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Editor

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DECEMBER 3, 2022



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- HOLIDAY HEADQUARTERS
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Grandview Baptist Church installs new pastor

Grandview Baptist Church of Fort Plain recently officially recognized God's call to Sean Morin to be their pastor. Morin, originally from Amsterdam, answered God's call, along with his wife Amy and their son Jeremiah, in April 2022 and has quickly been assimilated into the church and community.

The service began with an opening prayer by Pastor Mark Kelley of Faith Bible Church in Carlisle, scripture reading by Deacon Dennis White and a hymn led by David Clinansmith, both of Grandview Baptist Church.

The first speaker was Pastor Sean's mentor, Pastor Chris

Gardner from Metropolitan Baptist Church in Brooklyn. He gave a challenge to Morin from Romans 1:8-15 highlighting the pastor's duty to serve through Jesus Christ with passion, prayer, partners, proclamation and preaching.

Next was Morin's former pastor, Bill Pitcher of First Baptist Church in Amsterdam. Pitcher challenged the congregation from I Timothy 5:17-21, pointing out that individuals of the congregation are to respect the pastor's preferences, his time, family and privacy. They are to claim him as their own pastor and never compare him negatively to any other pastor. The church is to give him "double honor" and not gossip about him or his family realizing that he has to answer directly to God. He is the man God put here and the man we need here.

In accepting that charge, Morin spoke of his thankfulness for God's call and for the people at Grandview Baptist Church, recognizing that God is the potter and His people are the clay (Isaiah 64:8). He cleans us and shapes us for His use when and where He wants us. We have been saved from God's wrath by God's grace through the faith He gave us, to do His work according to His will. Everything we do is to glorify God, and that is what Morin intends to do in Fort Plain.

Lastly, Deacon Derick Waters of Grandview Baptist Church represented the congregation in accepting the challenge given to the congregation. He spoke of the congregation's responsibility to meet the needs of the new pastor, whether material needs, emotional needs or in any other way they can. It is their responsibility to protect him from being overworked and to encourage him often. They are not to criticize him, recognizing that God placed him in Fort Plain for their benefit.

In conclusion, Pastor Kelly led in a prayer of dedication with all the pastors present laying their hands on Pastor Morin in agreement and blessing. Following the service, everyone enjoyed a time of fellowship and a wonderful meal.



Grandview Baptist Church of Fort Plain recently recognized God's call to Sean Morin to be their pastor. Pictured with Pastor Morin are his wife Amy and their son Jeremiah. Photo courtesy of Grandview Baptist Church





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Creative resiliency in the Mohawk Valley



This mural in Fort Plain is one example of creative resiliency in the Mohawk Valley.

The Mohawk Valley Economic Development District Inc. (MVEDD) has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$173,033 from the USDA through the Rural Placemaking Innovation Challenge (RPIC) for the project titled "Creative Resiliency in the Mohawk Valley." MVEDD serves the Mohawk Valley region and will be working directly with four target communities on this initiative: the Town of Minden, the Village of Fort Plain, the Village of Palatine Bridge and the Village of Nelliston.

USDA Rural Development Under Secretary Xochitl Torres Small announced that USDA is awarding \$4 million in cooperative agreements to 17 organizations under the RPIC. The assistance will help the organizations support people who have been unserved or underserved and live in socially vulnerable communities, Tribal communities and rural areas.

Placemaking is a collaborative planning and technical assistance process that helps leaders from rural communities create quality places where people will want to live, work, visit and learn.

Creating effective and attractive community spaces truly takes a village. Eddie Watt, Village of Nelliston clerk-treasurer, who was instrumental in gaining local support for the project, stated, "I'm excited and grateful for this opportunity from the USDA to bring our community together. It's worth noting that this wouldn't have been possible without all of our partners from business and government to education and cultural organizations. Nothing happens in a vacuum and I believe RPIC will give us the chance to plan for community growth that benefits everyone. I look forward to showing the community what we can accomplish together."

Through MVEDD's community engagement, strong partnerships and implementation assistance, we will collaborate with these towns and villages to help solve problems, create effective new projects and strategic plans and build more creative and equitable places to live, work and play.

MVEDD's innovative and adaptive approaches to economic and community development will allow us to provide, alongside USDA Rural Development, technical assistance unprecedented in the rural communities we serve.

Dr. Mari Kate Mycek, the project director for the program, remarked, "I am grateful for all the dedicated partners who have supported this project. I grew up in Montgomery County and know firsthand what a beautiful place it is to live, and how much potential there is. We have an incredible team of people invested in helping these communities shine, and it's a joy to see so many creative approaches and ideas."

MVEDD, alongside its partners, will work with community leaders to create placemaking plans, host community workshops, identify implementation projects and submit applications for grant funding. There is no universal formula to create a sense of place and opportunity in a community. Each location this taskforce works with will be unique. However, all projects will require our partners to create both a connection to that space, in a collaborative way.

Celebrating and honoring this region's history will be central to the placemaking plans. Highlighting a region's history can help foster a sense of pride and connection to our communities – and history is something the Mohawk Valley is rich in. Village of Palatine Bridge Mayor James Post stated, "The Village of Palatine Bridge has a variety of places located on the historic registry and is located along the Mohawk River which provides a serene and beautiful landscape for our residents. We look forward to engaging with MVEDD and USDA-RD to better understand ways in which we can further enhance our community."

These projects are meant to increase the draw to this entire region, and it will take a spirit of cooperation in which everyone has a voice. Cheryl Reese, Town of Minden's mayor, commented, "We believe through our efforts

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Creative from A3

to collaborate with MVEDD and the many committed partners supporting this project, we can help continue to be an agent for positive change in our region."

Placemaking can also be a springboard toward the future. Village of Fort Plain Mayor Patrick Hanifin said, "We have a vibrant community with passionate residents and an up-and-coming downtown area that is ripe with possibility. We are excited and eager to help identify community assets and projects that will help our community become a better place to live, work and play for all."

To create lasting change, this project will need Mohawk Valley youth to get involved and put down their roots. Dr. Nick Fitzgerald, superintendent of Canajoharie Central Schools, said, "MVEDD's approach to placemaking activities will make our communities stronger, which benefits the many students and staff who live and work in these communities. In order to help keep the next generation in our communities, we need to have youth actively involved in decisions regarding placemaking programs and future projects. This is an excellent opportunity for students to learn about community engagement, public policy and network."

Project events and updates will be published on the project website hosted by Mohawk Valley Today at mohawkvalley.today/creative-resiliency-in-the-mohawk-valley. Mohawk Valley Today's goal is to highlight all the wonderful things about the Mohawk Valley to the public, both for residents and those who might want to call the Mohawk Valley home.

Ginny Rogers, the creator of Mohawk Valley Today, commented, "The work that will be completed through this project deserves to be shared widely, and Mohawk Valley Today is committed to helping facilitate this."

Matthew Ossenfort, Montgomery County executive, said, "The county is committed to placemaking projects for continuing revitalization momentum in this region, and we see this initiative as a complement to our community development

goals for creating flourishing towns by investing in small businesses and neighborhoods."

MVEDD's mission is to promote economic growth and community resiliency within the Mohawk Valley. MVEDD's vision for the Mohawk Valley is to create a thriving region through inclusive economic development practices that provides lasting solutions for our communities. Through collaborative partnerships, innovative programs and community engagement, MVEDD works to foster economic well-being for the communities they serve. This project was developed as part of MVEDD's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Mohawk Valley Region.



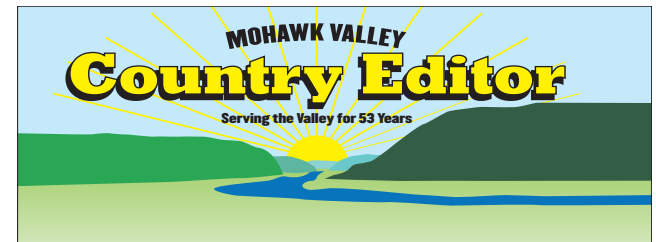
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It's the holiday season: Tree cutting tradition promotes NYS Christmas tree farms and kicks off the festive season

New York State Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball led the department's annual tree-cutting tradition on Nov. 22 at New York State Grown & Certified Stokoe Farms in Scottsville, cutting down a nine-foot-tall Fraser fir that will be proudly displayed at the Finger Lakes Welcome Center. The annual event highlights New York's Christmas tree industry and encourages New Yorkers to shop local at farms as they pick out trees this season and at local agricultural businesses as they check items off of gift lists for loved ones and set their tables for the holidays.

Ball said, "New York's agricultural industry plays such an important role in holiday traditions in ways that many New Yorkers may be surprised to discover. From the trees we gather around and wreaths we decorate with, to the food we eat and specialty items we purchase as thoughtful gifts, our local farms and agricultural businesses contribute to this festive season in incredible ways. We hope New Yorkers remember local farmers and businesses during this season of giving, and all year long."

Gene Knudsen, president of the Christmas Tree Farmers Association of New York, said, "Thank you to Commissioner Richard Ball for continuing this tradition. We look forward to it every year, as it unofficially kicks off the busiest and most magical time of year for Christmas tree farmers. We hope those who celebrate Christmas will bring their families to a local farm, enjoy an outdoor outing and pick a fresh

centerpiece for their traditions."

According to the Christmas Tree Farmers Association of New York, New York State is home to 875 tree farms. With tree farms sprawling across almost 19,000 acres, the state ranks fourth in the country in acres dedicated to growing Christmas trees. By selecting a tree from any one of these local farms, New Yorkers and their families can support this important agricultural sector, which has an \$13.8 million economic impact. Dozens of Christmas tree farms are also members of the NYS Grown & Certified Program, which means they adhere to environmental sustainability standards in growing their trees.

To find the New York-grown Christmas tree vendor closest to you, visit the NYS Grown & Certified website at certified.ny.gov and the Christmas Tree Farmers Association of New York website at CTFA-NY.org.

Travelers are also encouraged to look for NYS Grown & Certified trees on display at each of the state's regional Welcome Centers and Taste NY stores. The Welcome Centers and Taste NY stores also features a variety of gift items and gift sets, stocked with local products made and produced by New York farms and food and beverage producers unique to the region the Welcome Center is located in. From local, gourmet food items and locally produced craft beverages to novelty items and even bath and beauty products, gifts range in size and price and can be customized. Customers may reach out to their closest

local Taste NY location for specific offerings and details.

Many Taste NY markets and stores sell grocery items including charcuterie meats and cheeses, as well as wine and cider, serving as

a convenient place to find food and beverages that can contribute to fresh, delicious holiday meals or serve as last-minute hostess gifts. In

Holiday A9



Suzanne Stokoe of Stokoe Farms in Scottsville, NY, helped kick off the Christmas tree season. Photo courtesy of NYS Ag & Markets

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Family Worship 10:30 AM

GLEN

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

HERKIMER

SS PETER and PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH
Fr Vasil Dube
& Fr Dn Demetrius Richards
305 Main Rd., Herkimer
Phone 315-866-3272
Saturday Vespers -
5 PM (spring/summer months)
4 PM (fall/winter months)
Sunday Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM Sundays

TEMPLE BETH JOSEPH

327 N. Prospect St.
Phone 866-4270
Friday 7 PM

ST. FRANCIS de SALES CHURCH

Rev. Mark Cunningham, Pastor
219 N. Bellinger St.
Phone 866-4282
Saturday Vigil Mass 4 PM
Sunday Mass 8 AM

CHURCH OF SAINTS ANTHONY and JOSEPH

229 S. Main St.
Phone 866-6373
Sunday Mass 10 AM
No Saturday Vigil

REDEEMER CHURCH

Pastor Michael Servello
931 Herkimer Rd., Utica, NY 13503
Phone 792-4748
Saturday 6 PM • Sunday 9 & 11 AM

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

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. MARY'S PROTECTRESS

326 Moore Ave.
Sunday Divine Liturgy 10 AM
Holy Day Liturgy 9 AM
Phone 866-1336

NEW LIFE CHURCH

Pastor David Hayner
337 Protection Ave.
Phone 866-1164 • www.nlc-mc.org
Worship 10 AM
Wednesday Worship 6:30 PM

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HERKIMER AND LITTLE FALLS

Pastor Joelle Faulks
Prospect St & Park Ave.
Sunday Worship and Sunday School
9 AM

HERKIMER REFORMED CHURCH

102 Church St.
Phone 866-1523
Worship 9:30 AM
Shepherd's Table: Tuesday 11:30-12 PM

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

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

ILION

ILION COMMUNITY CHURCH

Pastor Dean Mabry
44 Central Plaza
Sunday Worship 10 AM
Child Care/Kids Church Available
ilionchurch.com

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

78 2nd Street
Phone: 680-322-1034
or 315-895-0363
Email: staugustine3@gmail.com
Sunday Services at 10 AM

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

90 Morgan St., Iliion, NY, 13357
Reverend Richard Riggle
Bible Study 9:30 AM
Church Service 10:30 AM
315-894-2070

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

8 Second Street
Reverend John Partise
Wednesday Mid Week Service 7 PM
Sunday Morning 11 AM

JESUS NEVER FAILS COMMUNITY CHURCH

Reverend Hans Drews
1161 Elizabethtown Rd., Iliion, NY 13357
518-568-7983
hansandrosaline@yahoo.com
Sunday Service 11 AM

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, Iliion

ANNUNCIATION CHURCH

109 West Street, Iliion, NY
Pastor: Father Paul Catena
Deacon: Micheal Carbone
Mass Schedule:
Saturday 4 PM (November - April);
Sunday 11:30 AM;
Monday & Wednesday 9 AM

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Specialty Sandblast & Etching
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Thomas C. Whitcomb, Owner
Phone 315-823-1320
www.whitcombautosales.com

CHURCH SERVICE DIRECTORY

JOHNSTOWN
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
 3316 St. Rt. 29 W,
 Johnstown, NY 12095
 Offices: 518-762-2982
 Cell: 857-523-8417
 Pastor, Rev. Mark Fowler
 Sunday Morning Service 11 AM
 Sunday School for All Ages 10 AM

JOHNSTOWN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 37 South Market St.
 Johnstown, NY 12095
 518-762-8263
 office@johnstownpresbyterian.org
 Pastor George W. 'Blake' Blakesley
 Church Service 10:30 AM in person,
 Zoom and Facebook
 Please call for more information about
 our free community lunch, thrift store &
 personal care shelf.

LASSELLSVILLE
LASSELLSVILLE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 State Hwy. 29
 Pastor Robert A. Lindsay
 Worship: Sunday 9:30 AM
 Sunday School to start soon

LITTLE FALLS
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 555 Albany St.
 315-823-3392
 Morning Worship 9:45 AM
 Rev. Chris J. Wintermute, Lead Pastor
 Rev. William Whalen, Associate Pastor
 Nursery (infants through age 4)
 Meet and Greet Sunday at 8:00 AM
 Sunday School Classes 8:30 AM
 (nursery through adult)
 **Our Service is aired on 100.3 FM,
 91.1 FM & 88.7 FM on Sundays from
 11-12 with a 1 week delay.
 **LIVE on Facebook: "gingerleecase"
 account- 9:45 am on Sundays

ST. PAUL'S UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
 Minister Jeffrey J. Frank
 Mark Bunce, Organist
 565 Albany St., Little Falls, NY
 Phone 315-823-2284
 Sunday Service & Religious Education
 10 AM

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

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

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 512 E. Gansevoort St.
 Sunday School 9:15 AM
 Sunday Worship 9:30 AM
 Wednesday Worship 11 AM & 6 PM

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Pastor Tamara Razzano
 16 Jackson St.
 Phone: 315-823-3004
 Email lfirstpres@gmail.com
 www.presbylif.org
 Sunday Worship 10 AM
 Sunday School 10 AM

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

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

MARSHVILLE
MARSHVILLE EVANGELICAL CHURCH
 Route 10 South
 Pastor Mark Fowler
 Worship Sunday 9 AM

MIDDLEVILLE
MIDDLEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 24 Fairfield St.
 Sunday Worship 8:30 AM
 Thursday Bible Study 2 PM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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)

NEWPORT
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NEWPORT
 7497 Main Street
 Pastor's Phone 315-790-1877
 Sunday Worship at 9:45 AM

UNITED METHODIST
 Pastor Robbin Harris • Phone 845-8730
 Morning Service 11:15 AM

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

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

OPPENHEIM
OPPENHEIM
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 Route 29
 Pastor Matt Worley
 315-429-7381
 Worship 10 AM Sundays,
 Totally Awesome God-TAG time 6:30 PM
 Wednesdays beginning in Oct.,
 Sunday School 9 AM beginning
 September 18th

PAINES HOLLOW
PAINES HOLLOW
UNITED METHODIST
 Lay Servant Gregg Sponburgh
 Rtes. 167 & 168 • 315-866-1128
 Worship 9-10AM

PALATINE BRIDGE
TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STONE ARABIA
 5430 St. Hwy. 10, Palatine Bridge, NY
 Pastor A. Elisabeth Aurand
 Sunday In Person Worship 9 AM;
 email for link
 office@stjm-canajoharie.org
 518-673-2224

THE HOUSE OF ZION, INC.
 580 Dillenbeck Rd., Palatine Bridge
 518-577-3069
 Pastors Richard & Denise Allen
 Saturday Morning
 Worship Service 11:30 AM
 Listen to UMT on live radio 97.5FM
 the 1st Sunday of every month 3-4 PM

RANDALL
RANDALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
 NY Rte. 5S
 Sunday Service 10:30 AM
 Worship Leader Darlene Spaulding

RICHFIELD SPRINGS
CHURCH OF CHRIST UNITING
 PO Box 896, Richfield Springs, NY 13439
 Rev. Casey Bradley • 315-858-1553
 Service: Sunday 9:15 AM
 Church School: Sunday 9:30 AM

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

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

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

SLOANVILLE
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

SPRAKERS
CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF CHARLESTON FOUR CORNERS
 1380 E. Lykers Rd., Sprakers
 518-922-9088
 Pastor 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

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"

REFORMED CHURCH OF SPRAKERS
 112 Sprakers Hill Rd.
 Rev. Nancy Ryan
 Worship ~ 9 AM
 All Welcome!!!

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

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

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

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

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

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
 32 W. Main St.,
 St. Johnsville, NY (next to NBT Bank)
 518-568-3007 Church
 518-568-2405 Parsonage
 Rev. David Johnson
 Sunday Worship 10:30 AM,
 Tues. Bible Bungee-Jumping 7 PM,
 "Bible Study" that actually makes sense!
 A Vibrant, Welcoming
 Community of Faith & Vision

SEEKER'S FELLOWSHIP
 14 Park Place, St. Johnsville, NY 13452
 518-568-7700 • Pastor Mike Yeziarski
 Sunday Worship 6 PM, Tues. Prayer 7 PM,
 Bible Study 7 PM (Wed., Thurs. & Fri.)
 We teach the fullness of God's Word,
 a life of holiness for the believer,
 and salvation for all who trust
 in Christ's sacrifice.

JOY FELLOWSHIP
 296 Co. Hwy. 119, St. Johnsville, NY 13452
 518-568-3217 • William Hayes, Pastor
 Joyce Loughran, Assistant Pastor
 Sunday School 9 AM,
 Morning Worship 9:30 AM
 Wednesday Evening Worship 6:30 PM

ST. JOHNSVILLE METHODIST CHURCH
 7 East Main St., St. Johnsville, NY 13452
 Pastor Corey Jones
 518-568-7983 • 315-866-8626
 Worship Sunday 3 PM

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

ST. JOHN'S REFORMED CHURCH
 68 W. Main St., St. Johnsville
 518-568-7396
 Faithfully Following Jesus Christ
 Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

GRACE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 Pastor Michael Torres
 20 Center St., St. Johnsville, NY 13452
 518-775-0366
 Email gccpastor2021@gmail.com

STRATFORD
STRATFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 1511 State Route 29A
 Sunday Worship 8:30 AM
 Broadcast on 95.9 FM within
 2 miles of church
 Pastor Matt Worley

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH
 1524 St. Rt. 29A, PO Box 114
 Stratford, NY 13470-0114
 315-429-8854 • Pastor Martin Smith
 Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 AM;
 Wed. Eve. Prayer Meeting 6 PM;
 2nd & 4th Sunday Dinner following
 Morning Service with Afternoon Service
 following dinner
 "Old-Fashioned Bible Preaching"

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 111 3rd Ave., Tribes Hill
 518-829-7301
 Mass Saturday 4 PM



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 MAIL@SHULTSAGENCY.COM



True Value
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 Ft. Plain, NY 13339
 518-993-3834

Community Calendar

December 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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	7

Holidays
 18th - Hanukkah Begins in the evening
 21st - Winter Begins
 25th - Christmas

NOVEMBER 30

Red Cross Blood Drive 10 a.m. to 3 at The Family Counseling Center in Gloversville. Appointments can be scheduled by visiting tinyurl.com/4dixa62y or by visiting redcrossblood.org/give.

DECEMBER 1

Holiday Art Sale begins. Mohawk Valley Center for the Arts, 403 Canal Place, Little Falls, is excited to announce its initial Holiday Art Sale in the 401 Gallery. Artists throughout the region are creating and selling their original art from Dec. 1 through Dec. 24. Sizes range from 36" down to works of art 8" and smaller. All art is framed. Pricing is under \$500 and set by the individual artist. Call 315-823-0808 for information or to make an appointment.

DECEMBER 2

44 Lakes Craft Beverage Trail Seasonal Showcase 5:30 p.m. at Paul Nigra Center for Creative Arts, 2736 State Highway 30, Gloversville. \$15. Live music, beer, wine, cocktails. Food provided by Mayfield Grill. Visit tinyurl.com/2ruptjwk.

Canajoharie Senior Citizens club meeting 1 p.m. at Arkell Center in Canajoharie. New members welcome.

DECEMBER 3

"Elves Day Out" starts at 8 a.m. and continues all day. Event will transform Canajoharie into Christmas wonderland for all ages. Celebration feature activities for kids, crafts, food, musical performances and more. Complete schedule of events will be posted at <https://fb.me/e/2SiHCpVsS>. Businesses wishing to be a sponsor or interested in being part of the event should contact the Canajoharie-Palatine Bridge Chamber of Commerce by calling 518.673.0292 or the county by emailing mmcdary@co.montgomery.ny.us.

Christmas with the Tracys Concert 7 p.m. at View, the Center for Arts and Culture, 3273 State Route 28, Old Forge. For more information, visit www.ViewArts.org.

Christmas Parade & Annual Tree

Lighting 5 p.m. from at N. Main St. and 8th Ave. to S. Main at Forest and Vine Sts., Gloversville. Christmas Parade with cookies, cocoa, music and visit from Santa to follow. Contact Gloversville Recreation Commission at 518.773.4542.

Danú, performing An Emerald Isle

Christmas at 7 p.m. in the Sarkus-Busch Theater, at Robert McLaughlin College Center, Herkimer College. Free. General seating on a first come, first served basis. Information about The Robert H. Wood Great Artists Series can be found at herkimer.edu/greatartists or call the Herkimer County College Foundation Office at 315.866.0300 ext. 8268.

31st Annual Christmas Open House

12-4 p.m. at The Rice Homestead, 328 Riceville Road, Mayfield. Music by Fleur de Lys from 1-3 pm. Historical demonstrations. Free admission and refreshments. For more information, call 518.332.0538 or visit www.facebook.com/ricehomestead.

Boy Scout Troop 81 Christmas Tree

Sale starting at 10 a.m. at the Moose Club on Erie Blvd., in Canajoharie. Only \$45 per tree. Pruned and harvested by Troop 81 of Canajoharie. Contact Mike Burns for any questions at 518.763.3868.

Christmas at the Fort - Author Book

Fair at Fort Plain Museum, 389 Canal Street, Fort Plain. Visit fortplainmuseum.org/events

DECEMBER 4

St. Nicholas Visits Fort Klock 12-3 p.m. at Fort Klock, 7203 State Highway 5, St. Johnsville. Call 518.568.7779.

Canajoharie Senior Citizens annual

Christmas Luncheon 1 p.m. at Ripepi's in St. Johnsville. Call 518.673.6174 to make reservations. Menu: Ham, Had-dock or Chicken Parm.

Pet Nail Trimming Fundraiser

10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Dawn's Dawgs, 45 E. Faville Ave., Dolgeville. By appointment. All pets welcome except birds and reptiles. Proceeds benefit Dolgeville C.A.T. Project. To reserve your spot, call 315.429.8614.

DECEMBER 5

Herkimer College New Student

Registration Day. Appointments are available for 9 a.m. or 1 p.m. To make an appointment, visit herkimer.edu/register. For more information, call 315.574.4028 or email admissions@herkimer.edu.

Wreath Making Class

6 p.m. at St. Cecilia Hall, 26 Broadway, Fonda. \$50 per person. To register, stop by the library at 28 W. Main St., Fonda. or visit familytraditionstreefarm.com or call Frothingham Free Library at 518.853-3016.

DECEMBER 6

Red Cross Blood Drive 12 - 6 p.m. at St. John's St. Mark's Church, 143 Church St., Canajoharie. To schedule an appointment, call 1.800.RED.CROSS or go to tinyurl.com/4f4876f3 and enter sponsor code: StJohnsStMarksCanajoharie.

DECEMBER 8

Town of Webb Herkimer County Public Health Office Hours 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the board room at 3140 State Route 28, Old Forge. For further information call Public Health at 315.867.1176 or visit herkimercounty.org or fb.me/HerkimerCountyPublicHealth.

'Tis the Season Paint & Sip

6 p.m. at Irish Cultural Center of the Mohawk Valley - Museum, 623 Columbia St., Utica. Get ready for the holidays with your own seasonal painted wooden sign with some guidance from instructor Jill Rae Vennera. Register through Eventbrite. Register early at tinyurl.com/y3dybpu4 Seating will be limited.

Alzheimer Caregiver Support

Group Meeting 10-11 a.m. at Arkell Center in Canajoharie. Meetings held second Thursday of each month. Call 518.673.4408 for information.

DECEMBER 9

Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Park

5-8 p.m. at the German Flatts Town Park, 555 Route 5S, Mohawk (next to Ft. Herkimer Church). Events in the Community Center Building. Santa will have presents for the children. Refreshments available. Christmas Basket Raffle and Hershey Candy Raffle, along with door prizes. Fun for the family. Free. For more information contact Carol Vercz at 315.866.6791 or email pvercz@twcny.rr.com

Free Christmas Community Spa-

ghetti Dinner 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Dolgeville United Methodist Church in their Shulenburg Fellowship Hall. Take-outs and dining in available. For more information, call 315.429.7381.

DECEMBER 9-10

Children's Christmas Party. Friday at 5:30 p.m. Saturday at 12 p.m. Both days at Frothingham Free Library, 28 W Main St., Fonda. Crafts, games, music, Santa and yummy treat. RSVP at frothingham-freeibrary.mvls.info

DECEMBER 10

St Nicholas Bizarre and Luncheon 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 594 Albany St., Little Falls. Vendors, food and confections.

DECEMBER 12-13

Artificial Insemination in Cattle Training Course 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days in Little Falls. For information and how to register, go to cnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2004. Preregistration required by Dec. 5 and limited to 12 people. Cost is \$400 per person. To register and for more information contact the Central NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program at cnydfc@cornell.edu or 315.866.7920.

DECEMBER 13

Dream Catchers performing at 2 p.m. at Arkell Center in Canajoharie.

DECEMBER 20

Canajoharie Middle School Orchestra performance at 1:30 p.m. at Arkell Center. The orchestra is directed by Leo Milman.

DECEMBER 22

Canajoharie "Company of Song" 1:30 p.m. at Arkell Center in Canajoharie. "Company of Song" is directed by Nicholas Anker. This is the annual holiday performance.



DECEMBER 29

Canajoharie High School Cover Band will perform at 2 p.m. at Arkell Center in Canajoharie. Contact Joan Cimino at 518.673.4408.

JANUARY 12, 2023

Town of Webb Herkimer County Public Health Office Hours 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the board room at 3140 State Route 28, Old Forge. For further information call Public Health at 315.867.1176 or visit herkimercounty.org or fb.me/HerkimerCountyPublicHealth.

JANUARY 13, 2023

Herkimer College New Student Registration Day. Appointments are available for 9 a.m. or 1 p.m. To make an appointment, visit herkimer.edu/register. For more information, call 315.574.4028 or email admissions@herkimer.edu.

JANUARY 18, 2023

Local History Round Table at Fort Plain Free Library. For more information, call 518.993.4646, email fpfl@mvls.info, or visit the website at fortplainfreelibrary.org.

FEBRUARY 9, 2023

Town of Webb Herkimer County Public Health Office Hours 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the board room at 3140 State Route 28, Old Forge. For further information call Public Health at 315.867.1176 or visit herkimercounty.org or fb.me/HerkimerCountyPublicHealth.

MARCH 9, 2023

Town of Webb Herkimer County Public Health Office Hours 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the board room at 3140 State Route 28, Old Forge. For further information call Public Health at 315.867.1176 or visit herkimercounty.org or fb.me/HerkimerCountyPublicHealth.

APRIL 13, 2023

Town of Webb Herkimer County Public Health Office Hours 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the board room at 3140 State Route 28, Old Forge. For further information call Public Health at 315.867.1176 or visit herkimercounty.org or fb.me/HerkimerCountyPublicHealth.

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

Holiday from A5

addition, Taste NY gift stores and product displays can be found in travel and tourism hubs across the state, such as service areas along the NYS Thruway, airports and train stations. Visit TasteNY.gov to find your local Welcome Center(s) and Taste NY store(s).

An online marketplace, ShopTasteNY.com, offers opportunities to shop for New York agricultural products and gifts from the comfort of home. ShopTasteNY.com has holiday gift sets available for purchase as well as its regular selection of products that highlight the quality and diversity of the state. Orders can be shipped anywhere in the U.S. and Canada. Orders placed by Dec. 20 will arrive by Dec. 24.

The most famous Christmas tree in the world, the Rockefeller Center Tree, is also New York grown. Three weeks ago, Commissioner Ball joined Rockefeller Center staff in Queensbury to watch as an 82-foot tall, 14-ton Norway spruce was hoisted onto a truck to go to New York City.

Six obstacles small businesses often face

Rewarding but tough may be the general consensus established entrepreneurs use to describe owning a small business. When working for someone else, individuals primarily only need to concern themselves with their own role in the company. When a person owns a company, the weight of that responsibility rests primarily and exclusively on his or her shoulders.

Regardless of their industries, small business owners often encounter similar obstacles. A greater awareness of such obstacles can help entrepreneurs ride the waves and be better prepared.

1. Client diversity: Putting all of your eggs in one basket can be an issue when running a business. An obstacle some businesses face is relying too heavily on the support and financial contributions of one client. Diversifying a customer base is the key to growing and maintaining a business.

2. Financial management: Some people are ideas people, some people are customer service people, and others are money people. Everyone handles these tasks differently. Properly managing the finances of a small business is essential to keeping it running smoothly. If it's possible to hire an accountant or bookkeeper knowledgeable in finance, all the better. However, software can assist novices with keeping the books in check.

3. Burnout: Small business owners often take on extra hours and responsibilities to see their companies grow. Also, owners may not bring on adequate staff in an effort to save money or ensure their vision is adhered to. A lack of help can lead to fatigue and burnout. Trying to go it alone is one of the biggest mistakes an entrepreneur can make.

4. Overdependence on a founder: The business needs to be able to run smoothly even when the founder or owner isn't on the premises. If the owner becomes ill or

takes an extended vacation, operations need to flow. If the company is dependent solely on the owner being around day in and day out, it can staunch potential.

5. Quality and growth balance: Every small business wants to grow and continue to see profits rise. However, when growth starts to impede on the quality of the service or product, it may not be so beneficial. Business owners need to strike the right balance between expansion and quality.

6. Customer service: Business owners have to devote the right resources to maintaining optimal customer service. A happy customer often is a returning customer. Failure to address negative reviews or compromised service will make it harder to succeed.

Small business owners can learn about the common obstacles entrepreneurs face and then devote resources to avoiding them.



A happy customer often is a returning customer.

DECEMBER

Herkimer County Office for the Aging

Meals on Wheels provides a well-balanced, hot, noon-time meal which is available Monday - Friday in most parts of Herkimer County. To be eligible, the person needs to be age 60 or older and be disabled due to a chronic or temporary condition. A temporary condition could be due to a recent hospitalization or accident. If you are interested in learning more about Meals on Wheels or signing up, please contact our office at 315-867-1204.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<i>All Meals Served with Milk and Bread Daily.</i>	<i>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.</i>		1 Chicken Parmesan Rotini in Sauce Italian Blend Vegetables Mandarin Oranges	2 Sub Sandwich Three Bean Salad Macaroni Salad Pudding
5 Lemon Pepper Fish Rice Spinach Peaches	6 Turkey Divan in Broccoli Sauce • Egg Noodles Brussel Sprouts Warm Three Bean Salad • Gelatin	7 Chicken & Biscuits Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Cookie	8 BBQ Beef Sandwich Baked Beans Carrots Brownie	9 Macaroni & Cheese Green Beans Stewed Tomatoes & Zucchini Apple
12 Swedish Meatballs Rice Pilaf Mixed Vegetables Applesauce	13 Lasagna Tossed Salad Italian Blend Vegetables Garlic Roll • Cookie	14 Christmas Dinner Stuffed Chicken Breast Mashed Potatoes • Peas with Pearl Onions Dinner Roll • Apple Pie	15 Turkey with Gravy Stuffing Beets Frosted Birthday Cake	16 Cheesy Ham & Rice Casserole Squash • Red Cabbage Pudding
19 Goulash Corn Brussel Sprouts Fruit Cocktail	20 Cream of Broccoli Soup Tuna Salad on a Kaiser Roll Cookie	21 Chicken Stir Fry Rice Japanese Blend Vegetables Ice Cream	22 Fish on a Bun O'Brien Potatoes Spinach Pudding	23 Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Sonoma Blend Vegetables Chef's Choice Dessert
26 CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS	27 Lemon Chicken Seasoned Noodles Squash Tropical Fruit	28 Ham with Plum Sauce Scalloped Potatoes Peas & Carrots Frosted Cupcake	29 Beef Stew with Vegetables & Potatoes Cabbage • Biscuit Pineapple Tidbits	30 Omelette Hash Browns Sausage Muffin • Fruit Parfait

Tips to avoid charity impersonation scams

The New York State Department of State's Division of Consumer Protection (DCP) aims to raise awareness about charity scams. Donations of any kind can make a real impact on a good cause, which is why charity scams are especially cruel. Unfortunately, scammers never miss an opportunity to defraud people, so it's important to remember that not all donation requests are legitimate. The Division has created this quick guide to help donors do their own due diligence on the charities seeking their support.

"After a major event such as a natural disaster, tragedy or as the season of giving unfolds, scammers prey on the good intentions of people and take money that could otherwise help individuals and programs in need," said Secretary of State Robert Rodriguez. "In order to ensure that donations go to the right place, we encourage New Yorkers to research and confirm charity claims before making a donation."

Charity scams can happen at any time, but they are more prevalent after a natural disaster or emergencies collecting millions of dollars from unsuspecting donors. On many occasions, these fraudsters pretend to be affiliated with well-known organizations or even the government to scam people out of their hard-earned money. According to the Federal Trade Commission, about 2.8 million people nationwide reported being victims of someone pretending to be a trusted charity source in 2021 causing losses of about \$2.3 billion.

To prevent your donation money from falling into the wrong hands, DCP recommends taking the following precautions:

- Check the legitimacy of the charitable organization. Research the charity by searching the New York State Attorney General's online database of registered charities at charitiesnys.com, and by visiting websites such as bbb.org, give.org and guidestar.org in addition to visiting the charity's website. If donating toward relief efforts after a natural disaster, check a site like disasterphilanthropy.org to be sure your money is going to truly help those in need.

- Learn how to detect a phony charity. Some scammers will create fake "charities" and try to trick you with similar names of well-known charities. Pay attention to the charity's name, web address, logos, etc. Scammers often mimic the names of familiar, trusted organizations to fool donors.

- Designate your donation. Find out what percentage of your donation will go directly toward the cause as opposed to administrative costs. Ask the charity whether you can designate your donation to a specific effort rather than a general contribution fund. If the solicitation comes from a professional for-profit fundraising company, be aware that the charitable organization will receive only a percentage of your donation. If you want to ensure the charity receives the whole amount, donate directly instead.

- Pay attention to vague claims. Pay attention to language such as "all proceeds go to charity" or "your purchase will benefit a charity." A disclosure should be provided that includes the actual or estimated purchase price amount the charity will receive directly.

- Resist high-pressure tactics. Charity fraud scams can come in many forms, whether by email, social media, crowdfunding platforms, cold calls, etc. Watch out for direct emails from "victims" and solicitors who employ heart-wrenching stories, insisting that you donate immediately. It is strongly advised not to give money over the phone to unsolicited telemarketers, and instead ask the caller to send written materials about the charity.

- Find out who's behind the crowdfunding request. Online

platforms like GoFundMe make it easy for people to create crowdfunding campaigns. To protect yourself, remember to give to people you know directly. It's also important to understand the crowdfunding site's rules, policies and vetting procedures. It can be helpful to know these ahead of time to determine how they are protecting consumers from potential fraud.

- Do not disclose personal or financial information to unsolicited requests. Never give your Social Security number, credit card or debit card number or other personal identifying information in response to an unsolicited charitable request.

- Avoid giving cash. Give your contribution by check or credit card to ensure that you have a record of the donation. Make checks out to the charity, not to an individual. If you choose to make a donation via a charity's website, check that the website is secure and that your computer is equipped

with the latest anti-virus protection. Do not send contributions with a "runner," by wire or overnight parcel pick-up.

- Don't assume. Check out an organization's tax status at irs.gov/app/eos to find out if the donation is tax deductible. Ask for a receipt and trace the status of your donation.

The NYS Division of Consumer Protection provides resources and education materials to consumers on product safety as well as voluntary mediation services between consumers and businesses. The Consumer Assistance Helpline at 1.800.697.1220 is available Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., excluding state holidays, and consumer complaints can be filed at any time at dos.ny.gov/consumer-protection.

For more consumer protection tips, follow the Division on social media at Twitter [@NYSConsumer](https://twitter.com/NYSConsumer) and Facebook at facebook.com/nysconsumer.

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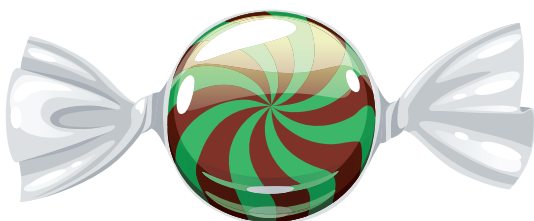


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AUTOMOTIVE

How to make the most of shopping holidays

Shortly after the Thanksgiving leftovers are put away, individuals' thoughts shift to

shopping. This is likely why the biggest shopping weekend of the holidays tends to

fall directly after Tom Turkey has bid adieu.

Black Friday, Plaid Friday, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday all come on the heels of the Thanksgiving holiday. These popular shopping holidays present opportunities for shoppers to score great prices on items on their shopping lists. Shoppers can take some additional steps to ensure they get the best prices possible.

Use a price tracking tool

Maybe the price of that gadget seems too good to

be true, but could it go any lower? Utilize price-tracking tools to chart when prices go up and down so you know the best time to buy. With a resource like CamelCamelCamel, you can track the price of every item on Amazon and even set price alerts when it reaches your desired price. For other retailers, Honey and Slick-Deals can help shoppers get the best prices possible. Honey applies coupon codes and can alert users to price drops.

Cherry pick deals

Different stores will offer different sales. Use your

shopping list to match up with newspaper circulars—or online sales notices—and mark off on the list which store to visit for each item. Cherry pick deals accordingly. FLIPP is an app that enables you to compare prices in newspaper fliers so you know who is offering the best prices.

Know your prices

It's important to know the ordinary sticker price of common items and their price histories before assuming something is a great deal on Black Friday or Small Business Saturday. Unfortunately, some stores inflate prices

around the holidays so their "doorbuster" deals seem like a deep slash. However, a \$20 item marked down to \$15 may not be such a bargain when you realize the original selling price was \$15. Being a savvy shopper means knowing the value of items before shopping.

Stick to a list and budget

Keep track of what you're spending with a running tally if you're not using cash. This will help to keep spending in check. Also, do not buy items just for the sake of getting them at good prices. This can bust your budget quickly. Make a list and try not to deviate from it.

Don't be afraid to speak up

Ask the employees of the store if there are any coupons or promotions that you may be missing. Small businesses may have more wiggle room to work with you because they're not beholden to corporate pricing strategies. It never hurts to ask, even if the answer is "no."

Use smart strategies to get the best prices on gifts at the start of the holiday shopping season and in the weeks leading up to the big day.



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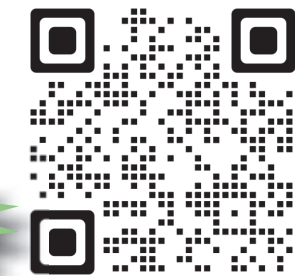
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HOME IMPROVEMENT

Ready outdoor power equipment for winter storage

After your lawn gets its last seasonal cut, it's time to put away spring and summer outdoor power equipment, like lawn mowers, leaf blowers and trimmers. What's next? Snow throwers, generators and other small engine equipment need to be readied for winter. How and when you prepare your equipment for seasonal changes can save you time and money later, said the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI).

"Over the last few years, we've learned our outdoor spaces are more important than ever so making sure you've got the means to care for your yard is critical," said Kris Kiser, president and CEO of the OPEI and Equip. "Preparation is everything – understanding how to store equipment and get it serviced, how to operate it safely and how to ready your space to use that equipment."

OPEI encourages everyone to follow their manufacturer's guidelines and to keep kids and pets away from operating equipment at all times. Here are a few tips to ensure proper equipment storage, maintenance and safe handling:

1. Review owner's manuals. Know how to handle equipment safely including how to turn off equipment quickly



Now is the time to get snow throwers, generators and other small engine equipment readied for winter. Photo courtesy OPEI

and safely. Lost manuals can be found online. Save a copy on your computer, so it can be consulted when needed.

2. Service all equipment. Before storing spring and summer equipment, clean and service it or take it to a small engine repair shop. Drain and change engine oil and safely dispose of old oil.

Service the air filter and do other maintenance as directed by the owner's manual. Check winter equipment and

see if any maintenance and repairs are required.

3. Handle fuel properly. Unused fuel left in gas tanks

over the winter can go stale and even damage equipment. Before storing equipment, add fuel stabilizer to the gas tank, then run the equipment to distribute it. Turn the engine off, allow the machine to cool, then restart and run until the gas tank is empty. For winter equipment, buy the recommended type of fuel

no more than 30 days before use. Use fuel with no more than 10% ethanol in outdoor power equipment. Use a fuel stabilizer if recommended by the manufacturer. Get more information at LookBeforeYouPump.com.

4. Charge batteries.

Ready A15

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HOME IMPROVEMENT

Ready from A14

Remove and fully charge batteries before storing. Don't store batteries on metal shelves or allow them to touch metal objects. Store them on a plastic or wood shelf in a climate-controlled structure.

5. Shelter equipment from winter weather. Store spring and summer equipment in a clean and dry place such as a garage, barn or shed. Winter equipment should be kept away from the elements but be easily available for use.

6. Prepare, prepare, prepare. Make space in the garage or basement before the weather changes, so there is room to store larger yard items. Clean up your yard. Remove sticks, debris, dog and kids' toys and other items that can damage or destroy equipment. Clear the paths used regularly in your yard.

7. Use generators with care. Keep heavy duty weather-proof extension cords on hand. Ensure the length of the cord will connect to the generator when it is a safe distance from the house or building. Never operate a generator indoors, in a garage, breezeway or under an open window. Install a carbon monoxide detector in your home.

Ten tips for safer winter generator usage

If your electricity goes out due to snow and ice, a generator can keep power flowing to your home or business. The Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI), an international trade association representing manufacturers and suppliers of outdoor power equipment, small engines, battery power systems, portable generators, utility and personal transport vehicles and golf cars, reminds home and business owners to keep safety in mind when using generators this winter.

"Not having power when you need it is frustrating, so a generator can provide emergency backup power at a reasonable cost," said Kris Kiser, president and CEO of OPEI. "It's important to follow all manufacturer's instructions, and never place a generator in your garage or inside your home or building. It should be a safe distance from the structure and not near an air intake."

More tips include:

#1. Take stock of your generator. Make sure equipment is in good working order before starting and using it. Do this before a storm hits.

#2. Review the directions. Follow all manufacturer's instructions. Review the owner's manuals (look manuals up online if you cannot find them) so equipment is operated safely.

#3. Install a battery-operated carbon monoxide detector in your home. This alarm will sound if dangerous levels of carbon monoxide enter the building.

#4. Have the right fuel on hand. Use the type of fuel recommended by the generator manufacturer to protect this important investment. It is illegal to use any fuel with more than 10% ethanol in outdoor power equipment. (For more information on proper fueling for outdoor power equipment visit LookBeforeYou-Pump.com). It's best to use fresh fuel, but if you are using fuel that has been sitting in a gas can for more than 30 days, add fuel stabilizer to it. Store gas only in an approved container and away from heat sources.

#5. Ensure portable generators have plenty of ventilation. Generators should never be used in an enclosed area or placed inside a home, a building or a garage, even if the windows or doors are open. Place the generator outside and away from windows, doors and vents that could allow carbon monoxide to drift indoors.

#6. Keep the generator dry. Do not use a generator in wet conditions. Cover and vent a generator. Model-specific tents or generator covers can be found online for

purchase and at home centers and hardware stores.

#7. Only add fuel to a cool generator. Before refueling, turn the generator off and let it cool down.

#8. Plug in safely. If you don't yet have a transfer switch, you can use the outlets on the generator. It's best to plug in appliances directly to the generator. If you must use an extension cord, it should be heavy-duty and designed for outdoor use. It should be rated (in watts or amps) at least equal to the sum of the connected appliance loads. Make sure the cord is free of cuts and the plug has all three prongs.

#9. Install a transfer switch. A

transfer switch connects the generator to the circuit panel and lets you power hardwired appliances. Most transfer switches also help avoid overload by displaying wattage usage levels.

#10. Do not use the generator to "backfeed" power into your home electrical system. Trying to power your home's electrical wiring by "backfeeding" – where you plug the generator into a wall outlet – is dangerous. You could hurt utility workers and neighbors served by the same transformer. Backfeeding bypasses built-in circuit protection devices, so you could damage your electronics or start an electrical fire.



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Herkimer seniors express thankfulness, compete in turkey scavenger hunt

Herkimer Central School District seniors were busy during English class recently with a variety of Thanksgiving activities based on thankfulness and using the library.

Working with English teacher Brooke Jones on Nov. 21 and 22, Herkimer seniors first selected a current Herkimer Jr./Sr. High School staff member that they are thankful for and wrote them a professional email expressing their gratitude. After that, students created custom turkey hats that listed what they were most thankful for.

The seniors also submitted creative names for turkeys that would be used for a turkey scavenger hunt in the Jr./Sr. High School Library Media Center.

For this scavenger hunt, library media specialist Brianne Bello created 12 clues that students had to solve by using the library catalog OPALS and their knowledge of the library and its resources. Library licensed teaching assistant Ashley Sommer also supported the scavenger hunt.

Once students solved each clue, they had to navigate the library to locate the hidden turkeys and write down the turkeys' unique names on their answer sheet. The first team to complete the scavenger hunt won a prize.



Herkimer Central School District seniors compete in a turkey scavenger hunt in the Jr./Sr. High School Library Media Center.

Photos courtesy of Herkimer BOCES



One of the creatively named turkey images that Herkimer seniors searched for during the turkey scavenger hunt.

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Sat. Dec. 3rd – 11:00 AM – Since we had an overflow for the Fall All-Breed Sale come join us for the Holiday All Breed Dairy Sale! We have some great consignments already in from Morrill Dairy, Fantasy-Found, Windrift Farm, Pleasant Knob, Far-M & Riddle Me, Kuperus Meadows, Peaceful Valley Dairy, Durkacres, Neljean, Bellvale, Ceder Mtn plus more! Watch for future ads on some more great ones! We are no longer taking consignments for this sale.
Mon. Dec. 5th – Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Fat Cow & Feeder Sale. Special: MJWagyu Farm Small Beef herd reduction – selling 21 head consisting of 6 Pure bred Wagyu Cows, 1 Purebred bred heifer, 5 – F1's Wagyu Cows, 4- F2 Wagyu Shortbred heifers, 3 Crossbred Cows bred to Full Blood Wagyu Bulls – there are no reg. papers with this group & this group will be sold by the head. Also a small Beef Herd Dispersal – Baker Farm 25-30 Hereford Cattle with 10 bred cows balance feeder heifers & feeder steers.
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Students at 2022 Herkimer Co. Youth Summit focus on 'building a better tomorrow'

Herkimer County students chose a theme of "building a better tomorrow" for the 2022 Herkimer Co. Youth Summit, with a focus on mental health and improving behavior in school.

Catholic Charities of Herkimer Co. Youth Summit organizers and student organizers from local schools said they identified that many students have struggled since COVID-19 with how to act now that they're in school in person again.

Herkimer Central School District senior Lilliana Langdon, one of the student organizers for the Youth Summit, said students wanted to use the Youth Summit to combat the attitude and mental health concerns.

"With this, we really want to flip that around," Langdon said. "Mental health affects everyone, whether they want to talk about it or not. It's such an important thing for everyone."

About 100 students from 12 school districts and programs – as well as members of a new Herkimer County Youth Advisory Council – attended the 2022 Herkimer Co. Youth Summit on Oct. 26 at Herkimer College. Catholic Charities of Herkimer Co. organized the Youth Summit.

The school districts that had students at the Youth Summit were Central Valley, Dolgeville, Frankfort-Schuyler, Herkimer, Little Falls, Mount Markham, Owen D. Young, Poland, Town of Webb and West Canada Valley. Students also attended from the

Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES Valley Pathways in Technology Early College High School (VP-TECH) and the Herkimer BOCES Pathways Academy at Remington.

Trisha Alford, youth engagement specialist for Catholic Charities of Herkimer Co. and Herkimer Co. System of Care, served as the Youth Summit coordinator. The student facilitators were Central Valley students Lauren Joy and Madison Sawyer, Dolgeville students Lexus Lyon and Jasmine Barnes, Herkimer students Lilliana Langdon and Madison Gargas, Little Falls students Makena Tooley and Avery McLaughlin, Owen D. Young student Isabella Valenta, Poland students Madeline Swanson and Karyn Castelano, VP-TECH students Zachary Cool and Landon Davidson and Town of Webb students Cameron Guirdy and Ellie Bartlett.

The "building a better tomorrow" theme, which Gargas came up with, tied into what students were concerned about since the start of the organization meetings, organizers said.

"During the first meeting, they talked about just being back together after COVID, people not being kind to each other and not knowing how to behave," Alford said. "They kind of lost all of that."

Near the beginning of the Youth Summit, Alford outlined the agenda for the day and said the guest speaker and other presenters are aware of the issues students chose for the event.

"I hope they focus on all these things and you learn a lot today," she said.

2022 Youth Summit

Students started the day with refreshments and a yoga session. Guest speaker Jessie Funk, a singer and motivational speaker, then gave a presentation. Next, students participated in three breakout sessions. One session was a mindfulness activity involving adding positive affirmations to tote bags. Another session was mental wellbeing and cyber safety activity featuring a mental health game based on "Jeopardy!" The other ses-

sion was a social development activity on healthy relationships and drug education with a trivia game that involved passing around a giant beach ball.

After lunch, students met in groups of their own schools and programs to develop action plans to put in place at their schools. Students wrote their ideas on posters and then presented them on stage at Herkimer College in front of the other schools.

Alford told students the actions plans

Students A21



Herkimer Central School District students present a school action plan during the Youth Summit. (L - R) Sophomore Alyse Cannon, freshman Danny Bleaking, sophomore Sophia Bliss, freshman Jack Nevills, senior Madison Gargas, junior Victoria Staph, junior Kyle Carney and senior Lilliana Langdon. Photos courtesy of Herkimer BOCES

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Simple safety protocols that can protect hunters

Hunting is big business in North America. In 2017, more than 15 million people hunted in the U.S. The National Shooting Sports Foundation reports that sportsmen and women contribute nearly \$9.4 million to the economy every day.

Millions of hunters take to forests and fields every year. Seasoned hunters and novices alike can benefit from revisiting some safety procedures before their first outing this season.

Weather

Weather should be a consideration whenever people spend a significant amount of time outdoors. Hunters typically leave before dawn and arrive home after dusk. Hypothermia is a very real risk for hunters who may be out in snow or wet conditions. It's possible to get hypothermia by overdressing as well. Sweating and then being exposed to dropping temperatures puts people at risk for hypothermia. Hunters should dress in layers with moisture-wicking materials and a water-repellant outer layer. In addition, check the weather forecast before heading out as a last second precautionary measure.

Firearm safety

Firearm safety is a critical component of safe hunting. Hunters use rifles, shotguns and other firearms. Each gun is different, so hunters need to familiarize themselves with new firearms before using them. The following are some additional firearm safety tips, courtesy of State Farm Insurance and

Southern Land Exchange.

- Always treat a firearm as if it is loaded.
- Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
- Only point at what you plan to shoot.
- Clearly identify your target and what is beyond it.
- Fire within the zone-of-fire, which is the 45-degree area directly in front of each hunter.
- Firearm chambers should be emptied when guns are not in use.
- Use appropriate ammunition.
- Never modify or alter the gun.
- Never cross a fence, jump a ditch or climb a tree with a loaded gun.
- Never rely on a gun's safety.

Additional safety tips

Hunters should always let others know where they will be when leaving in the morning. If something should happen, people back home can alert authorities if something goes awry. Always check equipment and maintain it properly. Equipment should include gear colored in hunter's orange. That extends to dogs if they are accompanying hunters on a trip. This makes hunters more visible to other hunters. Also, carry a first aid kit, a charged mobile phone or a satellite phone to maintain contact with others in case of emergencies.

These are just some of the safety protocols that should be followed when hunting. Non-hunters should exercise caution during hunting seasons, particularly when entering forests and areas that hunters frequent.



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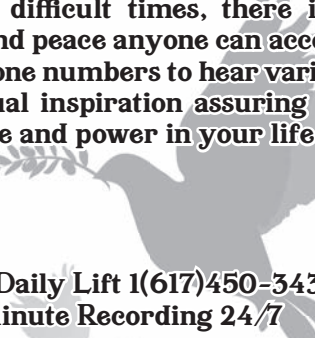
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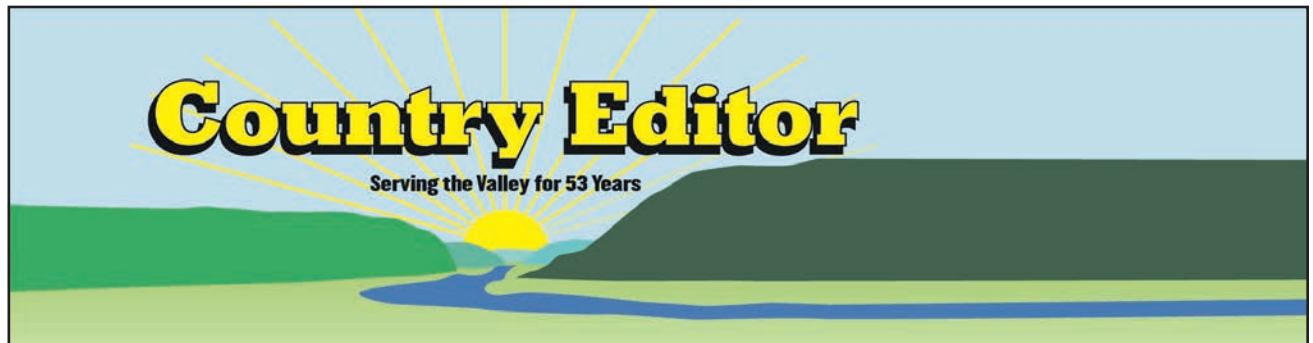


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BECKY MAUK
SALES MANAGER
bmauk@leepub.com
518-673-0166
724-464-7281 (Text)

LIZ FRIERS
efriers@leepub.com
518-673-0164

FRED MANG
fmang@leepub.com
518-673-0161

JIM PARENTE
jparente@leepub.com
518-673-0140

DAVE HADASZ
daveh@leepub.com
315-796-0700



518-673-0101
commercialprint@leepub.com
PO Box 121, 6113 State Highway 5
Palatine Bridge, NY 13428

Students from A17

should be about how they can take all that they learned during the Youth Summit back to their schools to make some kind of positive change in their schools.

As Herkimer students met in one of the classrooms at Herkimer College, Langdon said their plan included inviting in a guest speaker to talk about positivity and mental health, involving yoga because students

enjoyed that during the Youth Summit, putting positive affirmations around school and including them in announcements, providing “pocket hug” messages to give out to people, posting helpful hotline numbers around school and including them in announcements and organizing “mental health mornings” at school.

Students will take their proposed plans back to their schools – as well as photos of other schools’ posters – and can work with their school leaders to bring some of the

ideas to life, Alford said. Near the end of the school year, the student facilitators will meet again to talk about what the schools did to put their action plans into place, Alford said.

Guest Speaker

Langdon and Gargas introduced Jessie Funk as the guest speaker.

Funk put on a presentation that was both upbeat and emotional – from singing songs and making students laugh to telling students personal stories of challenging and inspiring times of her life.

She used a demonstration with milk representing ourselves, chocolate syrup added to the milk representing positive people in our lives and Windex put into the milk representing toxic people in our lives. She said she loves history and has read biographies and researched more than 500 leaders, and she found a common thread that they didn’t

let toxic people hold them back.

Funk said any Youth Summit attendees going through challenges should know they have the support of their schools and the Youth Summit organizers.

Funk also talked about the importance of setting boundaries with toxic people. She said even though it can feel cheesy and awkward to say, you have to embrace it and say things such as: “I don’t like it. I don’t deserve it. I want it to stop.”

Funk said she supports therapy, medication when appropriate and mindfulness. She said everyone deserves to be happy and respected, and she talked about the importance of making connections with other people and having a sense of belonging. She also encouraged students to contribute to making the world a better place as a way to also make themselves feel good.



Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES Pathways Academy students pose for a photo at the Youth Summit. (L - R) Little Falls student Victoria (Alex) Perez, West Canada Valley student Lawson Staring, Poland student Blake Leigh, West Canada Valley student Robert Carpenter, Herkimer student Adrianna Burris and West Canada Valley student Macalah Cristallo.



Herkimer Central School District seniors Madison Gargas (L) and Lilliana Langdon were two of the student facilitators at the summit.



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518-673-0113

Fred Mang
fmang@leepub.com
518-673-0161

Jim Parente
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Artificial insemination training course

The CCE Central NY Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Team (CNYDLFC) is hosting an artificial insemination training course for area dairy and beef producers. For information and how to register, go to cnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=2004. The event will take place Dec. 12 and 13 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. both days in Little Falls.

The program features John Jacobs from Select Sires. He will be teaching the two-day Do It Yourself (DIY) Artificial Insemination (AI) in Cattle course. The course includes both classroom and practical components. The DIY AI in Cattle course is designed for those wishing to perform AI in their own cattle. Topics include understanding safe semen handling and AI techniques, carrying out the correct AI techniques and practice on live cattle.

Preregistration is required and is limited to 12 people. Registrations are due Dec. 5. The cost is \$400/person and includes lunch both days. To register and for more information contact the CNYDLFC program at cnydlfc@cornell.edu or 315.866.7920.

New student registration days at Herkimer College

Herkimer College will host New Student Registration Days for the spring 2023 semester on Dec. 5 and Jan. 13.

Registration days give accepted students the opportunity to visit campus and complete all the necessary steps to become a Herkimer College student. Representatives from Financial Aid, Student Accounts, the Advisement Center and Residence Life will all be available. The Admissions team will also review accepted student checklists to ensure students are ready for the spring semester.

Appointments are available for 9 a.m. or 1 p.m. each day. To make an appointment for New Student Registration Day, visit herkimer.edu/register. For more information, call 315.574.4028 or email admissions@herkimer.edu.



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Country Chuckles by Jonny Hawkins



"It's a cattle log."

Stay safe this hunting season

Hunting is a thrilling hobby for millions of people across the globe. In fact, non-hunters may be wide-eyed to learn just how popular the sport is.

A recent report from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service found that 11.5 million Americans participated in hunting in 2016. Many hunters spend a lifetime hunting without ever suffering an accident or injury. However, hunting can be a dangerous sport, which only highlights the need for hunters to emphasize safety at all times.

Firearms

It's essential that hunters exercise caution with their firearms at all times. Firearms should always be considered loaded, even when they're not. This approach should apply while hunting and while at home. Maintaining such a mindset can help hunters avoid dangerous, potentially deadly mishaps should they mistakenly believe a firearm is not loaded when it is.



When hunting,

only point the firearm when you plan to shoot, making sure to keep your finger off the trigger until you're ready to shoot. Only shoot when a target is clearly identifiable and you're certain about what is beyond the target.

Weather and gear

The right attire can protect hunters from Mother Nature and their fellow sportsmen. Weather can be unpredictable during hunting season. Hunters should always check the forecast before leaving home, making sure to dress for the weather. Even if the forecast calls for agreeable weather, hunters could be at the mercy of Mother Nature should the weather unexpectedly change. As a result, it behooves hunters to prepare for cold, wet weather, which could put them at risk of hypothermia if they are not dressed properly. A water-repelling outer layer can protect hunters in wet conditions, and it's also ideal to dress in layers.

To lower your risk of injuries suffered at the hands of other hunters, avoid colors and patterns that blend into natural surroundings. Such colors can include earth tones, blacks and browns. Animal patterns may confuse fellow hunters into thinking you're an animal, so avoid these as well.

Staying in touch

Hunters, especially those who plan to go it alone, should always let others know of their plans before going on a hunting excursion. Sharing plans can help rescue teams find you should you suffer an injury on your trip and prove incapable of returning to your campsite or vehicle without assistance. Let others know when you plan to return and indicate your plans to call or text them when you arrive back at your vehicle. This way they can promptly alert the appropriate authorities should you not contact them on time.

Millions of people across the globe enjoy the sport of hunting. Hunting trips are even more enjoyable when hunters prioritize safety.



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Last-minute holiday shopping tips

Some people thrive by doing all of their tasks early. Others seem to do their best work when faced with a time crunch. The

methods individuals use to manage their time at work and play may extend to the ways they approach holiday shopping as well.

There's no right or wrong way to handle holiday shopping tasks, though Christmas Eve crowds at malls and throughout shopping districts suggest that there's more late comers than there are early birds. The following tips can help those who typically wait until the last minute to check names off their lists.

- Utilize free shipping services. Shoppers who shop for gifts online at the last minute run the risk of gifts not arriving on time. Many online retailers charge a premium for expedited shipping. Try to stick to shopping at online retailers that offer free shipping even in the eleventh hour.

- Create a budget. When rushing around from store to

There's no right or wrong way to handle holiday shopping tasks, though Christmas Eve crowds at malls and throughout shopping districts suggest that there's more late comers than there are early birds.



HOLIDAY HEADQUARTERS

store, it may be easy to spend more than you want to. Make a list of how much you want to spend on each person and stick to that limit for each person. Move on to the next store if you didn't find what you need in your price range.

- Establish a time limit. Stores have strategies in place to keep shoppers in their establishments longer, hoping you'll make impulse buys. These tricks include scenting the air with inviting aromas, putting necessities at the rear of the store, failing to display the time, and putting discounted items by the registers or door to attract shoppers. Set an alarm on your watch or phone for each store so you get what you need and get out on time.

- Subdivide bulk gifts. Think about purchasing bulk gifts like gift baskets from wholesale clubs and then breaking them down into individual gifts. This way you can gift several people on one purchase and save time in the process.

- Choose one-size-fits-all gifts. Think about a gift that can be purchased for multiple people so you can save time shopping for individualized gifts for everyone. For example, print a personalized photo calendar for several members of your family. You also can purchase multiple subscriptions or mem-

berships to zoos or magazines for people on your list. Streamlining gifting in this way may save money as well as time.

- Choose in-store pickup. Rather than scouring various aisles, you can shop a retailer's website and then pick up items in the store. You'll save on potential shipping fees but still benefit by avoiding crowds.

Some people wait until the last minute to do their holiday shopping. A few tricks of the procrastinator's trade can make last-minute shopping go smoothly.



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Ten can't-miss holiday gift ideas for those who love fishing



Does your holiday gift list include a friend or co-worker who loves fishing and being in the outdoors? Are fishing lures on your gift list?

(BPT) - Are you searching for holiday gift ideas for a friend, co-worker or loved one who loves fishing and being in the outdoors? If so, here are 10 incredible gift ideas and stocking stuffers that are sure to bring a smile to their face:

• **Cold-Weather Gear** - Some anglers love fishing all year long - even when it's icy cold outside. Get them jackets, bibs and gloves designed specifically for ice fishing anglers who want to brave the cold. StrikeMaster is one of the most well-known and trusted names for ice fishing augers and ice fishing gear.

• **Fillet Knives** - Sometimes you want to keep and cook the fish you've caught. As fun as that sounds, it's the filleting the fish part that few truly enjoy. But no more. High-quality electric fillet knives make filleting fish a breeze, and they also can be used to carve up turkey, chicken, beef and pork, too.

• **Fishing Lures** - For the angler who has practically every fishing lure ever made,

there's only one lure that you can't have too many of - a Rapala lure. This legendary lure is made with balsa wood and accounts for more world record fish than any other fishing lure ever made. The X-Rap is considered one of the best multispecies fishing lures ever made. It catches everything.

• **Hoodies with UV Protection** - When the temperatures start to rise, the best way to stay cool and comfortable on and off the water is with a high-performance hooded long-sleeve shirt. It

offers style combined with function, a trend-forward design, UPF 50+ UV sun protection, and moisture-wicking performance.

• **Rain Gear** - When the rain is falling, the wind picks up and water gets choppy, there's nothing more miserable than getting wet while fishing. If you really care about your favorite angler, get them a high-quality rain suit (jacket and bibs) designed by professional anglers and guides.

• **Fishing Line** - Looking for a perfect stocking stuffer

HOLIDAY HEADQUARTERS

idea? Drop a spool of really high-quality fishing line in with the treats and the obligatory orange.

• **Weigh Scales** - Believe it or not, some anglers really do want to know exactly how much their catch weighs. A weigh scale with touch screen capabilities is easy to use and can help an angler track their catches all day long.

• **Essential Outdoor Tools** - Some fish have really sharp teeth and need to be carefully handled. Keep your favorite angler safe with high-quality tools designed specifically to help anglers remove hooks, tie knots, cut line, store hooks and lures and much, much more. Fishing gloves are essential in protecting hands while removing fish too.

• **Giant Fishing Lure** -

For those who eat, sleep and breathe fishing, consider a giant replica fishing lure. It's the perfect decoration for a home office, fishing cabin or a man cave.

• **Stocking Stuffer Ideas** - Looking for some more fun ideas? Consider giving your

favorite angler a new fishing lure key chain, a deck of cards and cribbage board, a traveling coffee mug, a fishing lure-inspired bottle opener, a fishing line remover or even a fish counter, all of which can easily fit in a stocking. Many of these items cost \$25 or less.



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9:00AM-12 Noon ~ Children's Crafts - Hosted by NBT in the bank lobby.

11:AM ~ Mrs. Claus Story Hour - Hosted by Canajoharie Library & Arkell Museum.

12:00 Noon ~ Vendor Area Opens - Canajoharie Youth Center, 9 Erie Blvd. Need Vendor info call 518-673-5117.

12:00 Noon ~ Childrens Crafts & Activities Begin - At the Canajoharie Youth Center, 9 Erie Blvd.

12:00 Noon-1:30PM ~ Eric Trahan - Performing at the tent in Lee's parking lot.

1:00-2:00PM ~ Lunch with Elsa the Snow Queen from Disney's Frozen! - Sponsored by the Boiling Pot Eagles. Free to families with little ones, adult supervision required, no drop offs. Kids: Chicken nuggets, hot dogs, french fries • Adults: Sub Sandwich & chips. Reservations A Must: 518-673-3846, choose 1PM or 2PM seating and approximate number attending.

2:00-3:30PM ~ Karen & Abby - Performing at the tent in Lee's parking lot.

3:45-4:15PM ~ Canajoharie High School Jazz Ensemble - Performing at the tent in Lee's parking lot.

4:30-5PM ~ Official Tree Lighting & Sing Around the Christmas Tree - Led by the Canajoharie Elementary School Chorus in Lee's parking lot.

5:00PM ~ Parade of Lights - No walkers - No throwing candy from vehicles. Contact Janet at 518-673-0132 to let us know you're bringing a vehicle or float - Light them up & bring them down! Parade Route: Line up Mohawk Street, beginning at 4:30PM - Mohawk, Moyer, Maple Ave, Montgomery, Church, Palatine Plaza, LaFayette, Grand, Church, Erie Blvd to Firehouse.

5:00-7:00PM ~ Stuff The Bus - Live Broadcast by BugCountry Radio sponsored by The Tire Shop, 155 Erie Blvd.

5:30-7:30PM ~ Santa at the Firehouse - Join Santa & his elves on the second floor of the Canajoharie Volunteer Fire Department Building, 75 Erie Blvd.

Shults Farm & Market & Deli, 69 Church Street:
Grab your hot cocoa made from Shults Farm's chocolate milk w/specialty toppings and have your little ones make their own reindeer food in preparation for the "Big Night"!
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Elementary Chorus will lead us in the Singing Around the Christmas Tree, Lee's Parking Lot

Join us for cocoa, cookies, a visit with Santa, digital selfie souvenirs sponsored by Sarah Magistro Rosemyer

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Helping get a head start on the holidays at L.J. Hand

Back in 1967, Lynwood J. Hand opened his L.J. Hand Farm Center. In 1984, the business was moved to the Village of Glen. Unparalleled in its service to the local farming community, the business was passed down to Lynwood's niece Sandy Borden upon his passing in 2015. Today, there are seven employees of L.J. Hand and changes being made as the business evolves.

One of the most noticeable changes comes as the winter holiday season ap-

proaches, though. Sandy takes about a month to set up a winter wonderland at the store, with some assistance from a builder who makes the framework and Sandy's husband, who ultimately plays Santa Claus. Nothing gets folks in the holiday spirit like those twinkling lights and the images that bring back memories of joyful celebrations of yore.

This tradition began eight years ago when Sandy set up a small Christmas scene with Santa in the front of

the store. Since then, the display has grown bigger every year. Today, there is a full Christmas scene set up behind the store for families to walk through when they visit. More than 300 children attended last year.

This year's holiday events at L.J. Hand will be on Dec. 3 and Dec. 10 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Available this year will be Mrs. Claus's Sweet Shoppe - and of course Santa and his elves will be there too.

There is no admission

HOLIDAY HEADQUARTERS

fee to see this winter wonderland. Sandy (and Santa) hope to see you there.

L.J. Hand Farm Center's address is 1431 NY-161, Fultonville. For more information, call 518.922.6121 or visit LJHandfarmcenterinc.com.



There's a warm welcome for everyone at L.J. Hand's winter wonderland.



Santa will be visiting with good girls and boys on Dec. 3 and Dec. 10.

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Happy Holidays!

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Santa's Christmas Village

December 3rd • 10AM-3PM & December 10th • 10AM - 3PM

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- Main Motorcar
- Coldwell Banker

DUANESBURG

- NBT Bank

AMSTERDAM

- Legacy Nutrition
- Gloss Aesthetics
- New Dimensions Health Care

Toy Drive

Palatine Bridge Dollar General
(in partnership with
St. Johnsville Benefit Club)

Stuff the Bus for Veterans and their families

Tues-Sun 3-8PM
until December 9th

AMVETS Post 2000 in Canajoharie
New Items Only • 518-384-5592

Little Falls Lumber

Accepting donations for
local teens

*Hygiene products & toiletries,
winter necessities, \$5-\$10 gift cards*
Until December 2nd
315-823-2470

Herkimer County Office of the Aging

Benefiting the 60+ population
Accepting grocery store gift cards,
or you can sponsor an older adult by
picking up a gift tag
November 14 - December 12
109 Mary St. #1101, Herkimer
315-867-1124

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Mitten Tree

NEW Hats, Gloves, Mittens, Scarves, etc.
63 Lydius St., Fort Plain

AREA HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Wintertime Wonderland

Until Dec. 23
Via PORT, Rotterdam NY

Lights on the Farm

Every Fri., Sat. & Sun.
Until Jan 1
Tylutki Family Farm
197 Caswell Road, Palatine Bridge

Seasonal Showcase

Dec. 2 • 5:30PM
Paul Nigra Center for Creative Arts
44 Lakes Craft Beverage Trail

Colonial Stroll & Holiday Parade

Dec. 2 • 5-9PM
Main St., Johnstown

Elves Day Out

Dec. 3 • 8AM All Day Event
Canajoharie Village
(518) 673-0292

Holiday Open House

Dec. 3 & 4 • 11AM-4PM
Hummingbird Hills Winery
Fultonville
518-875-6919

Santa's Christmas Village

Dec. 3 & 10 • 10AM-3PM
LJ Hand Farm Center
Fultonville

Christmas at the Fort

Dec. 3 • 10AM-4PM
Fort Plain Museum

Historic Christmas Open House

Dec. 3 • 12Noon-4PM
The Rice Homestead
518-332-0538

Christmas Parade & Annual Tree Lighting

Dec. 3 • 5PM
N. Main St., Gloversville

St. Nicholas Day

Dec. 4 • 12-3PM
Fort Klock, St. Johnsville
(518) 568-7779

Christmas in St. Johnsville

Dec. 4 • 4:30-6:30PM
Intersection of Main
& South Division Streets

Fashion Show & Shopping Extravaganza

Dec. 4 • 1-4PM
The Century Club of Amsterdam

Mannheim Steamroller Christmas with Chip Davis

Dec. 7 • 7:30PM
The Stanley Theater, Utica

Children's Christmas Party

Dec. 9 • 5:30PM & Dec. 10 • 12Noon
Children 12 and Under FREE
Frothingham Library
28 W. Main St., Fonda

Free Christmas Community Spaghetti Dinner

Dec. 9 • 4:30-6:30PM
Dolgeville United Methodist Church
315-429-7381

Santa & Mrs. Claus at the Park

Dec. 9 • 5-8PM
German Flatts Town Park
(Next to Ft. Herkimer Church in Mohawk)
315-866-6791

Breakfast With Santa

Dec. 10 • 8-10AM
Canajoharie/Fort Plain Elks Lodge
Nelliston
Age 15 & Under FREE

Breakfast With The Grinch

Dec. 10 • 9AM-12Noon
Cobleskill Diner

Sharon Springs Parade of Lights & Tree Lighting

Dec. 10 • 5:30PM
SSCS

Mingle & Jingle Holiday Party

Dec. 10 • 6PM
The American Hotel
The Sharon Historical Society
518-860-5513

Christmas in Myers Park

Dec. 11 • 4-6PM
Herkimer Tree Lighting Ceremony

Santa Breakfast

Dec. 11 • 8-11AM
Johnstown Moose 1185

Plan to Visit the Most Talked About Christmas & Gift Shop
in Central New York!

LEE'S SHOPS AT WAGNER SQUARE

I love looking at our guest book. Here's where our customers came from in the past few weeks: Gloversville, Duaneburg, Bethlehem Pennsylvania, Derwood Maryland, Amsterdam, Rochester, Glens Falls, Hammondsport New York, Sandy Point, Clifton Park, Johnstown, Troy, Wynantskill New York, Baton Rouge Louisiana, Clinton, Richfield Springs, Long Island, Northville, Lake George, Hyannis Port Massachusetts, Rensselaer, Little Falls, Utica, Arlington Vermont, Chicago Illinois, Syracuse, and Columbia South America!

Amazing! Right here in little Canajoharie NY

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"Your shop was a happy accident. We got off the thruway on our way to Cooperstown; I saw your shop & made my husband turn around. It is honestly the BEST shop I have ever visited and I travel a lot! You have been officially added to our MUST DO list when we visit NY every year!"

~ Brenda H, TN

*"Wonderful Year Round,
MAGICAL
at Christmas Time!"
~ Sarah L., Little Falls NY*

"It's my favorite shop for all occasions, but it's EXTRA SPECIAL at Christmas! I join my sisters and friends here 4 times a year. It's our new meeting spot!" ~ Judy A, Rotterdam NY

"My family loves this store! It's a place to go for the sights and sounds as much as for the shopping! We just love it here, even my husband wants to come when I tell him where I'm headed!" ~ Sandra W, Amsterdam, NY

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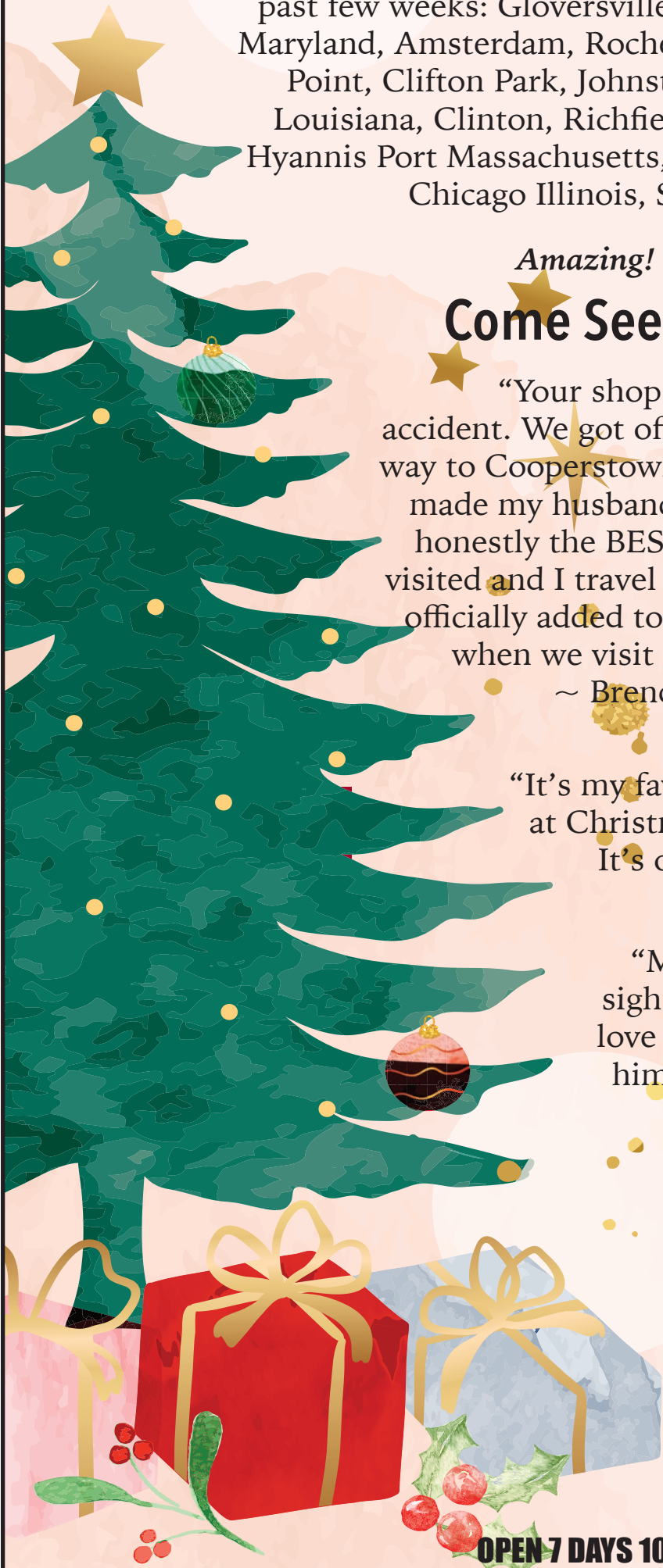
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Mayfield Historical Society

The 31st Annual Christmas Open House and Pie Sale at The Rice Homestead will be on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 12 - 4 p.m. Musical entertain-

ment by Fleur de Lys will be from 1-3 p.m. Rooms will be decorated in the holiday spirit of yesteryear with fireplaces ablaze and homemade cook-

ies and hot mulled cider will be served. Spinning and wool rug braiding demonstrations will be in The Loom Room and the very popular Home-

made Pie Sale will be in the dining room. Pies will be sold for \$13 (cash please). Come early for best selection. Mayfield Historical Society t-shirts, sweatshirts and 2023 calendars will be for sale as well as balsam greens for decorating. This event is free and open to the public and refreshments are free. The Rice Homestead is located at 328 Riceville Road in Mayfield. For more information, call 518.332.0538 or visit www.facebook.com/ricehomestead.



Fleur de Lys will perform at The Rice Homestead Christmas Open House on Saturday Dec. 3. Photos courtesy of Mayfield Historical Society



The Rice Homestead at 328 Riceville Road in Mayfield.

HOLIDAY HEADQUARTERS

What falls in the winter but never gets hurt?



Quackenbush's Trees & Wreaths
 480 Co Hwy 119, St. Johnsville, NY 13452 • 518-568-2800
Wreaths, Kissing Balls, Crosses and More
 4-10 ft. Homegrown Balsam Trees
 Gift Shop with Unique Gift Items
 Open Sat. & Sun. 9-5, M-F 1-5
www.quackenbushstreeswreaths.com (for directions)

Daniel Esh
MOHAWK VALLEY COACH SHOP
 ~~~ 315-823-2053 ~~~  
 1815 Fordsbush Spur Road, Fort Plain, NY 13339  
**REPAIR & RESTORATION OF HORSE DAWN VEHICLES**  
**GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS!**  
  
**ON-THE-ROAD EMERGENCY TOOL KIT \$49.95**  
  
**PONY PEDAL CART \$356.25**  
  
**PONY CYCLE \$199.00**

**PLEASE CHECK OUR UPDATED LIST! WE ARE ADDING LOCATIONS WEEKLY!**



**NOW ONE WEEKLY EDITION WITH EXPANDED CIRCULATION!**  
 The Country Editor will be available at various community locations for everyone to enjoy from Amsterdam to Johnstown to Richfield Springs and EVERYWHERE in between!  
 Be sure to stop by any of these locations and pick up a copy!

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| <p><b>Amsterdam</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADK Feed • ADK Country Store</li> <li>• Amsterdam Diner</li> <li>• Amsterdam Hardware</li> <li>• Chatterbox</li> <li>• Country Feed • Dutch Mart</li> <li>• Fastrac Amsterdam</li> <li>• Fastrac Vails Mills</li> <li>• Hannaford • Jackie's Diner</li> <li>• Jin's Wine &amp; Liquor</li> <li>• Karen's Produce (seasonal)</li> <li>• Knights Inn Laundromat</li> <li>• Mobil Mart • Mobil Station</li> <li>• Outdoor Motorsports • Peking</li> <li>• Price Chopper • Raindancer</li> <li>• Southside Beverage</li> <li>• Star's Cafe • Town &amp; Country Deli</li> <li>• Route 30 Wine &amp; Liquor</li> <li>• Four Corner Tire</li> <li>• Speedway Gas Station</li> <li>• Tribes Hill Deli</li> </ul> <p><b>Broadalbin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Café in the Village</li> <li>• ADK Country Store</li> </ul> <p><b>Buel</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buel Road Repair</li> </ul> <p><b>Canajoharie</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arkell Museum</li> <li>• Berean Bean • Betty Beavers</li> <li>• Brotherhood Antiques</li> <li>• Canajoharie Golf Country Club</li> <li>• Cornerstone Baptist Church</li> <li>• Fell Off The Truck • Gino's</li> <li>• Lee's Shops at Wagner Square</li> <li>• M'Lady Salon • NBT</li> <li>• One Stop &amp; Shop</li> <li>• Shults Market &amp; Deli</li> <li>• Smoker's Choice • Taco29</li> <li>• The Tire Shop • Village Diner</li> </ul> <p><b>Cherry Valley</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cherry Valley Market</li> <li>• Cherry Valley Post Office</li> <li>• Mirabito</li> <li>• The Teepee</li> <li>• Tryon Inn</li> </ul> | <p><b>Dolgeville</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big M • Chester's Sunoco</li> <li>• Dolgeville Public Library</li> <li>• George Lumber</li> <li>• Southern Girl Diner • Stewart's</li> </ul> <p><b>East Springfield</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kelly's Deli • Turnpike Auto Sales</li> </ul> <p><b>Ephratah</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brittany's Diner</li> <li>• Granny's Ice Cream (seasonal)</li> </ul> <p><b>Esperance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dollar General • Hannaford</li> <li>• Iroquois Museum</li> <li>• Stewart's</li> </ul> <p><b>Fonda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cumberland Farms</li> <li>• Dollar General • Fairway Oil</li> <li>• Frothingham Free Library</li> <li>• Fulton-Montgomery CCE</li> <li>• Kateri Shrine</li> <li>• Stewart's • Winner's Circle</li> </ul> <p><b>Fort Plain</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big E's Feed &amp; Seed (formerly Fort Plain Agway)</li> <li>• Dutch Country Market</li> <li>• Dutchman Enterprises • 55 Diner</li> <li>• Esther's Budget Shop</li> <li>• Fort Plain Public Library</li> <li>• Pickle Hill Produce &amp; Bulk</li> <li>• 7M Supply • Save A Lot</li> <li>• Sheila's Hair Salon</li> <li>• Sleepy Forest Bakery</li> <li>• Sportsman's Den • Stewart's (Both)</li> <li>• The Rustic Crow</li> <li>• True Value</li> <li>• Mohawk Valley Produce Auction</li> </ul> <p><b>Frankfort</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clyde's Stop &amp; Shop • Gulf</li> <li>• Harvey's Pet</li> <li>• Miss Johnstown Diner</li> <li>• Price Chopper</li> <li>• Stewart's (3)</li> <li>• Super 8 • Whitey's</li> <li>• Wemple &amp; Edick's</li> </ul> | <p><b>Fultonville</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fultonville Redemption Center</li> <li>• McDonald's</li> <li>• Michael's Diner</li> <li>• Onvo Travel Plaza</li> <li>• Randall Implements</li> <li>• TA Travel Center • United Ag &amp; Turf</li> </ul> <p><b>Glen</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country Metals</li> <li>• Glen Country Store</li> <li>• LJ Hand Farm Center</li> </ul> <p><b>Gloversville</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agora Marketplace</li> <li>• Country Farms • Gulf • Hannaford</li> <li>• House of Pizza • Nalif's</li> <li>• Price Chopper • Stewart's (3)</li> </ul> <p><b>Herkimer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Citgo • Dick's Wheel Shop</li> <li>• Empire Diner • Fastrac • Fat Cats</li> <li>• Frank J. Basloe Library</li> <li>• Hannaford</li> <li>• Herkimer Co. Office For Aging</li> <li>• Renewed &amp; Rescued</li> <li>• Sam's Deli • Smoker's Choice</li> <li>• Subway in Sunoco</li> <li>• T&amp;J Fruits &amp; Vegetables</li> <li>• True Value • Tractor Supply</li> <li>• Nathan Galinsky Apartments</li> <li>• Massaro &amp; Son Florist, LLC</li> <li>• Stewart's</li> </ul> <p><b>Ilion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beer Belly Bob's</li> <li>• Cliff's • Colonial Laundromat</li> <li>• 4 Seasons Tire</li> <li>• Dollar General • Lombardos</li> <li>• Sorrento's • Stewart's</li> </ul> <p><b>Johnstown</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clyde's Stop &amp; Shop • Gulf</li> <li>• Harvey's Pet</li> <li>• Miss Johnstown Diner</li> <li>• Price Chopper</li> <li>• Stewart's (3)</li> <li>• Super 8 • Whitey's</li> <li>• Wemple &amp; Edick's</li> </ul> | <p><b>Little Falls</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ace Hardware</li> <li>• Ann Street Restaurant &amp; Deli</li> <li>• Bonitas</li> <li>• Café at Stone Mill</li> <li>• Circle K/Nice N Easy</li> <li>• Dollar General • George Lumber</li> <li>• Keep Making Suds Laundromat</li> <li>• Kinney Drugs</li> <li>• Little Falls Antique Center</li> <li>• Little Falls Library</li> <li>• Little Falls Lumber</li> <li>• Mangia Macchinas</li> <li>• Paca Gardens • Price Chopper</li> <li>• RD's Redemption • Runway Sunoco</li> <li>• Sam's Deli • Showcase Antiques</li> <li>• Charles Stahl</li> <li>• Stewart's • Travelodge</li> </ul> <p><b>Mayfield</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food &amp; Fuel • Hart's Motorsport</li> </ul> <p><b>Middleville</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stewart's</li> </ul> <p><b>Mohawk</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Dollar</li> <li>• Smoker's Choice</li> <li>• Fastrac • Mohawk Post Office</li> </ul> <p><b>Nelliston</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eisenadler Brauhaus</li> <li>• Midvale Vet • Q's Mart</li> </ul> <p><b>Newport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bradford Library</li> <li>• Newport Marketplace</li> <li>• Village Laundry &amp; Car Wash</li> </ul> <p><b>Palatine Bridge</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ace Hatchet Hardware</li> <li>• Below Zero • Big Lots</li> <li>• Courtney's Grooming</li> <li>• Country Farms</li> <li>• Laundromat</li> <li>• Lee Newspapers, Inc. • McDonald's</li> <li>• Palatine Nursing Home</li> <li>• Price Chopper • Stewart's</li> <li>• Tractor Supply</li> </ul> | <p><b>Poland</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circle K Nice N Easy</li> <li>• Poland Library • Stewart's</li> </ul> <p><b>Richfield Springs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aubuchon Hardware</li> <li>• Cassidy's Diner</li> <li>• Dollar General • Kinney Drugs</li> <li>• McDonald's • Mirabito</li> <li>• Price Chopper • Stewart's</li> </ul> <p><b>Salisbury</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covered Bridge Convenience</li> <li>• Kirby Library</li> <li>• Nichols Country Store</li> <li>• Spruce Creek Campground (summer)</li> </ul> <p><b>Sharon Springs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LOG House Minimart</li> <li>• Sharon Springs Free Library</li> <li>• Stewart's</li> </ul> <p><b>Sloansville</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobil • Sloansville Wine &amp; Liquors</li> </ul> <p><b>Sprakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ayres Memorial Animal Shelter</li> <li>• Byler's Custom Cabinets</li> <li>• Sprakers Post Office</li> <li>• Sprakers Produce</li> <li>• Stockyard</li> </ul> <p><b>St. Johnsville</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bridge Street Diner • C.H. Burkdorf</li> <li>• Country Farms • Dollar General</li> <li>• Kinney Drugs • Monte Grab &amp; Go</li> <li>• Sitterly's</li> <li>• St. Johnsville Marina (seasonal)</li> <li>• St. Johnsville Rehab &amp; Nursing Home</li> <li>• Stewart's</li> <li>• Two Brothers Laundromat</li> </ul> |
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**Subscriptions Now Available! Easily upload photos for the Kid's Community Corner or press releas right from our website**

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# DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

## Make a dining room more elegant for entertaining

The kitchen may be the heart of a home, but when it comes to entertaining, a dining room—if one is present in a house—tends to be the prime gathering spot for meals.

Dining rooms may not be top on the list of spaces to renovate, as they tend to be used infrequently. But a dining

room makeover may still be a worthy endeavor. Here are some simple ways to make the dining room more elegant and functional.

• **Clear out the clutter.**

The first step toward improving a dining room eating area is to remove any extraneous items from the space. If the

dining room table is not used very often, it likely has become a catch-all for other items, such as bills, newspapers or kids' homework. Rather than using the dining space as a makeshift office or homework station, invest in a rolling cart to store those papers and other items. Simply roll it into a

closet or another room when it's time to host a party.

• **Hang a statement light.**

Few decorative items add as much drama and ambiance to a dining space as a new overhead light. People hear chandelier and think a bejeweled or crystal design. But various chandelier styles can fit the aesthetic of a home. The light will be a focal point and instantly make the dining area more elegant. Install the light on a dimmer to adjust the illumination as needed to set the mood.

• **Invest in new linens.**

Purchase coordinating table linens that will be used for special occasions. A decorative tablecloth or table runner coupled with cloth napkins and placemats helps to set the scene of the dinner party.

• **Add a piece of artwork.**

Many modern homeowners have eschewed the China cabinet that once was standard in dining rooms. Rather than a bulky piece of furniture, a large piece of statement-making artwork or framed photos over a more minimalistic buffet table or small service bar is preferable. Choose artwork that complements the colors in the space.

• **Include a centerpiece.**

Centerpieces add sophistication to the table and tie into the event. Floral arrangements, a bowl or basket of fruit, pinecones or greens from outdoors, or collectibles like shells in a tall canister can serve as centerpieces.

**Naturewood Knoll Tree Farm**  
**OPEN November 2nd - December 23rd, 2022**  
**Trees & Greens available after Thanksgiving**

**OPEN HOUSE**  
 "Gingerbread Days" Weekend  
 December 2, 3 & 4  
 Santa will visit  
 Sat., Dec. 3rd  
 from 11AM-2PM

Open Wed.-Sun. 10AM-6PM Nov. 2-Dec. 23  
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 Closed Sun-Tues

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 Marcia Jaque

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 49 Church St., Canajoharie, NY 13317

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 Saturday, Dec. 3rd • 4:30-8:30 PM  
 Roast Beef, Ham & Chicken Riggies  
 \$14 Adults • \$7 Kids Under 12  
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**Reopen December 9th**  
 Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon 12-8PM  
 Events Available Any Day  
 Open for Snowmobilers Anytime There Is Snow

Mohawk Valley Choral Society  
 & MVCS  
 Classical music since 1982

Directed by Randy Davis  
 PRESENTS  
 GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL'S  
**MESSIAH**  
 Sunday, December 4 • 7:30PM  
 Church of Our Lady of Lourdes of Mary,  
 Mother of Our Savior Parish  
 2222 Genesee Street, Utica

Handel's oratorio, Messiah  
 Mohawk Valley Choral Society, with orchestra and four soloists

Randy Davis' final appearance as director/conductor of the Choral Society, and a celebration of the Choral Society's 40th year of performing concerts throughout the Mohawk Valley

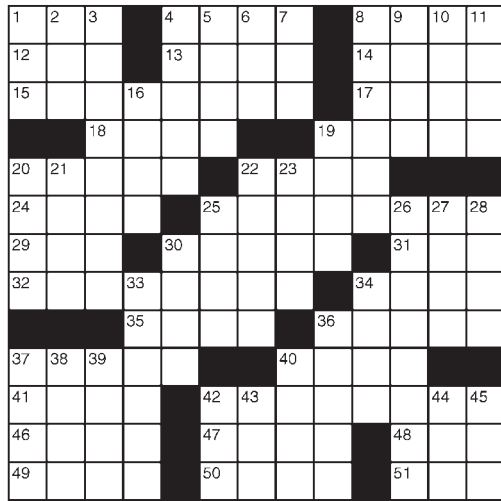
www.mvchoral.org  
 or call 315-826-3092 to reserve tickets





# King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Venus, to Serena
  - 4 Sad
  - 8 Padlocked fastener
  - 12 E.T.'s craft
  - 13 Slithery
  - 14 New York canal
  - 15 Sobriquet
  - 17 Karate level
  - 18 Poolroom prop
  - 19 Livid
  - 20 Fury
  - 22 Coal source
  - 24 Loathe
  - 25 "The — Papers" (Dickens novel)
  - 29 Bird (Pref.)
  - 30 Hay bundles
  - 31 — chi
  - 32 Fined for speeding, e.g.
  - 34 Shopper's aid
  - 35 Geese formations
  - 36 Selects from a group
  - 37 Everglades wader
  - 40 Delhi dress
  - 41 Hip
  - 42 Popular playground game
  - 46 Corridor
  - 47 Adhesive
  - 48 Born abroad?



- 9 Rhyiming tributes
- 10 Sediment
- 11 Seeger or Sampras
- 16 Winslet of "Titanic"
- 19 Pen fluids
- 20 "Huh?"
- 21 Sitarist
- 22 Odometer reading
- 23 On the rocks
- 25 Cracker spread
- 26 Natives of Rome
- 27 Poet
- 28 Young foxes
- 30 Borscht veggie
- 33 Gushes with pride
- 34 Street edge
- 36 Bakery array
- 37 Canyon sound
- 38 Incite
- 39 Actor's quest
- 40 Gulf War missile
- 42 Old CIA foe
- 43 — -de-France
- 44 Zodiac cat
- 45 Superman foe

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## MAGIC MAZE

## COW WORDS

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

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

- |          |            |         |         |
|----------|------------|---------|---------|
| Coward   | Cowboy     | Cowhand | Cowpeas |
| Cowbell  | Cowcatcher | Cowhide | Cowpoke |
| Cowberry | Cowfish    | Cowlick | Scows   |
| Cowbird  | Cowgirl    | Cowling |         |

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# Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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**Mega Maze**

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**HOCUS-FOCUS**

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Rocks are missing. 2. Tassel is shorter. 3. Hair is different. 4. Pocket is missing. 5. Zipper is missing. 6. Leg is moved.

"Now I know why Mom says that raising a \_\_\_\_\_ child is easy!"

**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!

|       |        |                                           |
|-------|--------|-------------------------------------------|
| Look  | RUPEES | <input type="text"/>                      |
| Grow  | SPROUT | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> |
| Trap  | RENCOR | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> |
| Think | NEEDS  | <input type="text"/>                      |

**TODAY'S WORD**



# Home Country

by Slim Randles

“No, Doc,” Windy said, “don’t hurt or nothin’ like that, but you know, with all the plagues goin’ on right now, figured it’s better to be safe than...”  
“Sorry?”

“I ain’t never sorry I come to see ya, Doc. You know that. Fell to sleep t’other night when all them ad shows is on... you know. Like how to cut yer boots with a knife and feel young-

er by wearin’ a new shirt... that stuff.”

Doc nodded. Windy Wilson was one of his closest pals as well as being a patient. The adventures of this old cowboy camp cook and mule packer were usually good for a laugh, anyway. But ol’ Windy really seemed upset this morning.  
“Windy,” Doc said, kindly,

“I’m thinking this is a sorta personal problem? I deal with personal problems all the time, so why not just tell me about it?”

“Thass what’s so strange, Doc. I only caught a part of it when I was a-doizin’ off, ya know? But I told myself... Self, I better go talk to Doc, ‘cuz that jest might be whass been holdin’ me back

on startin’ some colts.”

“Starting some colts? What’s keeping you from starting some colts is you’re old enough to know better! So what’s this problem that the teevee said is keeping you out of the saddle?”

Windy looked up shamefaced. “They called it a deviated rectum.”  
Go from fierce cussing to

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fly casting. Try the tenkara simple fishing method. Check it out at [www.tenkarausa.com](http://www.tenkarausa.com).

# A favorite holiday treat

by Ava Hughes, Susquehanna Co. Dairy Ambassador

As a Dairy Ambassador I often look for tasty foods to eat with lots of dairy products in them. One of my favorites to make and share at family gatherings is chicken wing dip. The recipe contains cream cheese, sour cream and cheddar cheese. Before I share the recipe, I’m going to share a fact about each of these dairy products.

- Cream cheese is made when lactic acid is added to pasteurized milk and cream, which lowers the mixture’s pH causing it to form curds. When the curds are heated and stabilizers added it becomes cream cheese.

- Sour cream is a thick and creamy dairy product derived from the cream of cow’s milk.

Sour cream is often used as a topping for baked potatoes, Mexican dishes, salad dressings and in dessert recipes.

- Nearly four billion pounds of cheddar cheese has been produced in the U.S. annually in recent years.

Here’s the recipe my grandma and I use for “Crock Pot Chicken Wing Dip.”

- 2 8-oz. packages of cream cheese, softened

- 2 16-oz. containers of sour cream

- 1 lb. shredded cheddar cheese

- 1 bottle of ranch dressing

- 2 to 3 lbs. of cooked shredded chicken breast

Mix the softened cream cheese, sour cream, shredded cheddar cheese and ranch dressing in a crock pot. Heat until the cheeses are melted and then add the shredded chicken breast and hot sauce. Keep warm in the crock pot until you’re ready to serve with your favorite chips.

I’ve discovered guacamole chips pair well with the Chicken Wing Dip. This recipe makes a rather large batch of Chicken Wing Dip but if you have extra it freezes well.

I hope you take a few minutes and make this recipe to share with your family and friends during the holiday season. I’m sure you will enjoy this treat that is full of delicious dairy products.



Ava Hughes, Susquehanna County Dairy Ambassador

**COW WORDS**

**King Crossword**

Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

— King Crossword —

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

**SCRAMBLERS**

Today's Word  
1. Feruse 2. Sprout  
3. Corner; 4. Dense  
solution

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- Power Curve™ Technology shreds snow fast and reduces clogging



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National Promo Price

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- Quickly change chute and deflector direction in a single motion



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National Promo Price

Model shown 37798

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National Promo Price

Model Shown 38842

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Model Shown 38844

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