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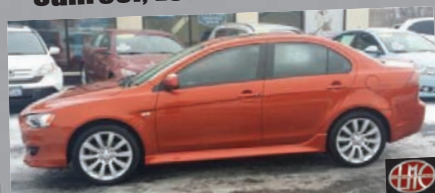
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Dollars and sense

by David Uffington

Phone scammers grow more brazen

Scammers would rather have a pipeline right into your home rather than take a chance on mail that might get trashed straight out of the mailbox. Hence the rise in telephone scams.

USA.gov has a section on phone scams and fraud that covers a number of the common ones, such as these:

- Slamming is when a phone company changes your service without your permission. If you find charges for this on your

phone bill, call to insist you be switched back.

- Caller ID spoofing makes a phone number show up on your Caller ID that might encourage you to take the call. For example, it might appear that your bank or credit-card company is calling you, and you might be tempted to go ahead and give the personal information the caller asks for.

- Cramming is adding charges to your phone bill, likely small ones that you might not notice.

Consumer.ftc.gov has an extensive section on phone scams, including

handling pre-recorded calls, unexpected sales calls and, especially, knowing the signs of a scam. The sooner you can identify clues that you're about to be scammed, the sooner you can just hang up without giving out any information.

Your cellphone isn't immune to phone scams. If you enable the GPS on your apps, you're essentially letting people know where you are, which makes you vulnerable. Disable the GPS feature.

Upgrade plans can be a source of trouble if you don't ask about future up-

grade fees when you buy a new phone. Ask lots of questions about frequency of upgrade, potential down payment and phone condition, and read the contract carefully.

One-ring scams are one of new ones. Here's how it works: Your cellphone rings once. The calling area code appears to be a domestic one, and the temptation is to call back to see who it was. The problem: The return call actually goes to a pay-per-call international number that might incur fees just for connecting, and more fees every minute.

Be sure you're familiar with international area codes that are often tied to scams, such as 809 (Dominican Republic), 284 (British Virgin Islands), 473 (Grenada) and 876 (Jamaica). Don't return any calls unless you know who it is.

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PELLET FUEL SALE! Stock up now. April's cost for pellets is \$237.00 a ton. While supply lasts. May's cost is \$239.00 a ton and we're taking orders. Mohawk Valley Hearth & Heating, 1027 East German Street, Herkimer, NY. (315) 866-6848

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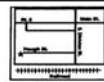
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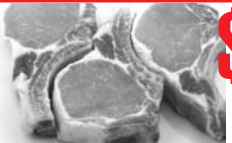
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Rabies vaccination clinics announced for April

There will be two Rabies vaccination clinics for dogs, cats, and ferrets in the month of April:

- Saturday, April 4, at St. Johnsville Town Barn, 7431 Route 5, St. Johnsville, 9 a.m. – noon and

- Saturday, April 18, at Palatine Town Barn, Stone Arabia Rd., Fort Plain, 9 a.m. - noon

New York State Public Health Law requires that all dogs, cats and domestic ferrets shall have initial vaccinations administered against rabies no later than four months of age and stay up to date with re-vaccinations. Re-vaccinations are required one year later and a booster shot every three years. It is important to have pets vaccinated in a timely manner in order for the

pet to be considered protected against the virus. Pet owners should bring proof of their pet's last rabies vaccination. This helps the veterinarian determine whether the pet will receive a one or three year vaccination; without it your pet will receive a one-year vaccination only.

To assure the safety of other pets and people; dogs must be leashed; cats and ferrets must be contained in a pet carrier or box when attending the rabies clinic.

Veterinarian administration fee is \$10 per rabies vaccine. Other vaccines will be available at an additional fee.

For more information about rabies contact Montgomery County Public Health at 518-853-3531. Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

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NOTICE TO PARENTS OF PRE-KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration packets will be available May 18, 2015 – May 29, 2015. Parents interested in obtaining a packet should stop by the East Hill Office during the hours of 7:30am – 3:30pm.

For a child to enter Pre-Kindergarten in September of 2015, he or she must be a district resident, and at least four years of age on or before December 1, 2015. Parents must bring the child's birth certificate, an immunization record signed by a doctor and proof of residency.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Sherri Hodge at the East Hill Elementary School at 518-673-6310.

1st Annual Conference - The American Revolution in the Mohawk Valley

The Fort Plain Museum is proud to announce the First Annual Conference on the American Revolution in the Mohawk Valley and it will be held May 1 through 3.

Come see:

- Todd Braisted - "A hellish plan to go over to the enemy" The Revolutionary War Adventures of Lieutenant Edward McMichael
- Don Hagist - The Revolution's Last Men, the Soldiers Behind the Photographs
- Jack Kelly - Band of Giants, the Amateur Soldiers Who Won America's Independence
- James Kirby Martin - Forgotten Allies, the Oneida Indians and the American Revolution
- Bruce Venter - Col. John Brown and the Battle of Diamond Island on Lake George

- Glenn Williams - The Year of the Hangman, George Washington's Campaign Against the Iroquois

Please note: the first bus is full and a waiting list is being compiled. If we get another 15 people signed up for the bus tour, we will run a second bus. Also, registration deadline is April 17!

Times are as follows:

Friday May 1 - Meet and Greet starts at 6 p.m. (4 p.m. early registration)

Saturday May 2 - Conference starts at 9 a.m.

Sunday May 3 - Bus Tour starts at 9 a.m.

Detailed schedules will be available when attendance confirmation email/phone call is placed about two weeks before the event.

For further information, email fortplainmuseum@yahoo.com or call 518-774-5669.

Upcoming events at Schoharie Crossing

We have some really great and exciting things coming up. April is National Poetry Month and we will be hosting a small Poetry Café program to celebrate. The program starts at 6:30 p.m. on April 23. We are also really glad to announce that on the 1st of May we will be co-hosting an event with the Amsterdam Free Library - Vino & Verse at the library from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. There will be wine tasting from Hummingbird Hills Winery as well as hors d'oeuvres to enjoy while local poets read works of art.

May 1 is also the day the Visitor Center opens. May 2 is I Love My Parks Day and we are seeking vol-

unteers to help lend a hand with some projects and trail maintenance. Visit www.ptny.org to register for the day. If you aren't free that day, don't worry, there is Canal Clean Sweep happening a few weeks earlier on April 18! Contact the site for more information.

April 28 the site will host Dave Behm and a Wildflower Walk along the old canal towpath. The walk starts at 5 p.m. and will be followed by a slide show presentation in the Enders House. For more information, please contact the site or visit us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/Schoharie-Crossing-State-Historic-](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Schoharie-Crossing-State-Historic-Site/176549742399508)

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Anyone willing to contribute time or refreshments for any of these events, please let us know. Volunteers are welcome to contact David at the site for more information. He is also looking for musicians that may wish to develop a weekly get together at Yankee Hill, so if you have any suggestions please let him know. Suggestions are always welcome and encouraged.

Have you checked out the Friends of Schoharie Crossing Blog? <http://friendsofschohariecrossing.blogspot.com/>

Lyme Disease advisory

Montgomery County Public Health wants to remind everyone that Lyme disease is caused by the bite of a deer tick. You can reduce the likelihood of a tick bite by taking steps to protect yourself if you live in or visit areas with Lyme disease activity.

In tick-infested areas, your best protection is to avoid contact with soil, leaf litter and vegetation. However, if you garden, hike, camp, hunt, work or otherwise spend time in the outdoors, you can still protect yourself:

- Wear light-colored clothing with a tight weave to spot ticks easily.
- Wear enclosed shoes, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Tuck pant legs into socks or boots and shirt into pants.
- Check clothes and any exposed skin frequently for ticks while outdoors.
- Consider using insect repellent (Follow appro-

priate precautions and product instructions when using these products).

- Stay on cleared, well-traveled trails. Walk in the center of trails. Avoid dense woods and bushy areas.

- Avoid sitting directly on the ground or on stone walls.

- Keep long hair tied back, especially when gardening.

- Bathe or shower as soon as possible after going indoors (preferably within two hours) to wash off and more easily find ticks that may be on you.
- Do a final, full-body tick check at the end of the day (also check children and pets), and remove ticks promptly.

Anyone who has been bitten by a tick should be watched closely for at least 30 days. Typical symptoms of Lyme disease include: fever, headache, fatigue, and a large, expanding skin

rash that may have a bull's-eye appearance. If left untreated, infection can spread to joints, the heart, and the nervous system. Anyone who develops a fever or a rash after being bitten by a tick or spending time in tick-infested areas should seek prompt medical care. Most patients

with Lyme disease can be treated successfully with a few weeks of antibiotics, especially if treated early.

Lyme disease prevention begins with recognizing the risks and taking action. For more information on Lyme disease, please visit www.cdc.gov/Lyme.



Age is a question of mind over matter.

If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.

~Leroy "Satchel" Paige

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&

RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE
Saturday, April 18th • 9AM-1PM

Trinity Lutheran Church
Stone Arabia
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SUPER HUGE ESTATE SALE (Phase One)

16 MALPASS RD., ALBANY, NY 12203

FRI., APRIL 17TH - 10 AM-6 PM**SAT., APRIL 18TH - 10 AM-4 PM**

Large collection of mohair teddy bears, old crockery, vintage glassware, blue & white china, art supplies, kitchen items, nice oak, cherry, walnut, & pine furniture, Yamaha upright piano, tons of primitives, new bisque doll parts, large selection of interesting books, huge selection of bric brac.

All items priced to sell and looking for a new home.

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Antiques & auctions...Going, going...yours!

This is a hammer

by **Samantha Mazzotta**
Sharpening mower blades

Q: *How do I sharpen the blades on my lawn-mower?* — Cara, via email

A: Dull mower blades are pretty rough on your lawn, tearing grass rather than cutting it, which can

turn the tips brown, weaken the grass and promote the growth of fungus.

Sharpening mower blades is something not everyone does routinely, but you should commit to sharpening them at the beginning and end of the mowing season.

Do you need to sharpen them mid-season? Professional landscapers sharpen or change their mower blades every 12-15 hours of mowing time (yes, that's every day or two), so it would depend on the size of your yard

and length of the growing season.

Here's how to change a blade:

1. Lay down a plastic sheet or dropcloth to prevent oil drips and grass cuttings from staining the work area.

2. Disconnect the spark plug from the starter wire, remove the spark plug itself, and make sure the fuel cap is tightly closed.

3. Turn the mower on its side. Using a socket wrench, unscrew the center nut that secures the blade to the mower deck

and any other connecting bolts or nuts. If the blade keeps turning as you try to loosen the nut, wedge a piece of wood between a blade and the deck. Remove the blade and brush off any dried grass clippings.

4. To sharpen the blade, check the angle of the existing edge. You'll want to sharpen in the same direction as that angle. Run a metal file down the blade at about a 45 degree angle. Or, use a drill with a blade-sharpener attachment.

5. Once sharpened, check the blade's balance by hanging it from a nail (or buy a blade balancer at the hardware store). If one end of the blade tilts down much farther than the other, file away more metal on that side until the blade stays horizontal.

6. Reattach the blade to the mower, making sure the blades angle downward. Tighten as much as possible, bracing the blade with the block of wood.

7. Attach the spark plug and wire, and turn the mower upright.

A great overview of this process can be found here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXLYgHF6El4

HOME TIP: Worried that you'll forget which way to reattach a lawn-mower blade? Snap a picture of the underside with your smartphone before starting the task.

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You should commit to sharpening lawn mower blades at the beginning and end of the mowing season.

2-DAY PUBLIC AUCTION

Tuesday, April 21st at 9:30 AM**FARM MACHINERY AND TOOLS****Wednesday, April 22nd at 9:30 AM****ANTIQUES, CARRIAGES, AND SLEIGHS**

Location: Bob and Delores Fredenburgh, 323 Herrick St., Canajoharie, NY 13317. Dead end Rd. off of St. Rt. 163.

Directions: From Cherry Valley, take 166 North to 163, turn right. From Canajoharie, go South on Rt. 10, bare right onto 163.

Tuesday, April 21st - 9:30 AM

TRACTORS: Oliver 1655 w/bucket loader, nice condition; Oliver 1550 w/new rebuilt clutch, very nice condition; 285 Massey Ferguson, good condition.

TILLAGE: Oliver 4 bottom spring reset plow, 2pt. hitch; 3pt Burch 4 row cultivator; Oliver 12ft transport disc.; Leon rock picker; 3pt scoop master dirt scoop; 4 bottom Oliver trip plow, rough; 9ft roller; 2 row 3pt. hitch cultivator.

HAY EQUIPMENT: John Deere MoCo Model 630 discbine, serial# E00630T340437; John Deere 338 kicker baler, complete overhaul, like new; Gehl 2580 silage special round baler, very clean, Serial# 12313; Gehl 2330 discbine; Gehl 414 rollbar rake w/dolly; old wagon gear; Pequea 646 round bale wagon, nice; 9x18 tandem EZ Trail rack wagon, nice; 2 Kory gear w/Meyers rack wagons; 2 older wood rack wagons; 3pt. hitch Massey Ferguson mower; 2-3pt. bale spear McHale 991B bale wrapper, excellent condition; Oliver 3pt. hitch mower; NH 717 Super Harvester w/corn head, 1,000 RPM; FB87 Gehl hi-throw blower; JD skeleton elevator 18ft; 4 Star tedder.

MISC.: Chaparral 15ft livestock trailer; 3 bags 15-15-15 fertilizer; Brillion Model SS120-04 seed-er nice; JD Model 8250 grain drill, great condition; Knight Pro Twin slinger 8014, nice; WIC bedding Chopper; WIC feed cart, good condition; Bee-keeping supplies and lots of smalls and misc.

Wednesday, April 22nd - 9:30 AM

ANTIQUES: Grain Cleaner; Carriage Jacks; Milk cans; Carriage parts; Pulleys; Signs; Wheels; Tools; Buzz Saw; Potato Plows; Walking Plows; Hand Cultivators; Old tools; Salesman special OX Yoke; Cobblers bench; Old harness parts; lots of horse collars, a few Irish lots of eveners; Shafts; etc. Sleigh runners and parts; Corn planters; Single horse walk behind corn planter; Farrier box; Heavy hitch harness, good condition; Light horse harness saddles; Harness parts; Lots of misc. horse and carriage related items.

CARRIAGES: Sold indoors, Wagon open mfg. Wkinnaman & Son; Heavy open Robinson; Buckboard open rough; NI 10A manure spreader, nice; #9 mower; Pioneer fore cart; Hitch wagon, nice, clean; 6 open buggys; top buggy for restore; Cart by Van Tassey & Kearny NY, nice; Set heavy bobs; 2- Split Hickory top buggys; Assorted cutter sleighs; Single seat carriage; Double seat carriage; Open wagon; Open buggy, nice; Anderson MFG Co. Detroit; Very nice 2 seat carriage, made by Henry Stichel, Fort Plain, NY.; 1-set sleigh runners to replace carriage wheels; Open sleigh 2 seater made by A Ochampaugh, Glen, NY.; Very nice double seat spring sleigh, w/lots of décor; EL. Burtis Larchmant, NY. Surry; All original top buggy from Columbus Buggy Co. CD Firestone; Spindle seat, 2 seat carriage; other carriages, still being brought out of corners. 40+ units total.

Auctioneers Note: Bob and Delores have sold the farm and are selling a line of exceptional farm equipment, Farm machinery, and antiques.

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PAYMENT TERMS:
New York Check or Cash

BBQ chicken lunch,
to benefit local
hospital bill.

All items sold as is.
Announcement day of
sale, takes precedence
over any advertising.

**KING'S****Sat., April 18th Consignment Auction ~ 6:33pm****Sat., April 25th Consignment Auction ~ 6:33pm****Sun., April 26th Breeder Sale ~ 11:33am****Sat., May 2nd Consignment Sale ~ 6:33pm****Thurs., May 7th Food Auction ~ 6:33pm**

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3 STORY • STORE FRONT REAL ESTATE AUCTION

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26 CHURCH ST., CANAJOHARIE, NY • FORMERLY A BANK

STORE INCLUDES:

Beautiful Hard Wood Cabinets, 2 Vaults, Central Air, Alarm System
Installed & Working, 2 Bathrooms, Oak Cabinets,
Front Counter/Service Desk/Tellers Desk, 2nd Floor Wall to Wall
Carpet, Many Many Features.

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WWW.COUNTYLINEAUCTIONS.COM

Antiques & auctions... Going, going...yours!

To your good health

by Keith Roach, M.D.

Hand sanitizers vs. hand washing

Dear Dr. Roach: One encounters many forms of "hand sanitizer" products these days: in medical waiting rooms, restrooms, public places and in our kitchen.

These are waterless, very quick drying products; we even have them in our automobile.

When one has many daily occasions to clean the hands, is it better (for your skin) to use soap and water, or the modern hand-sanitizer products? — N.M.G.

Answer: The jury is out on which is more effective, if you compare good technique with one against the other. Both are effective at reducing bacteria on the hands. However, alcohol-based sanitizers are easy to use, portable, fast and are less irritable to the hands than repeated washings. There is better compliance with them, and so they are more effective in the real world.

Sanitizers are not effective against all germs. They do not kill the spores of *Clostridium difficile*, a cause of severe diarrhea. However, soap and water wash the spores off and are effective where sanitizers are not, so soap and water should be used in cases of known or suspected *C. diff* diarrhea. Sanitizers also are not effective against norovirus, another infectious diarrhea. They also can't remove grease.

Dear Dr. Roach: After two years of seeing several doctors and being misdiagnosed and treated with wrong medications, my 27-year-old daughter has been diagnosed with psoriatic arthritis. Her joint pain has been constant during this time. What kind of long-term damage has been done during this time? — A.F

Answer: Psoriasis is a

common inflammatory skin condition, with well-known plaques — raised red patches with silvery scales or flaked skin — most commonly seen over the elbows, knees or on the back. Only a minority of people with psoriasis will ever develop psoriatic arthritis, but you have to have psoriasis to get psoriatic arthritis. Sometimes, the arthritis shows up before the skin lesions, making the diagnosis difficult.

Unfortunately, damage to the joints can happen early in the course of psoriatic arthritis, but only an X-ray can show the extent of damage. Your daughter may need aggressive treatment. A rheumatologist experienced in psoriatic arthritis is essential.

Dear Dr. Roach: During a checkup with my internist, I was told that I have a rather large lipoma on my back. I was told that it is totally harmless and can be removed if it bothers me. Now I realize that I am somewhat concerned about it, as I had ovarian cancer two years ago.

Can I really be sure it is benign without a biopsy? I don't want to find out in a few years that it is cancerous. — S.R.

Answer: A lipoma is a very common fatty tumor. They almost always are benign. If there is a suspicion of malignancy (called liposarcoma), an MRI scan can be done or a biopsy obtained. Surgery is seldom required, except for cosmetic reasons.

I don't believe that you are at higher risk for this being the rare cancerous type simply because of your history. I would just recommend dutiful follow-up. I have sometimes carefully measured these to see if they grow over time.

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46th Annual Mohawk Valley Machinery Consignment Auction Sat., April 25, 2015 9:30 AM

1300 State Hwy 163, Fort Plain, NY

CONSIGNMENTS INCLUDE: NH 277 baler, AC 302 baler, NH 644 round baler, NH 479 haybine, NH 477 haybine, JD dolly rake, 30' hay elevator, new and used tires including 11Lx15 imp, 10x16.5 skid steer, 18.4R38 tractor, 380 85Rx34 50% tread and much, much more.

Terms: Cash or good check • Photo ID
Refreshments Available

Armitstead Auctions
518-993-2290 • 518-596-9241

SOLD! **JR's Auction** **The Auction Way!**
56 Willett St., Fort Plain, NY 13339 • (518) 993-4668
Antique and Collectable Consignment Auction!!!
Antiques, Collectables, Furniture, & Consignments!! **Tuesday, April 14th • 5:00pm**
Already Consigned is an Antique Lighting Rod, Shop Hand Tools, and a large truck load of furniture, antiques, and household items from the Catskills.

Special Customer Appreciation Day Auction Sat., May 3rd • 10:00am

Trees, Shrubs, Flowers, Hanging Baskets, Outdoor Lawn and Garden Tools, Tractors, Equipment, Furniture, Truckload of Groceries, Meats, Cheese & Chicken BBQ, Ice Cream.

Attention: Just Consigned from Lancaster, PA is a trailer load of: Trees, Shrubs, Annuals, Perennials, Hanging Baskets, and also a trailer load of Brand New Furniture including a Complete Maple Bedroom Suite, Dry Sinks, Night Stands, Magazines racks, Waste Cans, End Tables, and much more!!!!

Also from Amsterdam: International 986 Tractor with cab in great shape, NH Baler, Deutz Allis Round Baler, NH Tedder, NH Haybine, 2-Hays Rakes, Rake Carrier, 3-Hay Wagons with racks in good condition, Hydraulic Rock Picker, 1998 30' Sportsman Camper, with push out, 3 pt. Brush Hog, 3 pt. Chipper, Farm Trailer, Picnic Tables, Rhino Diesel Tractor, and much more!! Carl will also be here to sell a whole truckload of Groceries, Meats, Cheese and much more!! This will be an all day event with up to 2 Auctioneers.

1st Day On Site Public Estate Auction!! Saturday, May 16th • 10:00am

St Johnsville, NY • Estate of John & Lois and Don Moskey
John Deere Tractor, Enclosed Trailers, 20+ Antique Snowmobiles, 30+ Antique Snowmobile Motors, 12 Guns, New Contractor Tools, Concrete Tools, Woodworking Tools!!

John Deere 4720 Hydrostatic w/cab & snowblower only 332 hours like new, Cub Cadet Yanmar EX 450 Diesel Tractor with Loader and Quick Attach Bucket 52 hours like new, Quick Attach Forks, Quick Attach Jib Hoist Extend a Boom, 1995 S10 Chevrolet Pick Up Truck 36,000 miles (showroom condition), Antique Harley Davidson Leggero Motor Cycle single cylinder serial # 8A10502H1 in good condition, Suzuki Quad Runner 185cc 4 wheeler, 14' Enclosed Trailer like new, 1949 Allis Chalmers Tractor with attachments and much more!!

For a full list, pictures and details go to auctionzip.com ID # 29324

2nd Day On Site Public Estate Auction!! Saturday, May 30th • 10:00am

St Johnsville, NY • Estate of John & Lois and Don Moskey
Antique Tin Toys, Cocks, Jugs, Cub Cadet Riding Lawn Mowers, Weed eaters, Snap on Tools, Garage Contents, Household, Furniture and much more,
For a full list, pictures and details go to auctionzip.com ID # 29324

On Site Public Estate Auction
Saturday, June 6th • 10:00am 365 Peck Rd., Delanson, NY
Cars, Antiques, Household, Furniture, Lawn & Garden Tools, Complete House!!
For a full list, pictures and details go to auctionzip.com ID # 29324

Bring Something - Buy Something Public Benefit Auction Saturday, May 23rd • 9:30am

Mohawk Valley Produce Auction

840 Fordsbush Rd., Fort Plain, NY

Serving Breakfast 7:00am till??

Breakfast Sandwiches, Breakfast Buffet, Chicken BBQ, Covered Dish, Soft Pretzels, Ham and Cheese Sandwiches, Subs and much more!!

Antiques!! Furniture!! Flowers!! Crafts!! Small Animals, Heifers, Sheep, Goats, Lawn and Garden, Equipment, Tools, more!!
Everything Donated!!

Bring Something - Buy Something!!
Donations Wanted!!

Proceeds to benefit Susan Beiler Fund

(Parents Marcus and Mary Beiler)

Drop off locations for donations are Double 00 on Clinton Rd., IBA in Fort Plain, and JR'S Auction in Fort Plain.

WEEKLY SALES EVERY MONDAY HOSKING SALES

Weekly Sales Every Monday 11:30 with Misc. & Small animals, 1:00 Dairy, followed by feeders, sheep, lamb, goats, pigs. Calves start at 5PM followed by cull beef. Call for more info and note all times are approximate. Our volume is increasing weekly - join your neighbors & send your livestock our way!

*****ATTENTION ORGANIC PRODUCERS - WE ARE NOW A CERTIFIED ORGANIC MARKETING AGENCY.*****

IN AN EFFORT TO ASSIST ALL ORGANIC PRODUCERS WE ARE NOW CERTIFIED THRU NOFA, NY. ALL ORGANIC PAPERWORK MUST ACCOMPANY THE CATTLE AND PRODUCE WHEN THEY ARRIVE AT THE SALE BARN. THE 4TH MONDAY OF EACH MONTH WILL BE OUR ORGANIC DAY ALONG WITH OUR NORMAL MONDAY SALE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT US. OUR FACILITY IS AVAILABLE TO ACCOMMODATE ORGANIC DISPERSALS AS SCHEDULED.

Monday, April 6th - Sold 224 Head. Cull ave. \$.91, Top cow \$1.17, bull calves top \$4.85, heifer calf top \$2.65, Dairy Feeders \$1.01 - \$1.74, Dairy Milking age top \$2225, bred heifers top \$1975, Open heifers top \$1100, heifer calves top \$420.

Monday, April 13th - Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Heifer Sale. A group of 300# and up Holsteins & Jersey heifers. Expecting a good run of cattle - demand is high.

Saturday, April 18th - 9AM - Annual Spring Machinery & Equipment Auction. Tractors, Trucks & Tillage equipment. We will also be selling Trees & Shrubs. Accepting consignments from single items to full lines of equipment. We will be starting at 9AM on small items, tools and plants. A few items to look for: 4020 SD Penta TMR Mixer 3 yrs. Old; 4013 Krone Disc Mower; 1586 IH 2WD cab; JD 2010 w/loader; 1850 Oliver w/cab; Ford 6600; Martin headlock feeder wagons; feed carts; Knight 3225 Mixer; 3 pt. fertilizer spreader; Gehl forage chopper w/hay head; calf hutches; Uebler 810 feed carts. Many more items the field will be full! And a load of plants, shrubs & trees will also be selling.

Monday, April 20th - Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Sheep, Lamb, Goat & Pig Sale. Special: Tompkins Family Farm Complete Dispersal. 65 Head of Holsteins. 35 milking age, 30 heifers. SCC 150,000 4.0F, 3.0P

Thursday, April 23rd - sale held on the farm Marathon, NY. GPS address: 474 Killawog Hill Road, Marathon, NY. 11:00AM. Walco Registered Holstein Complete Dispersal. 115 Head Freestall Herd - 60 Milking Age, 25 bred heifers balance youngstock. RHA 21,361 4.0 850 3.0 643. Year around herd in full flow of milking presently ave. 70# in the tank. SCC 200,000. Owners: Walter & Vicki Coleman. Some GPS units you have to put Lisle in for the town instead of Marathon to get the right address.

Saturday, April 25th - Sale held at the farm. Norwich, NY. GPS address: 149 Holmesville Road, Norwich, NY. 11:00AM Mint Creek Complete Machinery & Equipment Auction. Small tools, shop equip., Snap-On Tool boxes, haying equipment, JD 2150 & JD 2955 Tractors, Skid steer, 30' Gooseneck Trailer plus much more. Complete listing and pictures on website.

Monday, April 27th - Normal Monday Sale & Organic Day

Wednesday, April 29th - 11:00AM sale held at Windy Acres Farm. GPS: 829 County Rt. 29, New Berlin or Norwich, NY. Evans Jerseys Complete Registered Jersey Dairy Dispersal. 87 Head of cattle sell. 48 Milking age in all stages of lactation, 20 short bred to springing, 16 yearlings to newborn, 3 bulls.

Saturday, May 2nd - sale held at Rick & Paula Evans. GPS: 4997 St. Hwy. 23, Norwich, NY. 10:00AM Tornado Valley Complete Machinery & Equipment Dispersal. Watch for full listing and pictures on website.

Saturday, May 9th - sale held on the farm Greene, NY. 10:00AM Goodrich Farm Complete Machinery & Equipment Auction. Watch for complete listing and pictures on website.

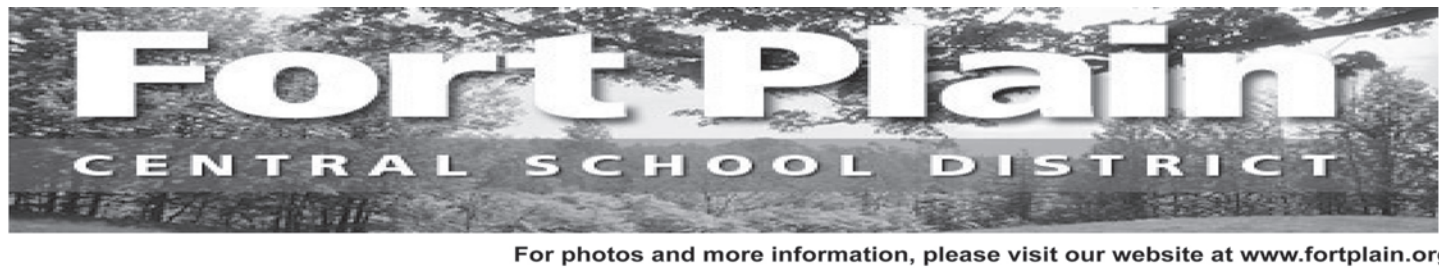
LOOKING TO HAVE A FARM SALE OR JUST SELL A FEW - GIVE US A CALL.

****Trucking Assistance** - Call the Sale Barn or check out our trucker list on our Website. **Call to advertise in any of these sales it makes a difference. Watch our website for any last minute updates.**

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Volume: 31
Issue: 07
April 2015

For photos and more information, please visit our website at www.fortplain.org

Heath Fair is Coming: The Canajoharie Central School and the Fort Plain Central School will present the annual “Health and Wellness Fair” on Saturday, April 18th from 9:00 a.m. until noon at the East Hill Elementary School in Canajoharie. The family-friendly event will feature all sorts of activities for adults and kids alike. Some new activities this year will include: arts & crafts for kids, booth bingo, kids cooking, hopscotch stations, local chef demonstrations & tastings, healthy parfaits, and much more. The health fair will also feature some crowd favorites such as Zumba class, spinal evaluations, health screenings, taste testing, healing touch, massage, and acupuncture. The event provides informational booths on a variety of health, wellness and fitness topics. There will be free give-aways, contests, and door prizes. The Community Health and Wellness Fair is free to the public and open to all ages. Plan to stop in and enjoy the fun!



District Looks Ahead: Thanks to the final state budget, as approved April 1st by the State Legislature, the Fort Plain CSD will receive an estimated increase in state funding of \$225,217 for the 2015-2016 school year. Although disappointed that the Gap Elimination Adjustment remains in the budget, Superintendent Douglas Burton is pleased to know that the district will lose only \$2,748 due to the GEA - which is much better than the \$137,384 that was lost under the GEA for this year. With the announcement of these favorable state aid numbers, the Board of Education is confident in its ability to deliver a 2015-2016 budget which will include no tax levy increase. The public can hear information about the instructional budget at a hearing on April 15th at 7:00 in the district office conference room. A full budget hearing will be held on May 6th at 7:00 in the auditorium of the Jr/Sr High School. As a part of their ongoing work in crafting annual budgets that will carry the district forward into the future, the Fort Plain BOE invited the Canajoharie BOE to a joint session on March 31st. The focus of the discussion was shared services, programs and costs, and the possibility of a merger study to look into the advantages that a future merger of the two districts might bring. The meeting was facilitated by Dr. Patrick Michel from HFM BOCES, who presented both boards with information about what a merger study looks like, how the process would work, and potential timelines. Public comments were accepted, with many in the crowd focusing on questions surrounding possible financial benefits, and new programs for students a merger might make possible. No direct action was taken at the meeting, and each of the boards must now make a decision on whether or not to pursue an official merger study.

Battle of the Books: The Junior High Battle of the Books Team recently participated in a very successful annual competition. The team members this year included: 7th Graders Willow MaGinnis, Jenna Reese, Meagan Behan, and Elizabeth Cernick...and 8th Graders Kevin Staples, Bryce Thibodeau, Quinn Jones, Michael D’Arcangelis, and Patrick Murphy.

Mural to be Created: The district was recently awarded a \$3,000 grant from the New York State Council on the Arts. This Fulton-Montgomery Arts Education Grant will help to fund the creation of a mural at the elementary school. The mural will be based on local Mohawk River history, and will be installed on an outdoor wall of the school courtyard. Boston-area mural artist Joshua Winer (<http://schoolmosaics.net>) will work with the elementary art teacher and grade 4 teachers to coordinate participation of all 57 fourth-grade students in the project. Mr. Winer will spend eight days as an artist-in-residence, to complete the mural. Friends of Fort Plain (FOFP) applied for the Arts Education Grant, in partnership with the school district.

Elementary Honor Society Established: Principal Fred Hutchinson is pleased to announce that the Harry Hoag Elementary School has established a chapter of the new National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS) to recognize their most outstanding students. Staff at the school were notified recently that their application to begin this prestigious new national student recognition program was approved by the national office and that the school may now undertake selection of the first members. The Harry Hoag School will join elementary schools from across the country in establishing a program to promote excellence in academic achievement, and involvement in service and leadership. The co-advisors of this new local chapter will be Mrs. Yerdon and Mrs. Snow. A full description of the criteria for membership, and the process for selection, will be made available to all students, parents and staff. An induction ceremony will take place later this spring. Once new members have been selected, the chapter will begin to organize service projects and other activities to support the purposes of the society.

Sports Awards: The Winter Sports Awards were held on March 5th. The following teams and students were honored at this event:
Team Awards: Girls Varsity Basketball and Boys Varsity Basketball were both named NYSPHSAA Scholar/Athlete Teams
Capital District Basketball Scholar Award: Briannah Florian, Kiernan Briggs
Fort Plain BOE 2nd Effort Award: Brianna Swartz(bowling), Austin Cotton(bowling), Liza Hudyncia(cheer), Michael Thomas(swim), Robert Thomas(wrestling), Caitlyn Porter(basketball), James May, Jr.(basketball)
Rose & Robert D’Arcangelis Super Sub Award: Cailyn Porter(basketball), McKay Nare(basketball)
Western Athletic Conference (WAC) All Stars: Beth Mallett-1st Team(bowling), Julia Rodriguez-Outstanding Senior(cheer), Briannah Florian-1st Team(basketball), Aiden VanLoan-1st Team(basketball), Ryan DeLaurie-2nd Team(basketball), Jon Payack-2nd Team(wrestling), Trent DeBlock-2nd Team(wrestling), Morgan VanAvery-2nd Team(wrestling),
Local Team Awards: Beth Mallett-Most Valuable Player(bowling), Drew Fureno-Most Valuable Player(bowling), Aubrey VanValkenburgh-Most Improved(bowling), Brady Fureno-Most Improved(bowling), Gabriella Jenks-Sixth Man(bowling), Austin VanAvery-Sixth Man(bowling), Briannah Florian-Most Valuable Player(basketball), Gabrielle Bridgewater-Most Improved & Rebounding Award(basketball), Shoren Shirley-Defensive Award(basketball), Cheyenne Munson-Coach’s Award(basketball), Victoria Dettmer-Leadership Award(basketball), Kendra Trembley-Leadership Award(basketball), Briannah Florian-Leadership Award(basketball)

Class of 2018: Roast Beef Dinner
Elks Lodge in Fort Plain - **Tuesday May 19th**
4:00-8:00 p.m. Eat In or Take Out
Adults \$10.00 Kids 5-12 \$5.00 Kids under 5 eat free
There will also be a basket raffle
Come out and vote on the school budget and
then come down to get something good to eat!

Kindergarten Registration Time
Children must turn 5 years old on or before
December 1, 2015 to be eligible
To prepare for upcoming screening, please
contact the Harry Hoag School Office with
information about your child
993-4000

Congratulations March Students of the Month! The Elementary Students were:
Taylor Hayes, Mika Wilbur, Lauren LaPier, and Robert Jordan
The Jr/Sr High School Students were:
**Brady Fureno, Sherry Huang, Sean Staples, Sarah Hoffman,
Cheyann Walters, and Liza Hudyncia**

Fort Plain to Host Ag & Tech Program: The HFM BOCES will be introducing a new Agricultural Technology Program for the 2015-2016 school year, with the Fort Plain Jr/Sr High School building serving as host to most of the classes. The program will be for students in the Fonda-Fultonville, Canajoharie, and Fort Plain Central School Districts. A wide range of Agriculture and Agri-Business courses will be offered, with an eventual goal of linking the program with SUNY Cobleskill, so that future students will be able to earn an Associate’s Degree while participating in the program. Students will take the bus to the Fort Plain Jr/Sr High School, where the daily classes and labs will be held in the Ag & Tech Wing (including the metal shop, wood shop, greenhouse, computer lab, and classroom areas). The program will be an example of the growing trend throughout the BOCES towards shared services, shared programs, shared instruction, and shared facilities.

District Prepares to Bid Superintendent Burton Farewell: After fourteen years in the Fort Plain district and 36 1/2 years in public education, Superintendent Douglas Burton will retire on June 30th. Citing his disappointment with the current climate of politics in Albany changing the face of public education, Mr. Burton also decided that it was time to step away and take some time to enjoy being a grandfather. “I was always too busy with work to attend all of my sons’ school events, and I don’t want that to happen again,” he said. After spending the past 53 years on a school schedule, Mr. Burton is most looking forward to not being limited by that schedule, and to enjoying flexible time to spend with his family. Post retirement plans include a trip to Ireland this October, with other travel opportunities to follow. “There is so much of the United States to see and experience,” he said. Although electing to remain in the area and enjoy the changing of the seasons, the Burtons’ will enjoy the chance to see world, and get to know the culture, in a way that a quick vacation can’t offer. Throughout his tenure in the district, Mr. Burton has seen many economic challenges thrown the district’s way. He is proud to have been a part of continuing to provide a sound foundation and a good education that allows students to go on and be very successful, at a reasonable cost to the community. “There have been tough times, but we remain in good financial shape and offer some very good programs,” he said. “From Ivy League to community college to military: our students have been successful over and over again. It hasn’t been economically easy, but that student success has been the best and most rewarding part of this job.” When asked about his thoughts on the district’s choice for his replacement, Mr. Burton cited the importance of taking the time to learn about the community that our students live in and come from. “Being aware of the community’s needs and climate will go a long way towards being successful,” he said about the district’s future leader. “Ideas are great, but they must be affordable and they must fit our needs.” Mr. Burton shared some final thoughts for the staff, students, and community: “I am fortunate to have had this opportunity to be a part of so many children’s lives and be accepted by this community. I hope that over the years, we have been able to shape an educational program that will benefit the students and future students for many years to come. I am thankful for a good staff of dedicated individuals, loyal to the district and committed to the education of our students. That, above all else, makes you successful - the people that you work with.”

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NYS Tax Commissioner: Four questions you should ask before hiring a tax preparer

7 million New Yorkers hire tax preparers; ensure your preparer is ethical and qualified

Are you thinking about hiring a tax preparer to complete your personal income tax return? Acting New York State Commissioner of Taxation and Finance Nonie Manion recently provided consumer protection tips for taxpayers who decide to do so.

Approximately 70 percent of the state's 10 million income taxpayers hire tax preparers.

"Filing a return is often the most important financial transaction of the entire year for many taxpayers," Commissioner Manion said. "Don't be shy, ask for recommendations when selecting a tax preparer, shop around, deal with someone you know to be a trustworthy advisor."

New York is just one of four states nationwide to regulate tax return pre-

parers. More than 40,000 preparers have registered with NYS.

In an effort to make sure your tax return is accurate and complete, Commissioner Manion suggested asking the preparer these four questions:

- Are you registered with the IRS and New York State? Most tax preparers are required to be registered both with the IRS and NYS. (Learn how to verify a tax preparer)

- How much will it cost? Ask to see a list of fees. The fee should be directly related to the services provided, and not the refund amount. Also, by law preparers cannot charge to e-file in NYS.

- How will I receive my refund? A refund should never get deposited into a preparer's bank account. The fastest and safest

way to receive your refund is to have direct deposited into your bank account. For those without a bank account, they should consider getting their refund on a debit card.

- Will you sign the return? A completed tax return must be signed by both the taxpayer and the preparer. Preparers also must include their federal tax ID (known as a PTIN) and either their NYS registration number or an exclusion code.

If you're aware of a tax preparer who has engaged in illegal or improper conduct, contact the New York State Tax Department at 518-530-HELP or file a tax preparer complaint online.

The deadline to file your tax return is April 15.



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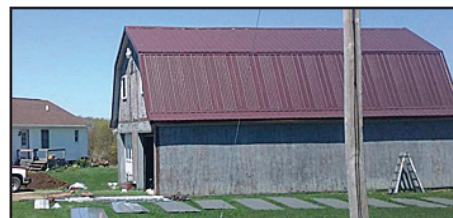
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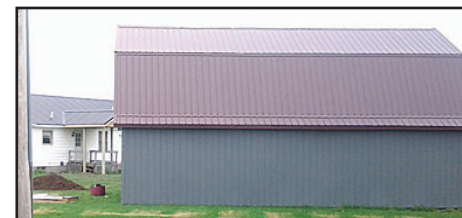
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OESJ Drama Club presents the comedy 'A Highschooler's Guide to the Galaxy'

by Elizabeth A. Tomlin

A dozen OESJ high school drama club students took to the stage to present their brilliant rendition of 'A Highschooler's Guide to the Galaxy' to an appreciative audience on April 1 and 2 under the direction of Ms.

Marge Curtis.

With some students playing as many as seven separate roles, the play took place in 12 individual scenes with limited props. It depicted high school life and a survival guide as reported to incoming freshmen by their

upperclassmen, with hilarious results!

In laugh-out-loud spoofs, fears of the freshmen, including creative ways to get out of gym class, how to handle bullying, eating (or maybe not) cafeteria lunches, riding the bus, dating

and what to wear — were some topics interpreted by the actors. From class clubs to job interviews the antics, costumes and shenanigans of the actors brought waves of laughter from the audience.

OESJ A11

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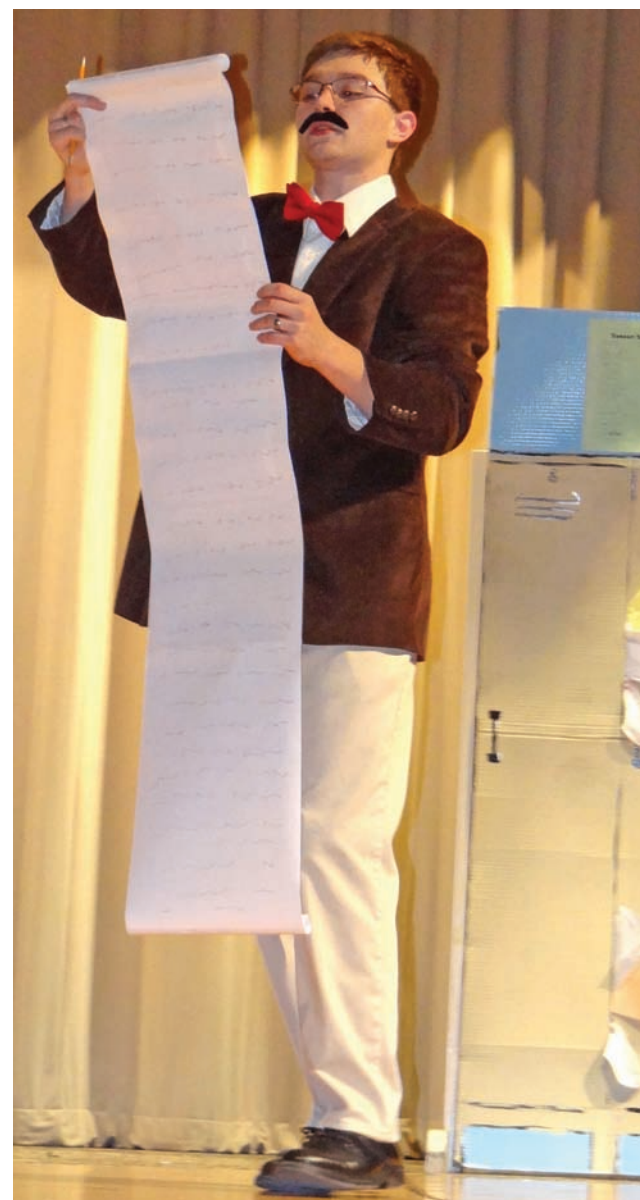
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Alix Sowle, as Principal Mopes, reads the list of school cuts during a staff meeting, just before losing his mustache.

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OESJ from A310

Included in the cast were Stephanie Arndt, Rebecca Bruce, Allie Dobson, Jack Dudar, Aron Frasier, Amanda Martin, Marissa Nellis, David Rackmyre III, Alix Sowle, Hannah Sowle, Marrina White and Grace Yeziers-

ki. This production produced comical results from beginning to end! Director Marge Curtis thanked the Drama Club members for their hard work and dedication. "Without their willingness to take on extra parts, this production would not have been possible."



Teacher Stephanie Arndt deals with an unruly classroom, while thinking censored thoughts interpreted by the narrator.



Bus driver Hannah Sowle tries to concentrate on driving with a full bus of rowdy students.

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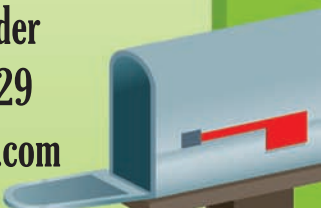
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Should I plant grafted tomatoes?

by Steve Reiners, Horticulture, Cornell University
Over the past few years, more and more

gardeners are using grafted tomato plants. Some retailers are hyping the vigor and disease resistance of these grafted plants. One horticulturalist, perhaps exaggerating just a bit, calls grafted tomatoes, "the biggest single change since people started hybridizing tomatoes in the 1920s and 30s". Today, we'll try to separate fact from fiction and determine if grafted tomatoes are worth the added expense.

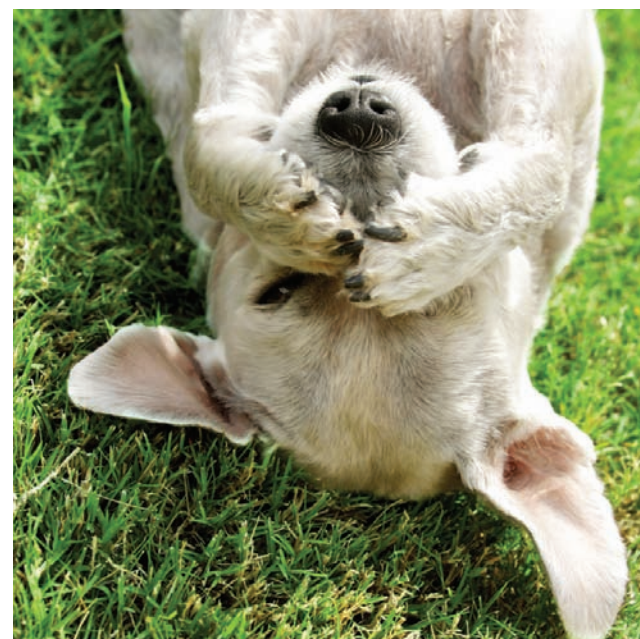
First, let's define a grafted plant. Grafting has been used for hundreds of years in woody plants like apples and grapes. The concept is simple. We have two different plants — one that produces very desirable fruit, but is susceptible to serious soilborne diseases and a second plant that is resistant to that disease but produces undesirable fruit. Grafting allows you to take the top (scion) from desirable plant with the great fruit and attach it to the bottom of the disease resistant plant (rootstock). It has been used on high value vegetables (mostly

melons) in places like Japan and Korea where land is at a premium and soilborne diseases perpetuate as the same crop is planted in the same field.

Here in the U.S., we have enough land to properly rotate or move our crops from field to field on an annual basis, which reduces plant diseases. About 10 years ago, however, we began to see an increase in high tunnel tomato production. High tunnels are unheated greenhouses that allow for extended harvest seasons in the spring and fall. The structures are essentially permanent and since tomatoes are very profitable, growers tend to plant the same crop season after season. As a result, some soilborne diseases and root knot nematodes (plant parasites that live in the soil) have increased. To keep production high, a grafted tomato with a disease resistant rootstock can be used.

We don't have the space to detail here how to create grafted plants. For a video how-to, take a look at two wonderful videos that my colleague Judson Reid, with the Cornell Vegetable Program (CVP) has made. Just google "CVP, Reid, Grafted Tomato Video" to take you to the links.

For grafted tomatoes in our region, the general idea is to use a rootstock that has resistance to plant diseases like verti-



cillium, fusarium and nematodes. Good rootstocks include Maxifort, Beaufort and Colossus, but any disease resistant hybrid could be used. Seeds for tomato rootstocks are available from many seed suppliers. For the scion, choose a variety that has the fruit characteristics you prefer. Many home gardeners like to grow heirloom varieties for the great tasting fruit. Unfortunately, many heirlooms lack pest tolerance that has been bred (through traditional breeding) in to hybrid varieties. If you have a garden where verticillium or fusarium fungi lurk, a grafted plant will provide resistance to these diseases.

There are some grafted plant retailers that imply that a grafted plant will convey resistance to almost all diseases, including Late Blight that has been a problem for us in

the Northeast. This is absolutely untrue. In New York, most tomato diseases attack the foliage with spores that are airborne. If we lived in a warmer climate with mild winters (yes, there is a benefit to our winters), we would have many more serious soilborne diseases and grafting would be even more beneficial. Having a rootstock resistant to fusarium wilt will not make any difference in conveying resistance to late blight, early blight, septoria, and bacterial speck or spot. If someone makes that claim they are either mistaken or not telling the truth.

Besides the benefit of resistance to soilborne diseases, grafting does appear to increase the vigor of the plant. This may be due to a larger more robust root system providing more nutrients and water to the plant. Judson Reid's research showed a 5-pound increase in fruit per plant using grafted plants, an increase of 20 to 30 percent. And that agrees with other research. The yield increase is likely due to greater foliage due to better plant nutrition. And a healthier plant may withstand diseases to a greater degree than one that is under stress. But this is only a matter of degree. Eventually the grafted plant will decline and in the case of late blight, will die. So don't expect that grafted tomatoes will resist all diseases. Certainly for soilborne diseases like verticillium and fusarium wilts, as well as root knot nematode, yes. For the airborne diseases like late blight that attack foliage, absolutely not.

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Lets Attend Church This Sunday". You and your family are welcome at Grandview Baptist Church, corner of Lydius & Washington St., Ft. Plain, NY. Sunday School 10am. Morning Worship 11am.

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Calendar of events

ORIGINAL VALLEY PENNYSAVER

NOTE: Calendar entries must arrive at the Original Valley Penny-saver office by the Friday prior to our Tuesday prior to our publication date for them to be included in the calendar of events. Send events to Lee Publications c/o The Original Valley Pennysaver, 6113 State Highway 5, P.O. Box 121, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428 or e-mail: kkelly@leepub.com

APR 1-30

Arkell Center Events for April

Arkell Center, Canajoharie, NY. Arkell Center Programs for all area seniors during April are as follows:

Monday-Friday: 11:45 am. OFA Meals of Montgomery Program serves hot meals, suggested \$3 donation for 60 and older. Call 673-2000 for reservations.

Mondays-Fridays: 10-12 noon. Arkell's Indoor Walking Program will continue. Seniors invited.

Mon, Wed & Fri: 10-10:30 am. Senior Exercise Program is in the basement. Open to all area Seniors. Coffee served after.

Wednesdays: 2:30-3:30 pm. Gentle Yoga with instructor Patty Pietrowicz in the basement. Open to all Area Seniors.

Thursdays: 10:15 am. Join the Diet Club in the Gallery. The goal is to be accountable while losing or maintaining your weight. Call Grace 673-2112.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Defensive Driving/Point Reduction 6 hour course from 9-3 held on May 5 - August 11 & Sept. 12. Call for reservations 518-673-4408.

Tax Aid Services: Every Wednesday through April 8: From 8:15 am - 12:30 pm. AARP Tax Aid, Lucius Gotti

Jr. is available. To schedule an appt. call 673-2943 after 3 pm.

April 15, 22 & 29: 12:30-4 pm. Senior Citizens Pinochle Card Party, donation \$2, prizes & refreshments. If you would like to sub call Terry at 673-5635.

April 13: 6 pm. Palatine Literary Society is having its annual dinner. Bring a dish to share.

April 21: 9:30 am. Spring Breakfast with our Seniors. We will be closing our Walking Program for the spring. Please join us for a meal. Bring a dish to share.

April 28: 11:15 am -12:15 pm. Blood Pressure Clinic. Home Health Care Partner's Corp. (Co-Sponsored by St. Mary's & Nathan Littauer Hospital). Home Health Care Partners Corp. also provides health and wellness information.

MEETINGS

April 14: 6 pm. Canaj/Pal Br. Chamber of Commerce Meeting

April 24: 1 pm. Canajoharie Senior Citizens Club Meeting

April 28: 10-11 am. Alzheimer's/Dementia Care-giver Support Group meeting meets in the Gallery.

APR 11

Battle of the Bands

Glove Theater in Gloversville, NY. Doors open at 5 pm starts at 6 pm admission \$8 available at door day of show. All ages welcome. To compete call 315-723-9656.

Free Clothing Giveaway Valley Alliance Church, State Highway 5 east of Nellyston, NY. 9-11 am. Doors open at 8:45 am. Refreshments will be provided.

Mother and Daughter Princess Tea

Dolgeville Masonic Temple. 11 am. Price updated to \$7.50 per person. Princess costumes welcome! Call

Marilyn for advance tickets 315-429-9884.

Yankees/Red Sox Bus Trip 125/person. Buses will pick up at Kinney Drugs in Dolgeville and at the Thruway entrances in Little Falls and Canajoharie. For further information call Marilyn 315-429-9884 or Sam at 315-867-3931. Co-sponsored by the Dolgeville Rotary Club and the Violet Festival.

APR 15

Healing Service

Valley Alliance Church, on State Highway 5 east of Nellyston, NY. 7 pm.

APR 18

Benefit for David Hazzard Dolgeville Rod & Gun Club. For medical expenses. 1 pm until ??? \$10 donation, \$15/couple. Food, live mu-

sic, raffles. Call 315-429-3780 for more information.

"Donny" Elvis Coming to the Century Club 130 Guy Park Ave., Amsterdam, NY. 7 pm. \$10. For more info call 518-526-8012.

Psychic Fair

Auskerada Place 78 S. Main St Dolgeville. 10 am-6 pm. Admission is \$5. Interested vendors call Marilyn at 315-429-9884.

MAY 1-3

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- Part-time 20 months evenings w/Saturday clinicals

Financial Aid is available to qualified applicants

At Herkimer BOCES we have a long tradition of training practical nurses. Our graduates come from diverse backgrounds and ages. Some come with no health care experience and are in need of training. Others are building upon existing nursing skills. One thing all our students hold in common, is a desire to continue their education and provide a brighter future for themselves and their families.

For complete LPN course description and application process visit on the web at: lpn.herkimerboces.schoolfusion.us or call 315-895-2210 Ext. 1 • 77 E. North St., Ilion, NY

New Location



**Brooks
Chicken
& Ribs BBQ
Drive Thru**

fundraiser for the Ayres Memorial Animal Shelter

Thursday, April 16th • 2:30pm till sold out

hosted by & served at Church of Good Shepherd - 26 Moyer St., Canajoharie

1/2 Chicken only: \$6 / Dinners: \$8.50
Ribs only: \$8.50 / Dinners: \$10

Dinner includes meat, macaroni salad, applesauce, roll and cookie



**Dine In Or
Take Out
993-5306**

Monday, April 13th

♦ ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES 3-7 PM

♦ Stuffed Shells w/Toss Salad
♦ Steak w/Peppers & Onions Wrap w/Chips

Tuesday, April 14th

♦ Beef Stew w/Hard Roll
♦ Fried Chicken w/Potato & Veg

Wednesday, April 15th

♦ ALL YOU CAN EAT SPAGHETTI 3-7 PM

♦ Grilled Chicken Cold Plate
♦ Spaghetti w/Meatballs, Hot Sausage and/or Toss Salad

Thursday, April 16th

♦ Chicken-N-Biscuits w/Veg
♦ Cheeseburger Wrap w/FF

Friday, April 17th

♦ Fresh Haddock Dinner Baked or Fried, w/Potato & Veg
♦ Mac-N-Cheese w/Veg
♦ Manhattan Clam Chowder

Saturday, April 18th

♦ Prime Rib w/Potato & Veg 3-7 PM
♦ Clam Strips w/Potato & Veg

Sunday, April 19th

♦ Broccoli & Cheese Omelette
Breakfast Only - Closed at 12:30pm

Homemade Soups & Desserts
Hours: Mon.-Sat. 7 AM-7 PM
Sun. 7 AM-12:30 PM

**12 Hancock St.,
Fort Plain**

FREE WI-FI

**RGL Volunteer Fire Co.
Events For 2015**

**PANCAKE
BREAKFAST**

Sunday, March 22, 2015

Sunday, April 19, 2015

Sunday, October 11, 2015

Sunday, November 15, 2015

Rockwood - Garoga - Lassellsville VFD
RGL Station 2, Lassellsville, NY

**Dining,
entertainment
& celebrations**

**Colonial Little Theatre's
2nd Annual Kick'n Karaoke Kontest**

**\$1,000
in Cash
Prizes**

APRIL 24 at 7:00pm
APRIL 25 & 26 at 2:00pm

TO WATCH:
Audience Admission: \$5.00/evening
Finals Day free with 2 paid admissions

TO PARTICIPATE:
Registration Fee: \$10.00
Registration Times:
April 24 - 5:00pm-6:00pm
April 25 & 26 - 12noon-1pm

LIMITED TO FIRST 10 entrants Fri./Sat.
Final 5 from both days to compete on
4/26 for \$1,000 in cash prizes

**HOSTED & EMCEED BY:
SMALL TOWN SOUND**



PRIZES:
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\$200
TOP Three
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Favorite
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**Thousands of
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One Colonial Court
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Visit the Colonial
Little Theatre
Facebook page for
more information

CLT SEASON TICKETS
WILL BE HONORED
FOR THIS EVENT

Dining,
entertainment
& celebrations



Coffee House
Sunday, April 19th • 2-4PM
*Musical Entertainment by
John and Amy Birchler*
FREE COFFEE & TEA
DELICIOUS DESSERTS FOR SALE
*Donations Accepted at the door
with proceeds to benefit No Child Left Hungry*
WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US!
St. John's and St. Mark's
Lutheran Church, Canajoharie

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YOUR WINE & LIQUOR HEADQUARTERS
**CASE DISCOUNTS
ON WINE**
Mix & Match Sizes & Types
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17th Annual  **Come Join Us!!**

**Roast Pork
Buffet Style
Dinner**
All You Can Eat

17th Annual Roast Pork Buffet
Saturday, April 18th • 4-7PM
United Methodist Church • 11 Montgomery St., Fultonville
ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET
with Real Mashed Potatoes, Sauerkraut, Homemade Pies and more!
Adults \$10, Kids 12 & Under \$4 • 5 & Under FREE • Take Outs Available

**Opening
April
13th**



ice cream
**Granny's
shanty**



nice n easy
GROCERY SHOPPES

**CHEESE PIZZA
& 12 WINGS**
\$17.99 PLUS TAX & TOPPINGS

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WINGS, COOKIES,
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VanHornesville
Open 11am Mon-Sat
Noon on Sun

SMORGASBORD
Sat., April 18th
5-9 PM
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Adult \$12.50 • 12 & Under \$6.25
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SO WE CAN
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WANTED FARM MACHINERY, Tools, Lawn and Garden Equipment Consignments for our Huge May 2nd Auction 56 Willett Street Fort Plain NY 518-993-4668, We will be selling a full line up of Equipment, including International 986 105 HP Farm Tractor with cab in great shape, NH 521 Baler 328 Hay liner great condition, Deutz Allis Round Baler, NH 4 Star 163 Tedder, NH 495 Hay Bine, 2-Hays Rakes, Rake Carrier, 3-Hay Wagons with racks in good condition, Degelham Hydraulic Rock Picker, 1998 32' Sportsman Camper, with push out sleeps 6 with awning, 5000 Generator and more!!

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HUGE 2 DAY ESTATE AUCTION Sat May 16th and Sat May 30th 10:00am in St Johnsville NY Large collection of vintage Snowmobiles, Vintage Snowmobiles Motors, Parts, Like New Tractors, Like New Enclosed Trailers, 12 Guns, Like New Contractor Tools, Like New Tool Chests, Woodworking Tools, Wrenches, 5 Like New Fuel Tanks, Lawn Tractors, 4 Wheeler, Harley Davison Motorcycle Leggero single cylinder, Concrete Mixers, Concrete Screeter like new and much more!! Auction by JR'S Auction 518-993-44668

LIVE BAIT, TACKLE, ARCHERY, AMMUNITION, PET, SPORTS, etc. BOW SALE! Closeout on last years model. Also, CROSSBOWS ARE LEGAL!! And we have them in STOCK! Come on in and try one out, Layaway available! The Sportsman's Den, 36 Canal St, Ft Plain, 518-993-1010.

SALTWATER FISH, Freshwater Fish, Ferrets, Gerbils, Hamsters, Birds, Mice, Rats, Reptiles, and more! At D&D's Pet Supplies, located at 36 Canal St, Fort Plain, next to The Sportsman's Den. 518-993-1010 or www.facebook.com/dndspestsupplies

LET US DESIGN THAT SPECIAL JEWELRY FOR YOU. We work in 14k, 18k, Platinum, and Sterling Silver. All precious and semi-precious stones available. We also do repairs. Very reasonable rates. THE GALLERY, 2 West Main Street, Saint Johnsville, NY 13452. 518-568-5121.

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Send your comments & suggestions to the Original Valley Pennysaver PO Box 121, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428 OR email jsnyder@leepub.com



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Lee Publications
518-673-0101 or
bsnyder@leepub.com
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2013 FORD FOCUS SE, Grey, 14K, 4cyl., Auto, Balance of Factory Warranty. Sale: \$14,995. **John C. Miller Inc.** 518-762-7124, www.johncmiller.com.

2006 YAMAHA ROAD STAR Silverado limited edition. Black, lots of chrome. 1700 CC, 22,000 miles, new tires + battery. Mustang seat w/back rest, one owner, excellent condition. 518-281-7144, \$5750.

INSULATION: All Types. New/ Existing Buildings. Free Estimates. Fully Insured. Call Upstate Spray Foam Insulation 315-822-5238. www.upstatesprayfoam.com

RECORDS WANTED: We'll buy your old records from 1930- 1970. 45's, 78's, Albums, Rock-N-Roll, Blues, R&B, Country, etc. Call Pete 518-673-2384.

20x30 TENT with four sides for rent. Canajoharie Volunteer Fire Department 518-673-3812

FOR SALE: 1948 Ford 8N tractor with plow and attachments, \$3,000/OBO. Call 607-264-3680

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D&D'S PET SUPPLIES, Carrying fresh and salt-water fish, small pets, reptiles, birds, etc., and all supplies for habitats and aquariums. Located in Fort Plain next to The Sportsman's Den. 36 Canal St, 518-993-1010. www.dndspetsupplies.com

50% OFF SALE; For the month of April. Some things are excluded. C&C Toot-N-Tell on Rt 5, Nelliston. 518-993-2811

NEED PIPE? We can supply you with perf. & solid drainage pipe 4" x 100', 4" x 250' and 6" x 100'. Smoothwall pipe in 4" x 10' lengths. Fittings also available. Schedule 40 in 1 1/2", 2", 3" & 4" x 10' pipe & fittings. Culvert Pipe - 8" thru 24" x 20'. C.H. Burkdorf & Son, 35 Hough St., St. Johnsville 518-568-7016

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*Man is fond of counting his troubles,
but he does not count his joys.
If he counted them up as he ought to,
he would see that every lot has
enough happiness provided for it.*
Fyodor Dostoevsky

Ames Volunteer Fire Dept.

Wants to thank all who worked and helped to make each of our pancake breakfasts a success:

- The Boy Scouts of Troop 81
- The students of Canajoharie and Fort Plain schools who showed they really know what community service is
- The members of Rural Grove and Fort Plain Fire Departments
- Forest Preserve Users Snowmobile Club for grooming the trails to the firehouse
- And all the other folks who donated their time to help us make our pancake breakfast a successful fundraiser

THANK YOU

We couldn't have done it without you!

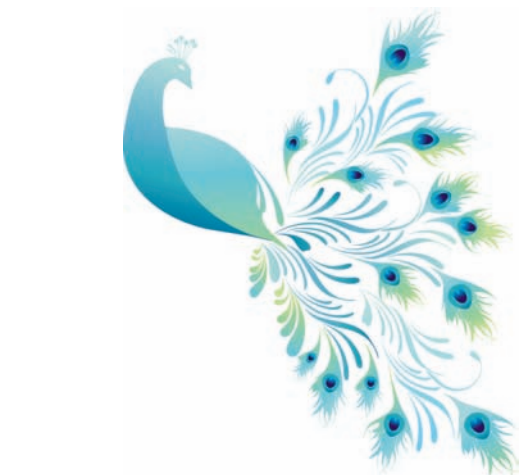
Enea Family

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presents
Sherry Anne

at **Cornerstone Baptist Church**
7274 St. Hwy. 10 • Ames, NY 13317

ADMISSION IS FREE
Free Will Offering Will Be Received
Sunday, April 19th at 2:00 pm

"THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH AND MY SONG." (PSALM 118:14)
www.sherryanne.com

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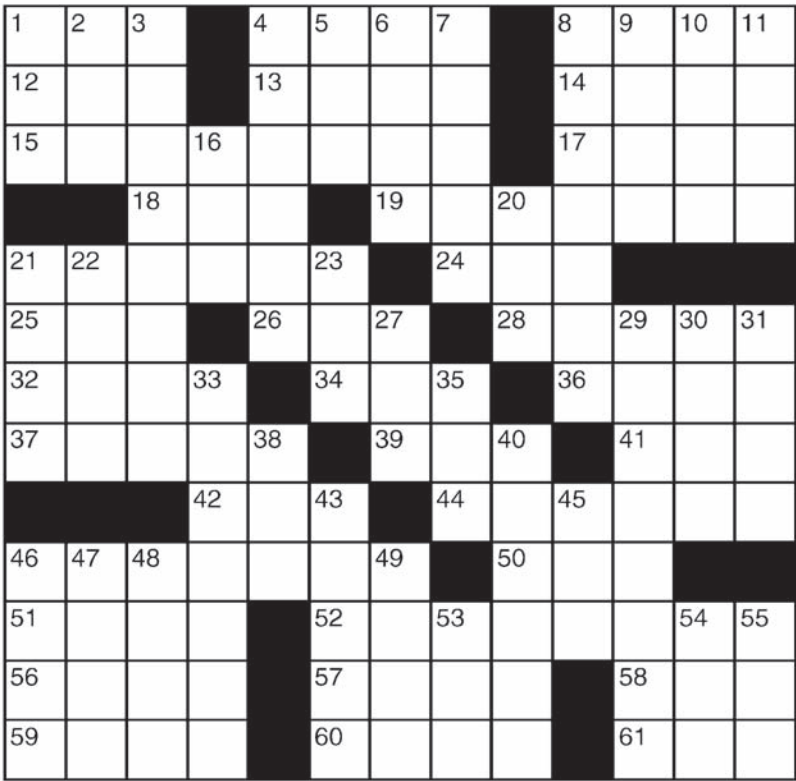
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- Chicken Cacciatore • Chicken Soup
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Serving You 7 Days A Week All Year Round
Open: 8am-6pm

King Crossword



- ACROSS
- 1 Matterhorn, for one

4 Bankrolls

8 “Unh-unh”

12 Vast expanse

13 Others (Lat.)

14 Mountain goat

15 Bald

17 Zilch

18 Zilch

19 Lurches

21 File container

24 Restroom, for short

25 Before

26 Bathroom fixture

28 Malodorous

32 Criterion

34 Space

36 Stash

37 Black tea of India

39 That man's

41 Chaps

42 Varnish ingredient

44 Cheap and shabby

46 Cutting tool

50 Under the weather

51 Wrinkly fruit

52 Lax

56 Compared to

57 Caspian
- feeder

58 Try the sherry

59 Engaged in karaoke

60 Newspaper page

61 Pigpen
- DOWN
- 1 Blond shade

2 Meadow

3 Distress-free

4 Billfold

5 Hearty brew

6 Platter

7 Cordage fiber

8 Capital of old Assyria

9 Reed instrument

10 Teller's partner

11 Old partners

16 Disencumber

20 Luftwaffe foe (Abbr.)

21 Greek salad ingredient

22 Raw minerals

23 Carpet

27 “Humbug!”

29 Eternal

30 Mid-month date

31 Say it
- isn't so

33 Spilling the beans

35 Snapshot

38 More, to Manuel

40 Protect

43 Chocolate source

45 Right angle

46 Shacks

47 Turkish title

48 Family

49 Distort

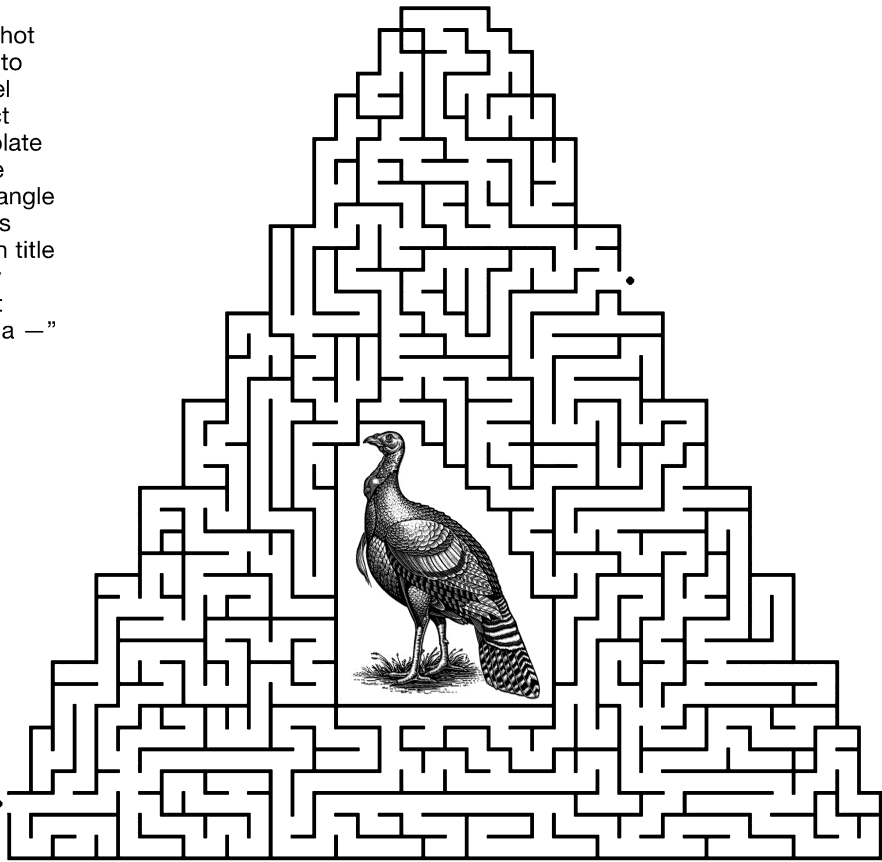
53 “Norma —”

54 Perch

55 Agent

Mega Maze

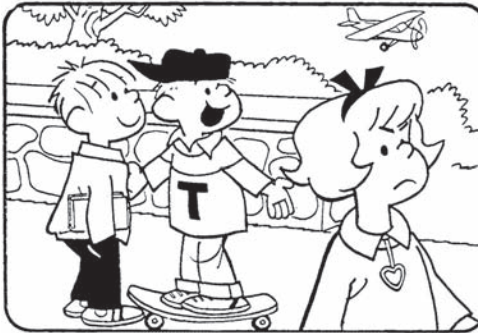
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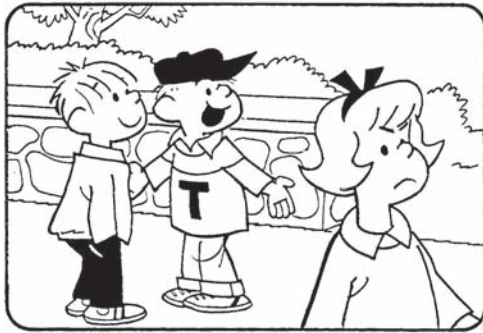
“Peace begins with a smile.”
— Mother Teresa

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Book is missing. 2. Cap is reversed. 3. Skateboard is missing. 4. Airplane is missing. 5. Hair is shorter. 6. Pendant is missing.

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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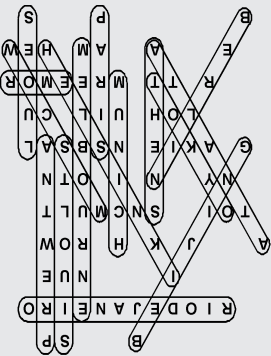
MAGIC MAZE ● SUMMER OLYMPICS HOST CITIES

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

Antwerp	Berlin	Munich	Seoul
Athens	Helsinki	Paris	St. Louis
Atlanta	Melbourne	Rio de Janeiro	Tokyo
Beijing	Moscow	Rome	

ANSWERS



SUMMER OLYMPICS HOST CITIES



Mega Maze

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Ayres Animal Shelter

133 Hilltop Rd., Sprakers • 518-673-5670

Hours: Tues-Sat 12-5 • Open Wed. Nites till 7PM • www.ayresanimalshelter.com

 <p>SHAY - 2 year old female Pit Bull/Lab mix. Knows "sit" and "shake". Hyper-active. Needs obedience training. Came to the shelter March 13 because her owner was moving.</p>	 <p>MONTANA - 3 year old male Pit Bull mix, 46 lbs. Found on Old Fort Plain Road, Canajoharie in October 2012. Not good with cats. Fine with older kids.</p>	 <p>WINSLOW - Black and white male Pit Bull mix, 8 to 10 years old. Found running on Hilltop Road on August 27, 2014. Good with some dogs and fine with kids. Very well behaved.</p>	 <p>THUNDER - 6 year old male Pit Bull mix, 52 lbs. Found in Canajoharie in August 2012. Knows "sit" and loves chest or belly rubs! Not good with dogs, cats or kids. Housebroken.</p>	 <p>SIRI - 2 - 3 year old female Husky mix. Found on Stone Arabia Road, Mohawk. Good with some dogs and fine with kids. Crate trained. Loves belly rubs and Kong toys!</p>	 <p>HOUSTON - Adorable 6 - 8 year old male Beagle. Found on W. Lykers Road, Town of Root on March 29, 2015. Knows "sit" and "shake" and loves belly rubs!</p>
 <p>BLISSE - Magnificent black and white female Husky. Found on Route 5s and Sanders Road, Town of Minden on March 24, 2015.</p>	 <p>CASSIDY - 11 month old male Beagle/Dachshund mix. Came to the shelter March 26th because his owner was moving. Super friendly and lovable. Good with cats and fine with kids.</p>	 <p>DOZER - 1 - 2 year old male brown and white Pit Bull. Found on Cty. Hwy. 107, Johnstown near Harry's Auto on February 28th. Sweet and sociable, a real charmer! Fine with some dogs, not good with cats.</p>	 <p>CRUZ - Handsome super friendly 2 - 3 year old white male Pit Bull, 55 lbs. Found on Garfield St., Fonda in November 2012. Fine with kids. Not good with cats.</p>	 <p>BAXTER - 2 - 3 year old brindle and white male Pit Bull/Beagle mix. Found on Route 10 between Hickory Hill and Stone Arabia Roads, Palatine on March 1st. Sweet-natured and affectionate. Fine with dogs and kids.</p>	 <p>DUKE - 9 year old male Beagle. Knows the "sit" command. Has lived with a cat.</p>
 <p>ZEUS - 4 - 6 year old gray (blue) male with a wonderful expressive face! He was found on Hilltop Road, Sprakers in December 2014. Not good with dogs.</p>	 <p>WAYNE - 5 year old black and white male. Friendly and inquisitive. Like to give little "love bites". Came to the shelter March 15th.</p>	 <p>PARIS - 3 year old black female. Came to the shelter on March 10th with Frenchie. Very shy.</p>	 <p>FRENCHIE - Lovely 3 year old female. Came to the shelter on March 10th with Paris. Very playful and responsive.</p>	 <p>RASCAL - 2 year old tiger and white male. Found in a barn in Charleston in August 2012. Very playful and fun to watch. Fine with other cats.</p>	 <p>ROWDY - 2 year old male tiger (with white) Found in a barn in Charleston in August 2012. Very playful and fun to watch. Fine with other cats.</p>



Brooks Chicken & Ribs BBQ Drive Thru

fundraiser for the Ayres Memorial Animal Shelter

Thursday, April 16th • 2:30pm till sold out

hosted by & served at Church of Good Shepherd
26 Moyer St., Canajoharie

1/2 Chicken only: \$6 / Dinners: \$8.50

Ribs only: \$8.50 / Dinners: \$10

Dinner includes meat, macaroni salad, applesauce, roll and cookie

NEEDED:

CAT

LITTER

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On April 30, 1888, Joseph P. Lee, an Irish immigrant, farmer and blacksmith from Wyalusing, PA applied for a United States Patent for his version of Hoof Shears. He writes in his application "I have invented certain new and useful improvements in Hoof-Shears," explaining that his device is "a simple and highly efficient device

for cutting or trimming a horses hoof prior to placing a shoe thereon." The invention has two arms, one carries a sharp knife and the other arm has a block for the knife to strike against. Mr. Lee's invention expedited the shearing and shoeing process, allowing a horse's hoof to be trimmed without the use of the old-fashioned

nippers and buttress. "It will be seen that my invention is extremely simple, cheap and durable and that the same embodies advantages in points of simplicity, durability, general efficiency and inexpensiveness," Mr. Lee wrote in conclusion. His application was approved and the invention was awarded US Patent No. 401.892 a year later.

His new Hoof Shears were commonly used throughout America and Canada.

Do you have your own Whatchamacallit?
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A compromise is an agreement whereby both parties get what neither of them wanted. ~Aulhorn Unknown

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If you're looking for a nice country home w/48 acres close to town, this is one to look at! Features 4 BRs, 2 full baths, LR w/2 sliding doors to deck/backyard, kitchen w/woodstove, sunroom, formal DR, 1st floor laundry. Top it off w/2 car attached garage & outbuildings. Would make nice small farm.

472 Brockway Rd, Frankfort



Great country location for this 4 BR, 1.5 bath home. Eat in kitchen, formal DR, large LR, laundry/utility room. 2 car attached garage with utility room along with pole barn. Nice large yard and new well. Don't miss out, call for your appointment.

1 Colonial Plaza, Ilion



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Commercial building with NYC style. This 2 story brick building has 2 store fronts, one 2 BR apartment, and 1 unit used for storage. The brick has been exposed inside to give the spaces a city feel.

179 Church St, Little Falls



Nice 2 family home. Live in one and rent the other or use for an investment. These apartments are 2 BRs, each with LR, DR, & kitchen. Tenants pay electric and heat. One 1/2 car detached garage. Parking and yard in the

City of Little Falls, Come take a look!

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How to purchase your first home in 2015

(NAPSI) — The American dream of homeownership may not be as hard to attain as many people seem to fear. A few intriguing facts and hints can help.

The Facts

While existing home

sales have risen recently, the National Association of Realtors' annual Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers found that the share of first-time buyers recently fell to its lowest level (33 percent) in nearly three decades.

Many first-time buyers experience obstacles on the path to homeownership, including difficulty saving for a down payment and tight credit conditions.

How B3



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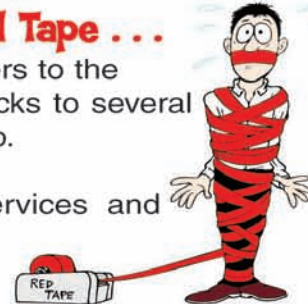
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How from B2**The Hints**

Consider these tips:

• **Find and work with an expert Realtor who knows the neighborhood.** Nothing can replace the local knowledge and real insight that professional Realtors can provide to first-time buyers as they navigate the complex home buying process.

According to the Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers, while most home buyers in the past year began their home search online, 90 percent ended up purchasing their home through an agent. Realtors are not only the source of online real estate data, they also use their unparalleled local market knowledge and resources to help close the deal for buyers and sellers.

• **Meet with a lender to determine how much you can afford.** Last year, the median price a first-time buyer spent on a home was \$169,000. Chances are, you don't have that

amount of cash lying around. That's why 95 percent of first-time buyers who bought a home in the past year financed their purchase.

Find out what you can afford with a preapproval from a lender. A lender will check your credit history, current debt obligations and other expenses to determine the amount of money you're qualified to borrow at a specific interest rate. Don't forget to consider the other costs of homeownership, such as taxes, insurance and utilities.

• **Identify your housing wish list.** Although

46 percent of first-time buyers got a single-family home in the suburbs, you may prefer a condo in an urban environment near public transportation.

Regardless of your preferences, identifying and sharing your wish list can help your Realtor focus on the right home for you, scan listings and connect with those who represent sellers to zero in on homes for sale that meet your budget and criteria.

Keep this advice in mind and you may soon find yourself waking up in the home of your dreams.

11.9 acres, very private, F-F Schools, 4 BR raised ranch, state forest near. **\$159,000**

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(109) **3 BR Fort Plain** home has had many updates and is in very good condition. Gas fireplace in LR. Beautiful cherry kitchen. 1/2 bath downstairs and full bath upstairs with jacuzzi tub. All updated windows. This is a "turn key" home!! **ONLY \$109,000**



(120) **St. Johnsville 2+ BR** home has new Barrier windows. New siding. New hickory kitchen. Rewired and new electric service. New sliding door out to new deck. Paved driveway. This is just a cute little house in great shape. **NEW PRICE \$65,000**



(123) **3BR Palatine** home is situated at the edge of the village overlooking the river. Kitchen, LR, BR, office, full bath and laundry on the first floor. 2nd floor has 2 BRs and half bath. The metal roof was put on approximately 5 years ago. **ONLY \$39,000**



(134) **OPEN HOUSE APRIL 26 • 2-4 PM @ 91 West Grand St., Palatine Bridge**
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When purchasing a new car, many buyers decide to finance rather than buying the car outright. Financing allows drivers the opportunity to drive a new car after making an initial down payment and then making monthly payments until the loan has been paid in full.

finance, many drivers may not be able to afford a brand new car or even a preowned car with relatively few miles that's more reliable than an older used car with a considerable amount of miles. But before prospective buyers visit the financing departments of any dealerships, it's best to first

- Address your credit score. Your credit score will go a long way toward determining both your eligibility to finance a car as well as the interest rate on the loan should you be approved. Get a copy of your credit report from a credit reporting

agency and scour it to determine if there are any discrepancies or blemishes that need to be addressed. If your credit score is low, try to delay buying a new car until you can take steps to improve your score. Such steps may include paying down existing debt, establishing a history of paying on time

- Determine how much you can afford. It might be your dream to tool around town in an imported sports car, but if you need to finance your next car, chances are the high-end imports or luxury automobiles are more than you can afford. The greater the down payment you make, the less your monthly payment will be. So if you have a substantial amount of money in your savings, you may want to put more down at signing so your budget is more flexible month-to-month. Calculate the cost of all of your monthly expenses to determine how much you can afford to pay for a car each month. And don't forget that insurance costs on a brand new vehicle will be more than the costs of insuring a preowned car or truck.

Walking into a dealership preapproved for a loan can make the process less of a hassle, and it also might compel a dealer to make a more attractive offer than the lender who preapproved you.

- Don't pressure yourself. Many buyers are their own worst enemies when it comes to buying a new car. If you were preapproved for an auto loan, you might feel like you need to go out and buy a new car immediately. While a preapproval may mandate that you buy a car within a certain amount of days before you have to reapply, that still gives you a considerable amount of time to find a car. If you pressure yourself to buy a new car, you may end up driving the wrong vehicle or paying too much. Be patient when shopping for the best deal, and you're more likely to find it.

Financing is a great way to get behind the wheel of your next vehicle. Some careful planning before visiting the dealership can make a financing deal even better.



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Candice Smith - April 17th

Simple ways to save at the pump

The cost of fuel has dipped, but drivers are still looking for ways to spend less at the pump. For many drivers, that means driving less. Driving less will save money, and doing so also re-

duced fuel consumption and contributes to fewer emissions entering the air, both of which can benefit the environment. But many drivers are unable to drive less, as commitments to work and family require them to get behind the wheel more often than they might prefer. Such drivers may be looking for ways to reduce their fuel costs, and fortunately there are several ways to do just that.



The cost of fuel can make trips to the filling station into costly excursions. But drivers willing to reconsider conventional wisdom and change their driving habits can save substantial amounts of money over time.

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• **Reconsider your choice of fuel.** Many of today's auto manufacturers now design their vehicles so they can run smoothly on regular unleaded gas, which is typically listed as "87 octane" at filling stations. That's important to know, as regular gas is often considerably less expensive than alternatives that are higher octanes. Many drivers may even choose regular un-

run smoothly and efficiently on low-octane fuel, meaning it's unnecessary to choose premium gas, even if you only do so once in a blue moon. Read your vehicle's owner's manual to determine the best fuel for your car.

• **Buy when the time is right.** Prices at filling stations fluctuate on a daily basis, so unless your car is running on empty, avoid filling up when the prices seem especially high. Some patience may pay off with several dollars in savings, and those savings can add up to a significant amount of money over time.

• **Become a less aggressive driver.** Drivers with hectic schedules tend to be more aggressive when behind the wheel. But driving aggressively is unsafe and potentially costly. When driven at speeds that exceed 55 miles per hour, vehicles lose fuel economy. According to the California Energy Commission's Consumer Energy Center, driving 55 miles per hour instead of 75 miles per hour can reduce fuel costs by as much as 75 percent.

• **Remove unnecessary weight.** A car trunk might seem like a great

place to keep your golf clubs, and it may be tempting to leave that roof rack on top of your car after a recent camping trip, but such unnecessary cargo in or on

your car makes it harder for the car to get from point A to point B. That forces the car to consume more fuel. Unless your immediate plans include hitting the links or

hunkering down at a nearby campsite, remove unnecessary weight from the car so your next trip to the gas station is less expensive.

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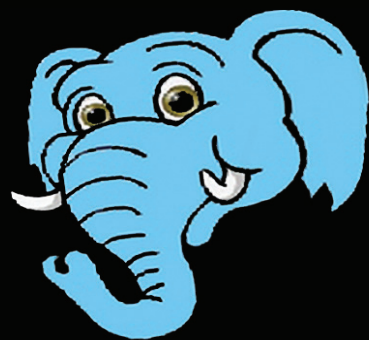
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