

Since 2016, the HFA Fund has awarded 38 grants totaling more than \$32,000 to meet the needs of first responders.

"Thanks to the generous support of our donors and event participants, the HFA Fund provides an annual opportunity for fire, EMS and law enforcement agencies throughout the U.S. to better serve the increasing needs of their communities," said Roberts. "Without proper training, education and equipment, our first responders are less able to provide the essential lifesaving services needed in today's challenging world. We are grateful for our partnership with the Community Foundation and are hopeful that the grants provided will create healthier, safer outcomes for first responders and civilians alike."

To learn more about HFA, visit hero-fundamerica.org.

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Keep groundhogs out of the garden



Once Groundhog Day has come and gone, the humble groundhog regains its status as unwanted intruder.

Groundhogs invade lawns and gardens in search of fruits, vegetables and ornamental plants. Groundhogs also can make extensive burrows under the soil, ripping up the landscape and potentially threatening the foundation of a home. Keeping groundhogs at bay is a goal for many homeowners, and the following are some simple ways to do just that.

Before taking any steps to repel groundhogs, first make sure it's really these fuzzy critters who are wreaking havoc. Signs of a groundhog infestation include:

- Feathery tops of carrots have been removed.
- A large hole, around 10 to 12 inches wide, under or near a storage shed or other structure with mounds of dirt outside of it.

• Tomatoes with large bites taken out of them.

• Newly damaged plants noticed in the afternoon (deer eat garden plants at night).

• Wide teeth marks on plants and bark.

• Tracks in the dirt that show four-clawed toes on the front paws and five on the back.

Once you've determined it's a groundhog that is causing damage, you can try these strategies to keep them away:

- Harvest your garden frequently to remove opportunities for groundhogs to prey on produce. They're particularly attracted to cantaloupes, cabbage, green beans, cucumbers, zucchini and corn. They also like the tender greens from lettuce. Consider using raised garden beds so groundhogs will not have easy access.
- Groundhogs prefer camouflage around their burrows. Mow the lawn, pull weeds and clean up brush piles to deter groundhogs.
- Keep groundhogs from burrowing under structures by burying chicken wire a foot underground and bending it at 90° angles away from structures or the garden.
- Apply safe repellents that use essential oils or flavors and scents that groundhogs do not like. Epsom salt is believed to repel groundhogs.
- Call animal control to have a groundhog relocated. Animal trapping professionals can live trap and release a groundhog elsewhere. Don't try to trap a groundhog yourself, as they can be feisty and bite or scratch if scared.

Groundhogs may be heroes for a day in February, but they quickly take a heel turn when they start to damage yards. Getting groundhogs under control can help.

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Why nursing?

by Lynne Illsley

As a graduate of the Fulton-Montgomery Community College (FMCC) nursing program, I can attest that nursing was the right career path for me. The quality education I received from FM helped to build the strong foundation for my nursing career. Are you thinking about becoming a Registered Nurse? If so, let me share some reasons why starting a nursing career path at FMCC may be for you.

Nursing is an impactful, challenging, yet rewarding career that involves working with others to improve their quality of life and their health and wellbeing. According to the 2019 Medscape Nurse Career Satisfaction Report, two of the most rewarding aspects of the job nurses reported were helping people and making a difference in people's lives and the gratitude and relationships they built with patients.

Nursing can be exciting, stressful, meaningful and heart-wrenching at times; however, it is one of the most gratifying fields you can pursue. Nursing has a very diverse career path that offers many different areas of job opportunities that may interest you. Continuing your education in nursing will provide many more opportunities if you want to advance your career path. Some examples of more advanced practice nursing career opportunities include Nurse Practitioner, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM), Certified Flight Registered Nurse (CFRN), Nursing Informatics Specialist, Nurse Educator and Nursing Administration.

FMCC offers a reputable, affordable, quality program with experienced, supportive and dedicated nursing faculty. The nursing faculty

strive to help every student reach their full potential.

FMCC's Nursing Program graduated its first class in 1970. Since its inception, the program has

been an integral part of the college and the community. FMCC's nursing program is also nationally accredited by the Accreditation Commission for the Education in Nursing

(ACEN). FMCC's nursing program graduates often transfer to an RN to BS program which is facilitated through several articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

Reflect on the following questions:

- Do you want to work with people?
- Do you want job

Why 5

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Women in War Symposium set for May 14 in Schuylerville

Military history has traditionally emphasized the exploits of men in war but neglected the roles of women. This conference explores the experiences and actions of some of the extraordinary women in the American Revolutionary War. The speakers are leading experts on the subject.

The Women in War Symposium will take place May 14 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring St., Schuylerville, NY.

Speaker and topics:

- Dr. Holly Mayer, West Point instructor and Professor Emerita in history at Duquesne University. Lifetime researcher and author on her subject, women warriors.

- Todd Braisted, prodigiously published historian. Distinguished scholar of both sides in the American War for Independence. Subject: The Loyalist women.

- Jenna Schnitzer, historian and living history specialist on the battles of Saratoga. Subject: The Army's essential support – "Camp followers."

- Jonathon House, U.S. strategic expert and military researcher. Subject: The Baroness Frederika Riedesel, a Revolutionary sojourn, and the Marshall House, Saratoga.

- Lois Huey, historical archeologist. Subject: Molly Brant, Native American leader in Colonial America.

Organizer and master of ceremonies is Bruce Venter, noted organizer of history conferences throughout the U.S. Venter is vice president of the Marshall House Inc. The symposium will benefit the historic Marshall House in Schuylerville and the telling of its history.

Cosponsoring the event are the Saratoga County History Center and the Saratoga County Historian. There will be an invitation to Symposium registrants to visit the Marshall House following the event.

The Fort Plain Museum will be onsite selling speaker books and related books during this event.

Reservations will be taken in advance only. Download the reservation form at tinyurl.com/3bsxzja9. Visit tinyurl.com/u9xvm4mn for complete registration and event details. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click where it says "donate" in the bottom right corner to make your reservation payment.

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If you answered yes to any of

these questions, then a career in nursing might be for you. The COVID-19 pandemic and increasing numbers of patients with chronic health conditions have facilitated a greater need for compassionate, well-trained nurses within our community. FMCC can provide you with a solid foundation for your nursing career path. Contact FMCC's admissions department for more information on the application process for the nursing program.

Lynne Illsley is a 1986 alumna of FM's nursing program. After graduation, she worked many years as a Registered Nurse in local hospitals, a doctor's office, an elementary school and as a community nurse educator. She began at FMCC in 2008 and is currently an assistant professor of nursing.

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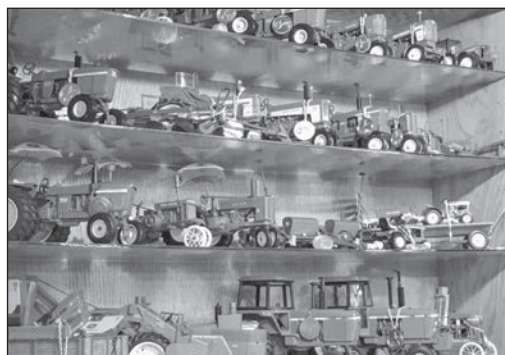
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CHURCH 115 Reid St., Fort Plain, NY 13339 Parish Office 518-993-3822 ourladyofhope@frontier.com Mass Schedule: Saturday, 4 PM; Sunday, 9:30 AM; Confessions: Sat. 3 & by appointment Please call parish office for Holy Day schedule</p> <p>FREYSBUSH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Freysbush Rd., Fort Plain 518-429-9936 or 518-424-8488 Worship 9 AM, Sunday School 10 AM ALL ARE WELCOME</p> <p>FRANKFORT OUR LADY QUEEN OF APOSTLES 414 Frankfort St., Frankfort, NY Pastor: Father Paul Catena Deacon: Micheal Carbone Mass Schedule: Saturday 5:30 PM; Sunday 9 AM; Tuesday & Thursday 9 AM</p> <p>FULTONVILLE FONDA-FULTONVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Pastor Kathy Reese Sunday worship and Sunday school 10AM Outdoor service: 11 Montgomery Street, Fultonville, May-Early Sept. 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Main St. Phone 866-6373 Sunday Mass 10 AM No Saturday Vigil</p> <p>REDEEMER CHURCH Pastor Michael Servello 931 Herkimer Rd., Utica, NY 13503 Phone 792-4748 Saturday 6 PM • Sunday 9 & 11 AM</p> <p>OAK RIDGE FREE METHODIST CHURCH Pastor Chris Schumske 838 W. German St. Worship Service for adults & children 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM with Ridgekids for the children (0-5th grade) Phone 866-0575</p> <p>UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. MARY'S PROTECTRESS 326 Moore Ave. Sunday Divine Liturgy 10 AM Holy Day Liturgy 9 AM Phone 866-1336</p> <p>NEW LIFE CHURCH Pastor David Hayner 337 Protection Ave. Phone 866-1164 • www.nlc-mc.org Worship 10 AM Wednesday Worship 6:30 PM</p> <p>THE SALVATION ARMY Lieutenants Derrick and Heather Purvis 431 N. Prospect St. Phone 866-1240 Facebook.com/TheSalvationArmyHerkimer Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM</p> <p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HERKIMER AND LITTLE FALLS Pastor Joelle Faulks Prospect St & Park Ave. Sunday Worship and Sunday School 9 AM</p>	<p>HERKIMER REFORMED CHURCH 102 Church St. Phone 866-1523 Worship 9:30 AM Shepherd's Table: Tuesday 11:30-12 PM</p> <p>TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Corner of West German & Henry Streets Phone (315) 866-6474 Sunday Worship Services 10 AM in person and virtually on Zoom, YouTube & Facebook Bible Studies Thursday mornings 10 AM on Facebook</p> <p>THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS 317 Gros Blvd., East Herkimer (315) 866-8095 Sunday Sacrament Meeting 10 AM Sunday School/Primary 11 AM - Visitors welcome - Family History Center, open by appointment</p> <p>ILION ILION COMMUNITY CHURCH Pastor Dean Mabry 44 Central Plaza Sunday Worship 10 AM Child Care/Kids Church Available ilionchurch.com</p> <p>SAINT AUGUSTINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 78 2nd Street Phone: (315) 894-3775 Sunday Services at 10 AM</p> <p>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 90 Morgan St., Ilion, NY, 13357 Reverend Richard Riggie Bible Study 9:30 AM Church Service 10:30 AM 315-894-2070</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 8 Second Street Reverend John Partise Wednesday Mid Week Service 7 PM Sunday Morning 11 AM</p> <p>JESUS NEVER FAILS COMMUNITY CHURCH Reverend Hans Drews 1161 Elizabethtown Rd., Ilion, NY 13357 518-568-7983 hansandrosaline@yahoo.com Sunday Service 11 AM</p> <p>MORNING STAR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 36 Second Street Pastor Joelle Faulks Sunday Worship 10:30 AM November 1 - May 1 4224 Acme Rd, Frankfort May 1 - November 1 36 Second Street, Ilion</p> <p>ANNUNCIATION CHURCH 109 West Street, Ilion, NY Pastor: Father Paul Catena Deacon: Micheal Carbone Mass Schedule: Saturday 4 PM; Sunday 11 AM; Monday & Wednesday 9 AM</p>
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Frank Mark Bunce, Organist 565 Albany St., Little Falls, NY Phone 315-823-2284 Sunday Service & Religious Education 10 AM</p> <p>FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD Senior Pastor Timothy Parisi 559 E. Jefferson St. Phone 823-4043 • firstaglf@gmail.com Sunday Morning All Worship 10 AM Thursday Bible Study 6:30 PM</p> <p>HOLY FAMILY PARISH OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF LITTLE FALLS Father Brian Slezak 763 E. Main St., Little Falls, NY Phone 315-823-3410 Saturday Vigil Mass 4 PM Sunday Mass 10:30 AM</p> <p>HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 512 E. Gansevoort St. Sunday School 9:15 AM Sunday Worship 9:30 AM Wednesday Worship 11 AM & 6 PM</p> <p>EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH 588-594 Albany St. Sunday Schedule: High Mass, Rite II 10 AM Nursery & Sunday School 9:45 AM (Sept.-May) Fellowship Coffee Hour 11:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 11:30 AM Holy Day Masses as announced Confessions by appointment</p>	<p>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Pastor Tamara Razzano 16 Jackson St. Phone: 315-823-3004 Email lffirstpres@gmail.com www.presbylif.org Sunday Worship 10 AM Sunday School 10 AM</p> <p>INGHAMS MILLS BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Gary L. Busch, Pastor Sunday Worship Service 10 AM 443 Inghams Mills Rd. Little Falls, NY 13365 Pastor's Phone (315) 717-9936</p> <p>THE HOLY SPIRIT POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH 618 E. Gansvoort St., Little Falls, NY 315-823-0793 Father Rafal Dadello Mass at 11 AM on Sunday www.holyspiritpncc.org</p> <p>MARSHVILLE MARSHVILLE EVANGELICAL CHURCH Route 10 South Pastor Mark Fowler Worship Sunday 9 AM</p> <p>MIDDLEVILLE MIDDLEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 24 Fairfield St. Pastor Mark Hediger, 315-429-9085 pastormarkh@aol.com Sunday Worship 8:30 AM Thursday Bible Study 2 PM</p> <p>MOHAWK DENNISON CORNERS COMMUNITY CHURCH Pastor Donald King 219 Robinson Rd. • Phone 866-5215 Sunday: Sunday School 9:45 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Evening Worship 6 PM Wednesday Prayer 7 PM</p> <p>MOHAWK REFORMED CHURCH Rev. Brian Engel, Pastor 20 S. Otsego St. Phone 866-4292 Email mohawkpastor@verizon.net Follow us on Facebook Morning Worship: 10:30 AM Sept. - June • 9:30 AM July-Aug. Youth Sunday School (Pre-K - Sr. High) 9 AM Adult Sunday School (Men, Women & Couples) 9:30 AM September - June</p> <p>EMMANUEL BIBLE CHURCH Pastor Gary Wilcox 54 W. Main St. • Phone 717-3011 Worship and Word: Sunday 10:30 AM Fellowship Lunch: 12:30 PM Discipleship Hour: Sunday 1:30 PM Bible Study & Prayer: Wednesday 6 PM</p> <p>CHURCH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Sr. Mary Jo Tallman, CSJ, Parish Life Director Rev. Leo Potvin, Sacramental Minister 71 E. Main St. Phone 866-1752 Sunday Mass 9:30 AM</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN BIBLE CHURCH H. Ed Reed, Pastor/Teacher 167 Ward Rd. • Phone 858-1282 www.christianbiblechurch.us Sunday School 9 AM Sunday Worship 10 AM Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7 PM</p> <p>THE WORD CHRISTIAN CENTER Pastor Dan Annutto 27 E. Main St. • Phone (315) 985-3596 Sunday Services at 10 AM Intercession - Tuesdays at 6 PM</p> <p>NELLISTON VALLEY ALLIANCE CHURCH 85 E. Main St., Nelliston 518-993-3458 Pastor Ken Gies Sunday School (all ages) 9:15 AM, Sunday Worship 10:30 AM, Wed. Praise & Prayer 7 PM, Fri. Youth Group 7 PM (7-12th grade)</p> <p>NEWPORT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NEWPORT 7497 Main Street Pastor's Phone 315-790-1877 Sunday Worship at 9:45 AM</p> <p>UNITED METHODIST Pastor Robbin Harris • Phone 845-8730 Morning Service 11:15 AM</p> <p>KUYAHOORA COMMUNITY CHURCH Pastor Dwayne Durand West Canada Valley High School Auditorium 5447 St. Rt. 28 Mailing Address PO Box 50 Middleville, NY 13406 Phone 315-292-1303 www.kuyahorracc.org Weekly Service Sunday 10:08 AM</p> <p>ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH St. John the Baptist Parish 7516 N. Main St. • Phone 845-8017 Saturday Vigil 4 PM Sunday Mass 8:30 AM</p> <p>OPPENHEIM OPPENHEIM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Route 29 Rev. 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Mark loiset • 315-858-1553 Service: Sunday 9:15 AM Church School: Sunday 10:30 AM</p> <p>RICHFIELD SPRINGS BIBLE CHURCH 19 Church St., Richfield Springs, NY 13439 Rev. David Tosi • 315-858-0564 Sunday School (all ages) 10 AM Wor- ship Service 11 AM & 7 PM Wednesday - Prayer & Praise Call for info on various Youth Ministries www.richfieldspringsbiblechurch.org</p> <p>SALISBURY CENTER FULL GOSPEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD Pastor Robert Brent 106 Plant Road Sunday Worship 11 AM with Children's Church offered during the service</p> <p>SALISBURY CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 2545 State Route 29 Pastor Mark Hediger, 315-429-9085 pastormarkh@aol.com Sunday Worship 10 AM Thursday Bible Study 6 PM</p> <p>SLOANSVILLE SCHOHARIE VALLEY GOSPEL CHURCH Pastor Pat Andreoli 133 Sprakers Rd., Sloansville, NY 518-864-5397 svgchurch@gmail.com Wednesday Prayer 6 PM; Sunday Morning Bible Study 9:45 AM; Worship Service Sunday Morning 10:30 AM</p>	<p>SPRAKERS CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF CHARLESTON FOUR CORNERS 1380 E. Lykers Rd., Sprakers 518-922-9088 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</p> <p>THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF RURAL GROVE 170 Rural Grove Rd., Sprakers, NY 12166 518-922-7831 Pastor Joshua Fetterhoff pastorjosh@ruralgrovechurch.org Sunday School (all ages) 9:45 AM, Morning Service 11 AM, Eve. Service 6 PM, Wed.-Family Night 7 PM, "Where Bible Teaching is Fundamental"</p> <p>REFORMED CHURCH OF SPRAKERS 112 Sprakers Hill Rd. Rev. Nancy Ryan Worship ~ 9 AM All Welcome!!!</p> <p>CURRYTOWN REFORMED CHURCH 829 St. Hwy. 162, Sprakers 518-922-8422 Rev. Donald Hoaglander Visiting Pastor Jane Hubschmitt 518-705-2201 Sunday School 9:15 AM Worship Service 10 AM</p> <p>RIVER OF JUBILEE CHURCH 5057 St. Hwy. 5 S, Sprakers, NY 12166 Pastor: Gail Adamoschek Pastor: Steve Adamoschek 518-322-1427 / 518-224-4455 Sunday Service 10 AM Children's Church Available Other Learning Opportunities Available Visit us on Facebook</p> <p>SPRINGFIELD CENTER ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 7690 Rt. 80, Springfield Center 315-858-4016 Fr. Kyle Grennen, Priest-in-Charge Sunday Eucharist, 9:30 AM Coffee - Fellowship follows service Holy Days - as announced</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Springfield Center, NY Rev. Terence Brant 607-264-3035 Sunday School 10 AM Morning Worship 11 AM Wed. night Bible Study 7 PM</p> <p>ST. JOHNSVILLE 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</p>	<p>ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 32 W. 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JOHN'SVILLE METHODIST CHURCH 7 East Main St., St. Johnsville, NY 13452 Pastor Corey Jones 518-568-7983 • 315-866-8626 Worship Sunday 3 PM</p> <p>EVERLASTING JOY BELIEVERS FELLOWSHIP 14 Park Place (in with Seekers Fellowship) St. Johnsville, NY 13452 315-858-2112 • Pastor Carolee Coye Sunday Service 10 AM</p> <p>ST. JOHN'S REFORMED CHURCH 68 W. Main St., St. Johnsville 518-568-7396 Faithfully Following Jesus Christ Sunday Worship 10:30 AM</p> <p>GRACE CHRISTIAN CHURCH Pastor Michael Torres 20 Center St., St. Johnsville, NY 13452 518-775-0366 Email gccpcastor2021@gmail.com</p> <p>STRATFORD STRATFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1511 State Route 29A Sunday Worship 9:30 AM Broadcast on 95.9 FM within 2 miles of church</p> <p>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. 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How to stay safe on DIY projects

Home improvement projects can be costly. Depending on the scope of the project, the choice of materials and the skill level involved to see the project through to successful completion, homeowners could be on the hook for thousands of dollars or even more when renovating their homes.



The Power Tool Institute urges power tool users to wear personal protective equipment, including eye and hearing protection, whenever using power tools.

One popular way homeowners look to cut such costs is to do some, if not all, of the work themselves. Indeed, do-it-yourselfers can save a considerable amount of money. Estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Housing Survey indicate that homeowners can save anywhere from 50% to 80% on DIY projects compared to what they might pay for comparable work to be performed by a contractor. However, the key there is "comparable." Cost overruns could derail DIY savings rather quickly if homeowners have little renovating skill or experience. But homeowners' wallets aren't the only thing in jeopardy if a DIY project goes awry.

Renovation projects require attention to detail, and that includes an emphasis on safety. Homeowners who are injured on DIY projects may face costly medical bills, while projects that are completed without incident could later pose safety hazards that require work to be redone, which is both expensive and a threat to personal safety in the interim. DIYers need not be discouraged from taking projects on themselves, but they should heed these tips to stay safe when working on their homes.

- **Make sure you choose the right ladder.**

DIYers may spend ample time shopping for drills and other electronic tools and gadgets that are fun to use. But ample time also must be afforded to the type of ladder you intend to use on a project. Estimates from the West Bend Insurance Company indicate that roughly 90,000 people visit the emergency room due to ladder accidents each year. Never use a broken ladder or an aging ladder that's uneven. In addition, do not use a ladder that forces you to reach far away. If you're leaning while using a ladder, the

ladder is either too short for your project or positioned too far away from the wall. The National Home Security Alliance advises DIYers to place their ladder one foot from the wall for every four feet it rises above the ground. Test your ladders for their sturdiness prior to beginning work so you aren't tempted to use a subpar ladder.

• **Be especially careful with power tools.** Power tools can do a lot and they're fun to use. But it's important that DIYers do not let fun distract them from safety. The Power Tool Institute urges power tool users to wear personal protective equipment, including eye and hearing protection and a dust mask, whenever using power tools. The PTI also advises users to make sure tools are powered down before plugging them in and to inspect the tool before using it. Inspections can confirm that all guards are in place and that tools are up to the task at hand. Much like it's unsafe to overreach on a ladder, overreaching when using power tools increase the risk for mistakes, accidents and injuries.

• **Avoid electrical work.** Complicated electrical work is best left to the professionals. Estimates from the Electrical Safety Foundation International indicate that electrical malfunctions cause more than 50,000 house fires each year. Such malfunctions can occur for myriad reasons, and a lack of experience working with electrical circuits and breakers could make homes vulnerable to malfunctions and fires. It's also worth noting that homeowners' insurance policies may not cover damage caused by DIY electrical work. At the very least homeowners should contact their insurance providers to determine if any accidents or injuries caused by DIY electrical work would be covered by their policies.

DIY renovation projects can save homeowners a lot of money, but those savings aren't worth compromising your safety and the safety of your loved ones.

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Foundation grant boosts Farm Friends Program capabilities

Thanks to a grant from the John T. and Jane A. Wiederhold Foundation, Otsego County's only farm animal rescue program is poised to take things to the next level.

The Susquehanna Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SQSPCA) Farm Friends Program began as an offshoot of the Otsego County Animal Cruelty Task Force, an ongoing partnership between the SQSPCA, the sheriff's department, the district attorney's office and local veterinarians since 2019. The SQSPCA hosts an animal cruelty hotline, assists with cruelty investigations and houses and/or finds temporary housing for animals that have been seized from cruelty situations.

The Farm Friends Program and its "Here To Help Hotline" were established in January 2021 to prevent hardship from escalating to cruelty.

"After two years of patchwork solutions to address an ever-increasing number of situations involving farm animals, we began to analyze our farm animal cruelty data to develop a more proactive approach. It became clear that we – the SQSPCA – are receiving these cruelty calls because there are simply no farm animal rescue or farm relief organizations in this rural and low-income region," explained SQSPCA Executive Director Stacie Haynes. "Recognizing this void, we want to be ready to help farmers when they are truly struggling. If farm animals must be seized due to cru-

elty, the SQSPCA continues to answer the call. However, our goal is to prevent this suffering by creating a systematic, education-based safety net for farmers."

Thanks to an infusion of funds from the Wiederhold Foundation, Haynes is poised to designate the organization's first Farm Friends coordinator, a part-time position to start.

"This grant will enable us to purchase tools and supplies needed to successfully administer and enhance the Farm Friends Program. Among other duties, the coordinator will screen and cultivate folks in our network, mobilize and direct volunteers, evaluate potential adopters and fosters and respond directly to animal cruelty/neglect reports," explained Haynes. "Perhaps most important, the coordinator will be working to establish strong partnerships with other organizations in the region that offer assistance and resources to farmers, including Cornell Cooperative Extension, the Farm Bureau, Otsego County Soil and Water and others."

The Farm Friends coordinator will also develop internal operations documents and volunteer training materials as well as create much-needed educational materials to assist farmers and community members who are struggling to care for their farm animals.

One of the items to be purchased with the Wiederhold

Foundation grant funds is a livestock trailer, a real game changer, according to Haynes.

"Transport of farm animals has been one of our biggest stumbling blocks," Haynes said. "Without access to a livestock trailer, we have been entirely dependent upon others to provide a method of transport, subsequently limiting our ability to move animals in crisis in a streamlined, timely fashion. Now, we will be able to control our timeline and, if we cannot find a volunteer to pull the trailer, the Otsego County Sheriff has generously agreed to allow us the use of his department's pick-up truck and/or staff when necessary."

Given that surrounding counties do not have active animal cruelty/neglect programs, Haynes believes it is very likely the SQSPCA's services will also be enlisted beyond Otsego County's borders in neighboring Chenango and Delaware counties.

"We firmly believe that this investment in the Farm Friends Program by the Wiederhold Foundation is the impetus needed to further legitimize our efforts, enable us to create a model for other organizations to follow, establish us as a regional resource and attract additional support specific to this initiative. We are extremely grateful for the opportunities this grant affords us," Haynes concluded.

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Community Calendar

May 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Holidays						
8th - Mother's Day						
21st - Armed Forces Day						
30th - Memorial Day						

MAY 5

Rabies Vaccination Clinic 5:30 - 7 p.m. at Dolgeville Fire Department, 20 South Helmer Ave., Dolgeville. Pre-register at 315.867.1176.

MAY 7

I LOVE My Park Day at Schoharie Crossing 9 a.m. at Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site, 129 Schoharie Street, Fort Hunter. For more information contact: <https://fb.me/e/1fdKC1t0M> There will be a few beautification projects around the site to kick off the 2022 season. Be sure to register at the link provided.

34th Annual Towpath Trail Run Bridge St., St. Johnsville. Visit tinyurl.com/yfn2t6j3

MAY 8

Mother's Day Brunch Buffet 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Poland Volunteer Fire Company, Inc., Poland Firehouse Station #1, Route 8, between Poland and Cold Brook. Basket & Plant Raffles. One complimentary flower for each mom.

MAY 9

Regular meeting of the Salisbury Historical Society 6:30 p.m. at the 1805 Frisbie House, 109 Route 29A, Salisbury Center. This month the meeting is on Monday. All meetings are open to the public.

MAY 11

Film and Discussion at the Irish Cultural Center of the Mohawk Valley 6-9 p.m. The center is located at 623 Columbia Street in Utica. Guest is Denis Mulcahy, founder of Project Children. Film is free, although donations will be collected and donated to the Denis Mulcahy Scholarship Fund. Register at tinyurl.com/mr2zkbfw or via email to irish-cmv@gmail.com.

Senior Citizens Pinochle Card Party 12:30 - 4 p.m. Donation \$2. Prizes and refreshments. Looking to sub, call Terry 518.673.5635.

MAY 12

Cooking with Love for the Planet, Part 4 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Registration is required at tinyurl.com/yxckhz9n

MAY 12, 13 & 14

Rummage Sale Thursday, May 12 and Friday, May 13 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, May 14 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Salisbury Town Hall, Rt. 29A, Salisbury Center. Shoppers are requested to bring their own bag to pack purchase. Set up will be Tuesday, May 10 and Wednesday, May 11 from 9 a.m. to noon. Sponsored by the Salisbury Historical Society.

June 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Holidays						
14th - Flag Day						
19th - Father's Day						
21st - Summer Begins						

MAY 13 & 14

Spring Rummage Sale 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m.-noon Saturday at Herkimer Reformed Church, 102 Church St., Herkimer. Call 315.219.2774.

MAY 14

Women In War Symposium 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, Schuylerville. Reservations will be taken in advance only at tinyurl.com/3bsxzja9. Visit tinyurl.com/u9xvm4mn for complete registration and event details.

MAY 15

Mohawk Valley Choral Society's Spring Concert 2 p.m. in the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, Mary, Mother of Our Savior Parish, at 2222 Genesee St., Utica. David Kolb as guest conductor for concert entitled: "Songs of Light and Love." Tickets \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. Reserve tickets by calling 315.826.3092, or by emailing the Choral Society from its websie at mvchoral.org.

MAY 16

A Noble Defense: The Hessian Repulse at Red Bank Oct. 22, 1777 at 7 p.m. Visit fortplainmuseum.org/events

MAY 18

Fort Plain Free Library's first-ever Local History Trivia Night 6:30 p.m. at 19 Willett Street. Call 518.993.4646 for information.

Senior Citizens Pinochle Card Party 12:30 - 4 p.m. Donation \$2. Prizes and refreshments. Looking to sub, call Terry 518.673.5635.

Third Wednesday Night Dinners 4 - 6 p.m. or sold out at Ilion First Baptist Church, 8 Second Street, Ilion. Delivery or take-outs only. Take-orders may be ordered ahead by calling 315.894.9041. \$12 per dinner. For more information, contact the church office at 315.894.9041.

MAY 19

Rabies Vaccination Clinic 5:30 - 7 p.m. at Old Forge Fire Department, 116 Fulton Street, Old Forge. Pre-register at 315.867.1176.

Schoharie Crossing Online Winter Lectures - Third Thursdays at 7 p.m. The Syracuse Weighlock with Derrick Pratt of the Erie Canal Museum. Online via WebEx. For more information, call the Visitor Center at 518.829.7516 or email SchoharieCrossing@parks.ny.gov.

July 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Holidays						
4th - Independence Day						

Musictime with Gary Van Slyke. Programs third Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at Johnstown Public Library. Join us to listen and dance to music played by Gary Van Slyke at the library. Contact Erin Gavin at egavin@mvls.info or 518.762.8317.

MAY 20

Canajoharie Senior Citizens Club meeting 1 p.m. at Arkell Hall, Canajoharie. 55+ are welcome. Sign up by calling 518.673.4408.

MAY 21

Opening Day at Fort Klock 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 7203 State Highway 5, Saint Johnsville. Call 518.568.7779.

Electric Vehicle Car Show 11 a.m. -3 p.m. at Husky Park in Hartwick, NY. Questions, email Martha Clarvoe at martha.clarvoe@gmail.com with the subject line, "EV Car Show". The registration site for your EV vehicle is at doas.us/hartwick-ev-car-show.

Otsego County Master Gardener Plant Sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at CCE Education Center, 123 Lake Street in Cooperstown. For more information, follow the webpage CCE-schoharie-otsego.org/OMG-Plant-Sale. Gardeners may also leave a voicemail message at 607.547.2536 ext. 228.

MAY 22

Basic Pistol Safety Refresher Course 8 a.m. - noon at the Canajoharie Forest Fish & Game Club at 149 Fish and Game Club Rd., Canajoharie. To register for the course, go to TLC Firearms Training (tlcfirearmstraining.com) and click on Pistol Basics & Shooting Courses. Scroll down to BP 1 - Basic Pistol.

MAY 25

Senior Citizens Pinochle Card Party 12:30 - 4 p.m. Donation \$2. Prizes and refreshments. Looking to sub, call Terry 518.673.5635.

MAY 28-29

Memorial Day Weekend Heritage Plant Sale. Opens May 28 at 10 a.m. Closes May 29 at 4 p.m. This annual event takes place outside the Farmers' Museum's main entrance in Cooperstown. No admission fee. Proceeds benefit the museum gardens. Call 607.547.1450 or 888.547.1450.

JUNE 2

Rabies Vaccination Clinic 5:30 - 7 p.m. at Norway Community Center, 3114 Military Road, Norway. Pre-register at 315.867.1176.

JUNE 4

Genealogy Day at Fort Klock 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at 7203 State Highway 5, Saint Johnsville. Call 518.568.7779

JUNE 7

American Red Cross Blood Drive 12:30-5:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 25, 43 West Main Street, Mohawk, NY. Sponsor Code: MohawkAL

JUNE 10

United Way of the Mohawk Valley's 100 Birthday Party! 6-10 p.m. at Saranac Brewery, Utica. \$100 per person. Ticket information to be announced.

"Container Gardens: Grow your own Herbs!" 1:15 p.m. at Arkell Hall, Canajoharie. Sponsored by SNAP-ed NY. Call 518.673.4408 for reservations.

JUNE 10-12

Kids and Calves Youth Show and Clinic at Chenango County Fairgrounds, Norwich NY. Contact Zack Proskline if you have questions at kid-sandcalves@gmail.com or 607.435.0051.

JUNE 11

41st Annual Friendship Craft Festival 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in Spring Park on Scenic U.S. Route 20. Sponsored by the Church Of Christ Uniting in Richfield Springs. For information visit www.rschurchofchristuniting.com and click on the "Women's Guild" tab, e-mail friendshipcraftfestival@yahoo.com or call Carla at 315.858.1451.

Canajoharie Forest, Fish & Game Assn., Inc. Hunting Rifle Challenge at 149 Fish & Game Club Rd., Canajoharie. Adult and Youth Divisions. All youth must be accompanied by an adult. RSVP and/or for more info: Text Joe Bennett at 518.265.3604 or call Doty Springer at 518.774.9165.

JUNE 15

Rabies Vaccination Clinic 5:30 - 7 p.m. at Ilion-Frankfort VFW Pavilion, 4274 Acme Road, Frankfort. Pre-register at 315.867.1176.

JUNE 23

Gavins Irish Country - lunch and a show at Arkell Hall, Canajoharie. Members \$50. Non-member \$55. Call 518.673.5588 for details.

JULY 4

Annual Strawberry Festival 12-4 p.m. at 7203 State Highway 5, Saint Johnsville. Includes the reading of the Declaration of Independence. Call 518.568.7779.

JULY 7

Rabies Vaccination Clinic 5:30 - 7 p.m. at Danube Town Garage, 438 Creek Road, Little Falls. Pre-register at 315.867.1176.

JULY 12

American Red Cross Blood Drive 12:30-5:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 25, 43 West Main Street, Mohawk, NY. Sponsor Code: MohawkAL

JULY 23

Moses Quinby Day at 7203 State Highway 5, Saint Johnsville. Call 518.568.7779.

AUGUST 25

Rabies Vaccination Clinic 5:30 - 7 p.m. at Salisbury Fire Department, 2549 State Route 29, Salisbury Center. Pre-register at 315.867.1176.

AUGUST 26

Herkimer County Chamber of Commerce Chamber Golf Tournament. Registration 8: 30 a.m. Tee off 10 a.m. Visit herkimercountychamber.com/golf-tournament call 315.866.7820 or email info@herkimercountychamber.com for more information.

SEPTEMBER 9 & 10

2022 Central New York Farm Progress Show 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Len-Lo Farm, Robinson Road, Mohawk. Visit cnyfarmprogressshow.net. For more information, contact grace@preskyins.com or call 315.336.0375.

SEPTEMBER 10 & 11

Fort Klock's 49th Annual Craft Fair 7203 State Highway 5, Saint Johnsville. Call 518.568.7779.

SEPTEMBER 15

Rabies Vaccination Clinic 5:30 - 7 p.m. at Cedarville Fire Department, 960 State Route 51, Cedarville. Pre-register at 315.867.1176.

SEPTEMBER 22

Defensive Driving Class 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Arkell Center, Canajoharie. Program put on by Shults Agency. Call 518.673.4408 to reserve a space.

OCTOBER 6

Rabies Vaccination Clinic 5:30 - 7 p.m. at Little Falls Town Garage, 478 Flint Ave Ext., Little Falls. Pre-register at 315.867.1176.

To promote your event, please contact us at cfeditor@leepub.com or 518.673.0143.

Movie and discussion: 'How to Defuse a Bomb'

When Irish native Denis Mulcahy and a handful of family and friends from Greenwood Lake, NY, first established Project Children in 1975, they could not possibly have envisioned the heights to which the program would grow, nor the ultimate peace it would help broker.

On May 11, Mulcahy makes a rare Upstate appearance at the Irish Cultural Center of the Mohawk Valley on Columbia Street in Utica. He will bring with him the award-winning documentary film "How to Defuse a Bomb: The Project Children Story." Filmed in 2017 and narrated by Liam Neeson, it is a great legacy to all who participated in Project Children, including host families, volunteers, the companies that employed Irish interns and the many other Irish organizations that have helped along the way.

From its modest beginnings, Project Children ultimately brought over 20,000 Catholic and Protestant children to suburban U.S. for summer-long visits where they forged unexpected friendships and found they had more in common with the "enemy" than they

thought.

The title is more than a metaphor, as the force behind Project Children is Irish native Mulcahy, who was at the time a member of the New York City Police Department's Bomb Squad. Mulcahy has been nominated twice for the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in helping to bring peace to Northern Ireland.

The program on May 11 is scheduled from 6 - 9 p.m. with introductions and showing of the film followed by Q&A with Mulcahy in the Irish Cultural Center Event Center. Mulcahy will then adjourn to the Five Points Pub for photo ops and refreshments.

There is no cost to attend; however, donations are encouraged, with all proceeds going to the Denis Mulcahy Scholarship. This scholarship enables American high school students to attend cultural summer courses in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, to better preserve and promote a strong, progressive connection between Ireland and America. Register at tinyurl.com/mr2zkbw or via email to irishccmv@gmail.com.



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MAY

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Swedish Meatballs Egg Noodles Mixed Vegetables Pineapple	3 Chicken and Biscuits Mashed Potatoes Red Cabbage Ice Cream	4 Pizza Burger on a Bun O'Brien Potatoes Italian Blend Vegetables Brownie	5 Macaroni & Cheese Stewed Tomatoes & Zucchini Green Beans Cinnamon Cake	6 Roast Beef Rice Pilaf Sonoma Blend Vegetables Cookie
9 Fish on a Bun • Tartar Sauce Au Gratin Potatoes Spinach Peaches	10 Cheesy Ham & Rice Casserole Squash Broccoli Strawberry Shortcake	11 Sweet & Sour Chicken Seasoned Noodles Japanese Blend Vegetables Whipped Yogurt	12 Turkey a la King Mashed Potatoes Pacific Blend Vegetables Pudding	13 Tuna Salad Cold Plate Cottage Cheese Broccoli Salad Melon
16 BBQ Pulled Pork on a Bun Baked Beans Mixed Vegetables Fruit Cocktail	17 Parmesan Crusted Chicken Mashed Potatoes Dill Carrots Cookie	18 Tuna Noodle Casserole Beets Brussels Sprouts Lemon Meringue Pie	19 Egg Salad Cold Plate Carrot Raisin Salad Coleslaw • Kaiser Roll Fresh Fruit	20 Turkey Dinner with Gravy Stuffing Corn Fruited Gelatin
23 Hamburger Cabbage Casserole Green Beans Wax Beans Pears	24 Beef Stew with Potatoes & Carrots Biscuit Ice Cream	25 Ham Salad Cold Plate Macaroni Salad 3-Bean Salad Pudding	26 Chicken Florentine Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Peaches	27 Lasagna Italian Blended Vegetables Garlic Roll Chef's Choice Dessert
30 CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY	31 Pork Chops Sweet Potato Casserole Cauliflower Cookie	All Meals Served with Milk and Bread Daily. If you are not going to be home for a meal, please call the office at 315-867-1204 at least a day in advance.		

Bike the Barns is back

ANCA's farm-by-bike tour is set for Oct. 8 in New York's Champlain Valley

After a two-year hiatus, the Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) will again host its recreational bicycle tour of North Country farms, local food businesses and agricultural landscapes. The regional economic development nonprofit has announced this year's Bike the Barns will take place in

the Champlain Valley on Oct. 8.

The one-day bike ride will start and finish at the Hub on the Hill, a food processing and distribution hub and retail store in Essex and include farm tours at Reber Rock Farm and Echo Farm, also in Essex, and Juniper Hill Farm in Wadhams. Supported by BikeADK, a Saranac

Lake-based company that specializes in regional bicycle events, Bike the Barns will feature additional points of interest, a finish line celebration with local food and live music and other opportunities to engage with the Adirondack North Country's local food movement.

"We're glad to be bringing Bike the Barns back this year and look forward to celebrating our region's dynamic food and farming scene with new and returning riders," said Adam Dewbury, director of ANCA's local food system program. "We've been getting so much positive feedback from farmers and community members who were curious if ANCA would host Bike the Barns again. We're

excited to welcome cyclists of all levels who want to engage more deeply with some of our local food producers."

The main route for this year's event will take riders along 25 - 30 miles of rural roads with views of the Adirondack High Peaks, Lake Champlain and the farms, forests and brilliant fall foliage of the Champlain Valley. Riders will have the opportunity to tour and meet farmers from Reber Rock Farm, a 125-acre draft powered family farm that specializes in pastured-raised organic meats; Echo Farm, a 170-acre diversified, regenerative farm and catering operation;

Bike 13



After a two-year hiatus, the Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) will again host its recreational bicycle tour of North Country farms, local food businesses and agricultural landscapes.

Photo courtesy of ANCA

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Bike from 12 — and Juniper Hill Farm, an organic farm that produces fresh vegetables for local restaurants and grocers, farmers' markets and community supported agriculture (CSA) shareholders. Bike the Barns participants will also learn from Hub on the Hill staff about the variety of services the Hub provides for local farmers and consumers, including value-added food process-

ing, packing, distribution and marketing.

"Bike the Barns is a great way for community members and visitors to connect with some of the producers whose hard work and commitment make our region's local food scene so vibrant," said ANCA Executive Director Elizabeth Cooper. "We're grateful to the farmers who will be welcoming bikers onto their farms and sharing their

stories. It is sure to be a fun-filled and inspiring day."

The event builds on ANCA's work with North Country farmers, small business owners, regional institutions and nonprofit partners on projects that strengthen farms and food businesses and increase local food access. Recent efforts include ANCA's organizational backing of the High Peaks Farmers Market in

Saranac Lake and Lake Placid and a grant program that helped local food businesses increase production and decrease food insecurity during the COVID-19 economic shutdown. In May 2022, ANCA will launch a new zero-interest loan program that will help local producers expand their operations, increase their stability and strengthen food system security.

This is the fifth year ANCA has hosted Bike the Barns since its in-

augural ride in 2016. Over 200 riders and supporters participated in the most recent event in 2019. Proceeds from Bike the Barns will support North Country farms and food businesses through ANCA's Food Systems Program.

The \$75 registration fee for Bike the Barns includes a clearly marked route, mechanical support, farm tours, additional points of interest, a local food meal and an event T-shirt. Registra-

tion costs will jump to \$85 on June 1 and \$95 on Aug. 23. Supporters who do not wish to ride are invited to enjoy the finish-line celebration at a reduced rate.

For more information about Bike the Barns and to register, visit adironack.org/btb. Questions may be directed to ANCA at localfoodsystms@adironack.org or 518.891.6200 or Doug Haney of BikeADK at doug@bikeadk.org or 518.524.4674.



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Please See Facebook For Menu Details

"Bike the Barns is a great way for community members and visitors to connect with some of the producers whose hard work and commitment make our region's local food scene so vibrant. We're grateful to the farmers who will be welcoming bikers onto their farms and sharing their stories. It is sure to be a fun-filled and inspiring day."

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Four tips for finding the right wedding venue

Wedding planning requires couples to make many decisions, including where the wedding will take place.

A couple's wedding day is typically broken into two parts: the ceremony comes first, and the reception follows soon after. Depending on couples' preferences and religious beliefs, ceremonies may take place at a house of worship or another location that is separate from the reception venue. In some instances, couples may choose one location for both the ceremony and the party to follow. Wedding venues are where the bulk of the day will unfold, and couples can consider these four tips to find a venue that suits their needs.

- Consider your theme and wedding style: Most couples know which sentiments they want to convey during their weddings. The venue should match the theme so the entire wedding will feel connected to the space. A modern wedding, for example, will be at home in an art gallery or warehouse. A wedding with natural elements may work better on a ranch or in a botanical garden. Zeroing in on the wedding style helps narrow down potential venue options.
- Assess the budget: A couple may find what seems to be the perfect venue, only to realize that the cost of the space doesn't fit their budget. Ampersand



Travel says the venue accounts for the most significant wedding expense, at an average cost of \$9,000. Finding a venue that will maximize dollars spent involves looking at what is included. Rentals for chairs, linens, lighting, a dance floor and other extras can quickly add up. Couples should have a set limit they're willing to spend on the venue and let that dictate the location.

- Availability of the location: When a couple wants to get married may determine their venue options, especially if they're planning on a budget. September and October are now the most popular months to get married, so venues will book up quickly during that time of year. Those who have their hearts set on specific days will have to begin the search earlier than couples with no attachment to a particular date. Concessions may need to be made if a certain date is a must.
 - Estimate the size of your guest list: Price, date and style will factor into wedding venues, but the number of guests also is a major consideration. A trendy restaurant may seem like the perfect locale, but it must be able to accommodate everyone on the guest list. Couples should sit down with their families and come up with a list of potential guests and look for a venue that can accommodate everyone.
- Couples also should visit potential venues in person to see which, if any, details might be missing from online or magazine advertisements. A host of factors, including accessibility, should be considered when looking for a venue.
- Finding the right venue requires careful consideration of various factors that are unique to each couple.

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Budget-friendly ways to upgrade a landscape

An inviting, well-tended landscape can add significant curb appeal to a home. Such a landscape also can serve as a point of pride and welcome homeowners each evening as they arrive home from work.

Landscaping projects run the gamut from simple changes that can be accomplished on a weekend afternoon to more significant and costly undertakings that require the work of a professional. Budget-conscious homeowners may be looking for simpler projects, and the following are some less costly ways to upgrade a landscape.

• **Add a pop of color with planters:** Awe-inspiring colors can make a landscape stand out from surrounding properties. Flowers, bushes and plants may be the first thing homeowners consider when trying to add color to their lawns, but planters can provide a more immediate way to give exterior grounds some color. Bold planters won't lose their color in a matter of weeks like many flowers do, and homeowners can switch planters so the colors align with the season. For example, some pastel planters can evoke the spirit of spring, while orange planters can be filled with mums to give a landscape an autumnal feel.

• **Plant perennials around the property:** Well-maintained

perennials grow back each year, making them ideal for homeowners who don't have the time or desire to map out new gardening arrangements each spring. Planting perennials also is a great way to add color around the property without breaking the bank.

• **Upgrade walkways:** Though it's more expensive than adding planters and planting perennials, upgrading old and cracked walkways is a great way to give a property a whole new look. According to the renovation experts at HomeAdvisor, homeowners typically pay between \$6 and \$12 per square foot for new concrete walkway installation. Homeowners working on a budget can target spots where walkways have already cracked and fix those areas first before continuing the project piecemeal until all the old walkways have been replaced.

• **Plant to create privacy:** Homeowners spent more time at home than ever before during the pandemic, and some might have grown tired of seeing what their neighbors are up to. Fencing might be the first solution homeowners consider when looking to make their landscapes more private. But new fencing installation can be expensive, costing homeowners between \$1,667 and \$4,075 on average, according to

BobVila.com. A more costly and natural solution is to plant trees around the perimeter. Speak with a local landscaping professional, who can survey the property to see which trees might thrive and provide the privacy homeowners want.

Creating an inviting landscape doesn't have to break the bank. Various small and relatively inexpensive projects can change the look and feel of a home's exterior.



A new walkway is a small project that can still offer a significant upgrade over a home's existing landscape.

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Fort Plain Free Library to host first-ever Local History Trivia Night on May 18

Assemble your teams for the Fort Plain Free Library's first-ever Local History Trivia Night on May 18. Beginning at 6:30 p.m., a total of five four-person teams will compete in-house for prizes and bragging rights based on their knowledge of Fort Plain history. Questions will be weighted based on difficulty.

Don't have enough people for a team? Sign up anyway, as individuals will be integrated into other teams.

Attendance is capped at 20 people.

Create unique team names. Wear team T-shirts (optional). Come up with a funky slogan. Refreshments will be provided.

The library is located at 19 Willett St. Call 518.993.4646 for information. Follow the library on Facebook for updates.

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Healthy habits that can become part of your daily routine

A person's habits can have a strong impact on his or her overall health. Unhealthy habits like smoking and living a sedentary lifestyle can increase a person's risk for

osteoporosis and help them lower their blood pressure.

- Drink more water: The CDC notes that water helps the body maintain a normal temperature,

the body of waste through urination, perspiration and bowel movements. Adults who are thirsty can choose water over soda or other sugary beverages. The CDC notes that sug-

ter a healthier way for individuals to quench their thirst.

- Go for daily walks: Walking benefits the body in myriad ways. For example, the Harvard School of Public Health notes that women who walk 30 minutes per day can reduce their risk of stroke by 20% and potentially by 40% if they walk briskly. In addition, researchers at the University of Virginia Health System found that men between the ages of 71 and 93 who walked more than a quarter mile per day had half the incidence of dementia and

Alzheimer's disease as men who walked less. A 15-minute walk around the neighborhood each morning coupled with a 15-minute walk after dinner can help adults dramatically improve their overall health.

- Eat more greens: Eating more greens is another healthy habit that doesn't require a major overhaul of an individual's lifestyle. The USDA notes that dark green leafy vegetables, such as spinach, are rich in vitamins A, C, E and K. The Mayo Clinic notes that vitamin E alone can help people maintain

their vision and promote a healthy reproductive system while also improving the health of the blood, brain and skin. The USDA also notes that green vegetables contain very little carbohydrates, sodium and cholesterol. Adults won't have to reinvent the dietary wheel to incorporate more greens into their diets, and the results of doing so can have a significant, positive effect on their overall health.

The right habits can help people live healthier lives, and such habits need not require any major life changes.



various conditions and diseases. On the flip side, healthy habits like eating a nutritious diet and getting enough sleep can bolster a person's immune system and reduce their risk for various ailments.

Some healthy habits, like daily exercise, can be time-consuming. Busy adults may not have time to exercise vigorously each day, though the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services urges men and women to find time for at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity each week. But not all healthy habits take up time. In fact, adults can incorporate various healthy practices into their daily routines without skipping a beat.

- Take the stairs: Taking the stairs instead of the elevator can have a profound effect on overall health. According to Duke University, climbing just two flights of stairs combined per day can contribute to six pounds of weight loss over the course of a single year. In addition, a study from the North American Menopause Society found that stair climbing can help postmenopausal women reduce their risk for

lubricates and cushions joints, protects the spinal cord and other sensitive tissues and helps to rid

ary beverages like soda and sports drinks contain calories but little nutritional value, making wa-

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Weekly Sales Every Monday – Misc. items, Poultry & produce etc. will start approx. 12:00. 1:00 we will start Dairy followed by all other livestock. **Let's keep the cattle in the market place to help the competition – sending direct gives you no competition.**

Mon. April 25th - Sold 398 head - Cull Dairy ave. \$.70 top cow \$.85, cull beef cows \$.78 - \$.79, Bulls/Steers \$.89 - \$.95, Organic Grassfed Bulls \$1.15 - \$1.20, Grassfed Organic cull dairy \$.77 - \$.94, Organic cull Dairy \$.59 - \$.93, Organic feeder heifers over 900# \$.81 - \$1.01, bull calves top \$1.80, top beef calf \$3.05, heifer calves \$.30 top beef calf \$2.00, Dairy feeders \$.31 - \$.88, Piglets \$102.00, Organic Dairy top milking age \$1600, bred heifers top \$1200, Conventional Dairy top milking age \$2550, top bred heifer \$1600.

Sat. May 7th - Sale held on the farm. 10:30 AM - Oxford, NY. Carl Cummings Shop & Equipment Auction. Carl is relocating after Decades of living here. He's selling everything in his shops, tools, tools & more tools, compressors, welders both new & old, hand tools, elec tools, gates etc. expect surprises he is still digging. Also selling various household furnishings etc...GPS address: 4691 Co. Road #32, Oxford, NY. Note: there will be a 10% buyers premium on each item sold plus an additional 3% service fee on all Credit Cards.

Sat. May 21st - Sale held at Genesee County Fairgrounds. NYS Jersey Sale - The Next Generation New York State Jersey Sale. Sale is to support the State Club and will feature Elite Type animals of all ages as well as some High Genomic Individuals. Contact Rebecca Ferry 518-248-9294. Watch for more details.

Sat. June 4th - Little Valley, NY - Cattaraugus County Fairgrounds. WNY Summer Showcase 2022 All Breeds Sale/Show. Sunday June 5th is the Show. Sale starts at 12 Noon. Sale animals will be showage calves, heifers and cows mostly all show prospects. Watch for more details.

WATCH FUTURE ADS ON UPCOMING SALES WE HAVE IN THE WORKS IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SELL IF ITS ONE OR A WHOLE HERD LET US HELP YOU THROUGH THE PROCESS.

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2 Day Mohawk Valley Parochial CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

Held at Mohawk Valley Produce Auction

840 Fords Bush Road., Fort Plain, NY 13339

Friday, May 6th & Saturday, May 7th

Friday Auction: Flowers, Bedding Plants, Groceries, Sporting Goods
Flowers & Bedding Plants Starting Friday at 12 Noon

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SPORTING GOODS SELLING FRIDAY AT 5 PM
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Sporting goods will include kayaks, tree stands, ammo, crossbows, trail cams, fishing rods and lots more coming.

**HEIFER AUCTION WILL BE HELD
FRIDAY, MAY 6TH AT 3 PM**

Call Alvin Stoltzfus 518-993-9926

Friday, May 6th at 5 PM

One semi truckload of Home Depot items. Includes drills, tools, vanities, grills, lawn furniture, cabinets - approximately 500 items.

Farm Machinery Sell Sat., May 7th

For info Call Jr Beiler at 518-568-5646

ALREADY CONSIGNED

2-258 NH rollbar rakes; 782 Harvester w/824 corn head, rebuilt;
New 1 horse drawn Blue Ribbon mower w/6'bar; Like New I & J cultivator, 4 row;
New Idea 12A manure spreader, rebuilt; one Ehe 4222 22' PTO driven tedder;
Ehe 2118 18' engine driven tedder; new 6x10 chicken coop on wheels.

Flowers Selling Saturday, May 7th

PONY SALE SATURDAY, MAY 7TH

All ponies will need Coggins test prior to being unloaded at the auction site.

Accepting Consignments by phone April 15th to May 4th.

Maximum consignments will be 30 Head of Reg Ponies plus Hackney's

Contact David Peachy 518-207-5299

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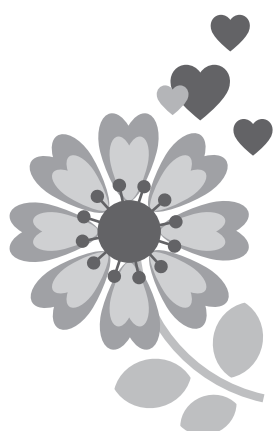
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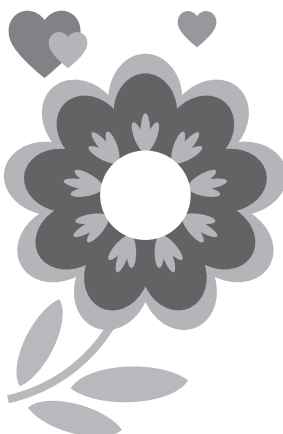
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Sunday
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Father's Day is
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10 AM - 3 PM

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Country Editor

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817 Nails
820 Nurseries
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960 RVs & Motor Homes
975 Rentals
980 Restaurant Supplies
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1096 Sports
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1140 Trailers
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1180 Trucks
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1205 Wanted

Announcements

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Announcements

CHECK YOUR AD - ADVERTISERS should check their ads on the first week of insertion. Lee Newspapers shall not be liable for typographical, or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the first weeks insertion of the ad, and shall also not be liable for damages due to failure to publish an ad. Adjustment for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. **Report any errors to 800-836-2888 or 518-673-0111.**

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Announcements

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HERKIMER: Available May 15th, First floor, large one bedroom, off street parking, \$575 plus reasonable utilities. 315-867-0197

HERKIMER: 306 North Washington St. 1 bedroom upstairs apartment, \$650 plus utilities, \$650 security. Small dog or cat \$50 per month, \$250 non-refundable pet fee. Appliances included, washer/dryer hookup, background check required. 315-868-6906

ILION: Second floor, newly remodeled one large bedroom spacious apartment. Fully furnished, mature adults, utilities included, NO pets, NO smoking. Near downtown. Parking for one car only. \$700 per month plus one month's security upfront & references. 315-894-1335 or leave message.

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FISHING EQUIPMENT: Can be seen at 104 North Washington Street, Herkimer, NY 13350. Call 315-864-1647

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For Sale

TAKING ORDERS FOR WOOD PELLETS - New England Premium Wood Pellets, which are low ash, low maintenance, and clean burning. Buy Now & Save - C.H. BURKDORF & SON, 35 Hough St., St. Johnsville 518-568-7016

Furniture

ANTIQUE drop leaf kitchen table with 3 kitchen chairs. Price \$125.00. China cabinet with mirror & light: Price \$95.00. CASH only, no checks. Contact Louise 315-894-8557 If no answer, please leave message.

Help Wanted

WANTED: Handyman versed in plumbing, electrical and carpentry. Also home health aid. Little Falls area. Call Joe 315-601-8172

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MAGNETIC TRUCK SIGNS. Call with your needs. Lee Newspapers Inc. 518-673-0101

Masonry

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Services Offered

Mail: Country Editor, PO Box 121, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428

Turn your yard into a vacation-worthy oasis

Warm weather means more time to relax outdoors. For those homeowners lucky enough to have entertaining spaces outside, spring and summer provides plenty of opportunities to enjoy fresh air under the sun or stars.

Over the last few years, families have become especially familiar with what works about their yards and where there is room for improvement. Pandemic-related travel restrictions and early stay-at-home mandates resulted in plenty of time spent in backyards on staycations. Even though many such restrictions have been lifted, homeowners may have seen the benefits of having functional respites right outside their doors.

A backyard renovation can cost anywhere from \$5,000 to \$50,000. The American Society of Landscape Architects suggests homeowners budget the cost of a major landscaping project at between 5% and 10% of their home's value. Large or small, here are ways to make an outdoor oasis at home.

Create Living Privacy

Living in close proximity to neighbors may make privacy harder to come by. Wood or vinyl fences, however effective, may not provide the all-natural look many people desire. Vertical gardening, which trains easy-care vines like English ivy, Clematis or various climbing roses to grow on trellis or fencing adds greenery and privacy. Hedges and fast-growing shrubs also can be used for natural barriers.

Install a Pool

Pools are the ultimate spots to cool off on hot days. An elaborately shaped inground pool can blend in with the landscape and offer the ultimate hang-out zone. However, above-ground pools also serve the purpose and are more budget-friendly. Stock tank pools are popular among those who want minimal pool expenditure or have small spaces to work with. Stock tanks are metal vessels traditionally used as watering holes for livestock. They also can be "adult kiddie pools" when combined with some plumbing. Galvanized steel frames make them sturdy. With floats and other accessories, they can become the perfect oasis.

Provide Outdoor

Atmosphere

Create a bespoke bistro vibe by using freestanding planters and posts along with hanging lights to make an intimate outdoor hangout spot at night.

For those with permanent structures, like a deck or a gazebo, lights can be strung across the area or on railings or edging.

Extend the Living Space

Decks and patios can

help make outdoor entertaining areas more comfortable by eliminating the need to sit on the grass or gravel. Plus, they add another "room" to the home. When paired with weatherproof patio furniture, such as sofas, loungers and tables, a private seating area can be crafted and utilized for any number of entertaining desires.



When paired with weatherproof patio furniture, such as sofas, loungers and tables, a private seating area can be crafted and utilized for any number of entertaining desires.

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erproof patio furniture, such as sofas, loungers and tables, a private seating area can be crafted and utilized for any number of entertaining desires.

Hang a Hammock

Few things evoke feelings of relaxation better than a hammock. Fitted between two trees (or two

posts if trees are sparse), a hammock is an ideal place to grab a nap or read a book.

Additional oasis-inspired ideas include outdoor kitchens, letting up lanterns, cascading water features, and bird feeders to attract the sounds of nature.

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CANAJOHARIE

We would like to thank all of you who shopped local with us this Christmas season. We had another record breaking year and that's a direct result of your support of our small family owned business. We appreciate you! ~ The Lee Family

Here are some common questions we were asked from our first time visitors, maybe you're curious too?

Q: Are you open all year round?

A: Yes we are, 7 days a week. Our hours do change seasonally and we do close for a few of the holidays but other than that, we are open year round!

Q: Do you sell on line?

A: Yes, we have an on line catalog, <https://theshopsatwagnersquare.myshopify.com>

Q: Can we shop in the store and still have our items shipped home?

A: YES! Our boaters and cyclists ask this one a lot.

We are happy to ship your items for you!

This one is not so much a question but an observation!

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7 DAYS
10-5**

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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MAGIC MAZE • — ISLAND : ISLANDS OF IRELAND

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: — AND PEPPER

Achill	Great	Puffin	Rough
Bere	Haulbowline	Rabbit	St. Patrick's
Castle	Inch	Rathlin	Valentia
Copeland	Mid	Rossmore	

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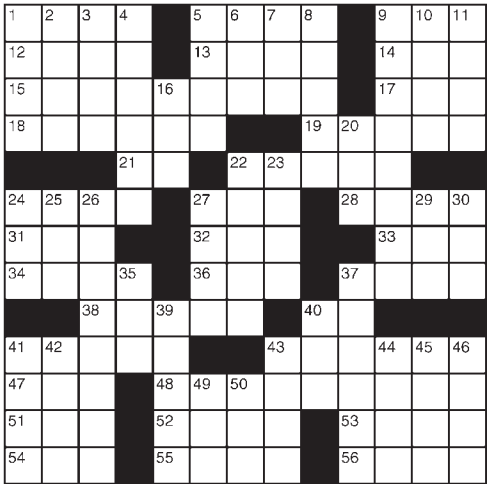


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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Karate level
5 Caprice
9 Perch
12 Writer Wiesel
13 Car
14 Man-mouse link
15 Time between vernal equinoxes
17 "Viva — Vegas"
18 Wesley of "Blade"
19 Striped critter
21 Symbol of strength
22 Chirp
24 Right on the map?
27 — chi
28 Evening, in an ad
31 Duo
32 Grass shack
33 Feedbag tid-bit
34 Big name in scat
36 Boom times
37 "Mad Money" network
38 Beetle
40 Bailey's boss
40 Italian river
41 "Untrue!"
43 "Jurassic Park" bird
47 Paris pal



- 48 Game for one
51 Pouch
52 Daring Knievel
53 Village People hit
54 Exist
55 Fill fully
56 Fashion line?
7 Call — day
8 Code name?
9 Puzzle answer
10 Persia, today
11 To-do list item
16 "Toy Story" dinosaur
20 Understand-ing
22 Hosiery shade
23 Funny folks
24 Paris summer
25 Piercing tool
26 Start of summer or winter
27 Hoodlum
29 Bar bill
30 List-ending
35 Small batteries
37 Patients' shares
39 Kentucky Derby prize
40 Bit of butter
41 Houston acronym
42 Actor Epps
43 Anger
44 Marathoner's stat
45 Killer whale
46 500 sheets
49 Eggs
50 Allow

DOWN

- 1 Porgy's love
2 Carolina college
3 Actress Taylor
4 Oolong brewer
5 Methods
6 Shade

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Multi Line New Tire Dealer

Tire Repair
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Log Skidder Tires
Agricultural Tires

Tire Chains

Ag-Bags
Net Wrap
Bale Wrap

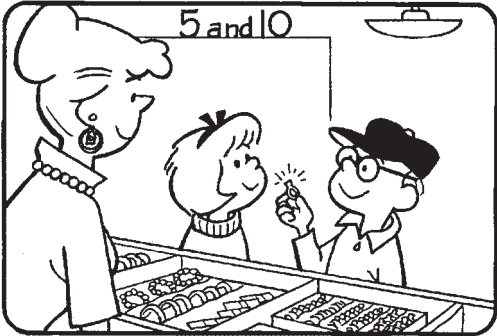
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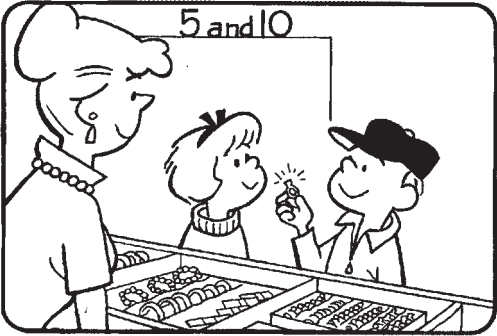
ON THE FARM TIRE SERVICE

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



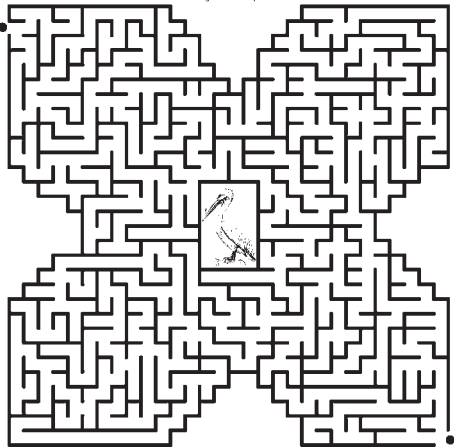
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Earring is different. 2. Sleeve is shorter. 3. Hair is shorter. 4. Light is missing. 5. Glasses are missing. 6. Jacket is opened.

Mega Maze

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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!

Swell
TAILED
Skill
LATENT
Tip
PINTO
Soak
SOBBAR

TODAY'S WORD



Home Country

by Slim Randles

It was just one of those things. It didn't really mean Marvin Pincus had lost his mind. Consider this yourself for a minute. Marvin had opened the mail that morning and in it was the Fenwick glass fly rod he'd ordered. Oh, it was used, of course. But there's a feel to a Fenwick that only a man dedicat-

ed to a life of using dry flies can appreciate. Marvin had broken his ankle the previous week and was temporarily in a wheelchair. It was his right ankle, so he couldn't drive down to the creek. And there, in his hands, was the Fenwick. He put it together, attached a reel and some four-weight line and set it on the couch and looked at it. Marjorie was off visiting her sister, so she couldn't help him. But there's a pull, an irresistible draw to a fly rod. He had to cast

it. Now. It took Marvin about 20 minutes to negotiate the front steps with that wheelchair and the Fenwick. Finally, he negotiated the sidewalk and then the edge of the street itself. Up came the Fenwick. A few swishes in the air told Marvin he'd done the right thing in ordering the rod. So he ran out some line and began casting. About halfway across the street was a large mulberry leaf. He did a double haul on the line and sent the fly toward the leaf. It

took several tries before he hit it, but when he made that cast, you could've sold tickets to it. His fly came to rest about three feet above the leaf and then fluttered gently down onto its target. Marvin's smile said it all. Then the school bus came around the corner full of kids heading home, and Marvin realized he was casting a fly rod from a wheelchair onto dry pavement. "Hi Mr. Pincus!" yelled one of the kids. "Catch anything?" "A little slow today, Billy," he

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yelled back. "Isn't it hard to catch fish without water?" Billy yelled. "It's okay, son," Marvin said with a grin. "I'm using a dry fly!" Brought to you by Fenwick (at www.purefishing.com/pages/fenwick - feel everything).

Be the home depot for our feathered friends

by Becky Mauk

Spring is for the birds! This is the time of year when migratory birds who have been vacationing in their tropical homes fly north to their annual breeding grounds. They are busy building nests, finding mates, and populating our bird feeders. It is prime bird-watching season. There are many ways to bring our feathered friends to our yards. Aside from feeders, one of my favorite things to do is leave nesting material around the garden for birds to find. From twigs and dried leaves to thin metal wire

and bits of plastic, birds will use anything they can find to weave into their nests, so when leaving out nesting supplies it's important to choose safe and organic materials. Some appropriate items are twigs, organic twine, dried leaves, moss, cottontail fluff, grass clippings, and pet fur. But be careful! Twine or yarn that is too long can injure a baby bird, and grass that has been treated with pesticides or pet fur that has been treated with flea medication are not safe to put out! Some other items to avoid are anything

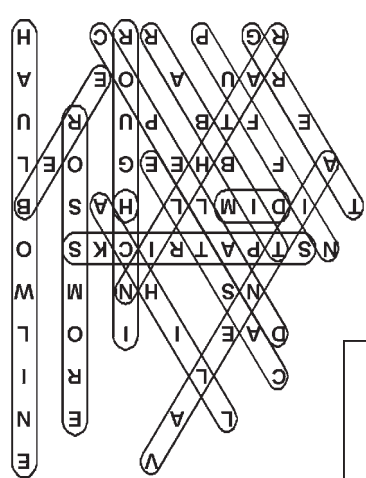
synthetic like plastic or metal, human hair, and - I can't stress this one enough - dryer lint. It may seem perfectly warm and fuzzy, but it may contain a number of dyes and it falls apart when wet, leaving holes in an otherwise perfectly constructed nest. Now that you have your potential nesting materials you might wonder how or where to leave them so they are easily found. It's simpler than you might think! You can just leave them in bundles in your yard or tuck them into a crevice in a tree. Rest assured, your avian allies

will find them. Another fun way is to use an empty suet cage suspended from a branch, stuffed to the brim with every nesting necessity a songbird could imagine! You can enjoy a cup of coffee in the morning while you watch a little wren pulling wool from your assortment of goodies. Spring can be a difficult time of year, with unpredictable warm and cold weather, lots of rain, and sometimes blustery winds. Our fine feathered friends

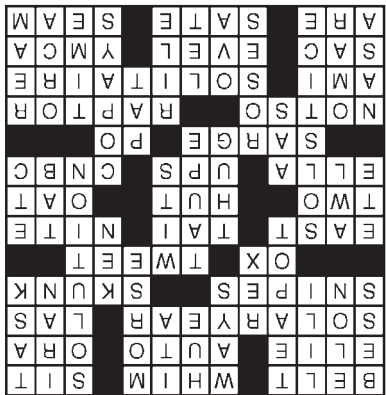


Moss makes a great addition to a bird nest. Dryer lint... not so much.

will most definitely appreciate any help you can give when it comes time for them to construct this year's nests. For more stories like this, be sure to check out www.countryculture.co.



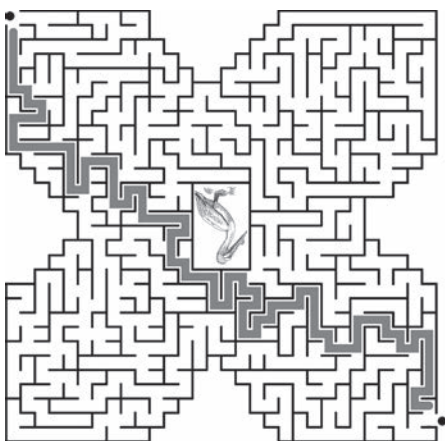
BATTLE
Today's Word
3. Point; 4. Absorb
1. Dilate 2. Talent
solution



King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Answer



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Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2021

Village of Canajoharie

75 Erie Boulevard, Canajoharie, NY 13317 • Public Water Supply ID# NY2800137

INTRODUCTION

To comply with State regulations, the Village of Canajoharie will be annually issuing a report describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. This report provides an overview of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact: Mr. Mark Horning, Supt. of Water, 75 Erie Blvd, Canajoharie, NY 13317; Telephone (518) 673-2007. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled village board meetings. The meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Village Office Building, 75 Erie Blvd., Canajoharie, NY 13317 at 6:00 PM.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants;

pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Health Departments and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water source is a surface water source consisting of several upland springs. The Hill, Gray, Sand, Young, and Plank Springs comprise the "spring line" in addition to the Sprite Creek which feeds water to our reservoir. The reservoir has a storage capacity of 93 million gallons. The water is filtered at our Slow Sand Filtration plant. The plant consists of three slow sand filters. After passing through the filters the finished water is disinfected by injection of a sodium hypochlorite solution. Water is stored at the Smith Street Reservoir, East Hill Tank, and Palatine Clear well, providing us with 2.63 million gallons of water storage to meet consumer demand and provide adequate fire protection.

The NYS DOH has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking water source were evaluated. The source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the

risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how rapidly contaminants can move through the subsurface to the springs. The susceptibility of a water supply source to contamination is dependent upon both the presence of potential sources of contamination within the source's contributing area and the likelihood that the contamination can travel through the environment to reach the source. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. See section "Are there contaminants in our drinking water?" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

Our water is derived from several spring sources and a reservoir. Based on the analysis of available information for these spring sources, there are no water quality concerns found in the assessment area. No land cover water quality concerns, permitted discharges, or other discrete facilities were identified in the assessment area using GIS. It should be noted that springs in general can be highly sensitive to petroleum products and solvents. An assessment of the reservoir found no noteworthy risks to source water quality. It should be noted that reservoirs in general are highly sensitive to phosphorus and microbial contaminants. You may obtain a copy of the source water assessment by contacting Village of Canajoharie or N.Y. State Department of Health Herkimer District Office. *Please note that our water is filtered and disinfected to ensure that that the finished water delivered into your home meets New York State's drinking water standards for microbial contamination.*

FACTS AND FIGURES

Our water system serves approximately 2,300 people through 868 service connections. The total amount of water produced in 2021 was 159,652,000 gallons. The daily average of water treated and pumped into the distribution system was 438,000 gallons per day. Our single highest daily use was 509,000 gallons.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

As the State regulations require, we routinely test your drinking water for numerous contaminants. These contaminants include: inorganic compounds, nitrate, nitrite, lead and copper, turbidity, volatile organic compounds, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, radiological and synthetic organic compounds in addition, we test 2 samples for coliform bacteria monthly. The table presented below depicts which compounds were detected in your drinking water. The State allows us to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one years old. It should be noted that all drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791 or the New York State Department of Health Herkimer District Office at (315) 866-6879.**

WHAT DOES THIS INFORMATION MEAN?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OPERATIONS?

During 2021, our system was in compliance with applicable State drinking water operating, monitoring and reporting requirements.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>.

INFORMATION ON LEAD

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your homes plumbing. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Village of Canajoharie is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

WHY SAVE WATER AND HOW TO AVOID WASTING IT?

You can play a role in conserving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using, and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Conservation tips include:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances, then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

CLOSING

Thank you for allowing us to continue to provide your family with quality drinking water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community. Please call our office if you have questions at (518) 673-2007.

Table of Detected Contaminants Village of Canajoharie Water Works PWS ID#NY2800137							
Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Date of Sample	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL, TT or AL)	Likely source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants							
Turbidity (Highest value from 7/17/20) ¹	N	Daily	0.0485	NTU	N/A	TT=5.0	Soil Run-off
			100% < 1.0			TT=95% of samples <1.0 NTU	
Inorganic Contaminants							
Chloride	N	07/14/20	30.2	ppm	N/A	250	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination.
Copper ² Range of values	N	08/31/21	.34 .018-.374	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits;
Lead ³ Range of values	N	08/31/21	3.4 ND-21.9	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	N	07/14/21	.06	ppb	N/A	N/A	Discharge from steel mills/ metal factories
Sodium ⁴	N	07/14/21	4.40	ppm	N/A	See note 4	Naturally occurring; Road salt; Water softeners; Animal waste.
Nitrate	N	07/14/21	<0.23	ppm	10	10	Runoff from Fertilizer.
Barium	N	07/14/21	0.0131	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Color	N	8/25/21	<1	Units	N/A	15	Large quantities of organic chemicals, inadequate treatment, high disinfectant, demand and the potential for production of excess amounts of disinfectant by-products such as trihalomethanes; Natural color may be caused by decaying leaves, plants, and soil organic matter.
Odor ⁵	N	07/14/21	1	Units	N/A	3	Organic or inorganic pollutants originating from municipal and industrial waste discharges; natural sources
Disinfection Byproducts							
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids] ⁶ Range of values	N	1/11/21 4/12/21 7/13/21 10/12/21	15.5 8.90 – 19.40	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes] ⁶ Range of values	N	1/11/21 4/12/21 7/13/21 10/12/21	19.52 8.28-28.5	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine Residual (average) range	N	Daily	1.31 0.78 – 1.96	ppm	MRDLG	MRDL	Used in the treatment and disinfection of drinking water
					N/A	4	

Notes:

1–Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Level detected represents the highest level detected. Our average turbidity is 0.01 NTU and our lowest level detected was 0.01NTU. The regulations require that 95% of the turbidity samples collected have measurements below 1.0 NTU

2 – The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 samples collected. The action level for copper was not exceeded at any of the 10 sites tested.

3 – A system must provide information on lead in drinking water irrespective of whether the system detected lead in any of its samples. The level presented represents the 90th percentile of the 10 samples collected. The action level for lead was exceeded at 1 of the 10 sites tested.

4- Water containing more than 20 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 mg/l of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

5-Odor as measured by this standard procedure has no health effects; although several contaminants exert odors when they are present at levels near their MCLs. Odor is an important quality factor affecting the drinkability of water.

6– The average is based on a Running Annual Average. The average shown represents the highest RAA for the 4 quarters in 2020. The highest average for TTHM was the 3rd quarter and HAA5 was in the 1st quarter.

Glossary

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Action Level (AL)- the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

90th Percentile Value- The values reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead and copper values detected at your water system

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) –corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter – corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination

RAA–The RAA is calculated each quarter by taking the average of the four most recent samples collected.

Treatment Technique (TT)-A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

N/A-Not applicable

Nephelometric turbidity Unit (NTU): A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.