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August 5, 2017 • 3

Citizen

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PLAIN FORT GARAGE SALE: Saturday + Sunday, August 5 - 6. 751 Kahn Road (Stone Arabia), 8am - 4pm. King size brown metal bed. Pine (white) childrens bedrooms set, includes full size bed, twin size trundle bed, dresser, cabinet w/shelves. Collectable Hess trucks, Longaberger baskets, China service for 12 includes many accessories + wine glasses. Stoneware service for 8. Christmas decorations, comforters, clothes + a free stuff box.

GARAGE SALE: 1700 State Highway 163, Canajoharie. Fri.-Sat., August 4th & 5th, 9am-5pm

SALE: GARAGE Prospect Hill, 33 Clark Ave, Fort Plain. Thursday 8/10, Friday 8/11 and Saturday 8/12. Thursday 8:00-5:00, Saturday 8:00-12:00. Juniors, Misses, Womens clothes, Household items, Microwave, computer desk, Enter-Center, tainment Shoes, Much More.

GARAGE SALE: 2 Family Sale. Fri. & Sat., Aug. 11th-12th, 8am-4pm, 269 Main Street, Fort Plain. Antique tools, antique furniture, canning jars, press, double drill stroller, household items and much more.

PORCH SALE: 1700 Latimer Hill Rd., Canajoharie. Every Fri., Sat. & Sun. 10am- Till. 25% Off new watches. New & vintage jewelry Sun. only.

13 FAMILY LAWN & GARAGE SALE: 198 Argersinger Rd., Randall,NY. Fri, Sat, Sun Aug. 4th, 5th, 6th, 9am- 5pm. Large variety of everything.

OPPENHEIM HIS-TORICAL SOCIETY Town Wide Garage Sale, Saturday August 5th, 9am-3pm. Maps & food at town barn, Rt. 29 between Dolgeville & Johnstown

GARAGE SALE : 8am - 4pm, 8/3, 8/5. Variety of items. Some toys, small pool, household items, knickknacks. 1519 Baum Rd., St. Johnsville, NY.

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Fort Plain Free Library to host free kids' flower workshop Aug. 17

FORT PLAIN, NY — This joke is just for kids: What did the bee say to the flower?

The answer, "Hello, Honey," hints at the topic of a free educational program for children at the Fort Plain Free Library on Thursday, Aug. 17. Beginning at 11 a.m. that day, Canajoharie-Fort Plain Garden Club member Sharon Getman will provide answers to the question: What is the purpose of a flower?

In addition to a brief presentation at the library, the garden club officer, library staff, and the kindergarten through sixth-grade participants will venture into nearby Haslett Park to examine flowers with magnifying glasses during the hourlong program.

Because construction to improve the facility has interrupted the library's regular summer reading program, Director Whitney Hubbard said the event is a way to maintain a connection with their young readers. In the past, the garden club has partnered with the library to teach kids about

pollination, wildflower identification, the growth and care of plants, flower pressing, and other topics.

The workshop is offered at no charge, however advance registration is requested as seating is limited.

To register or for more information, call or visit the 19 Willett St. library by calling 518-993-4646. Follow the Fort Plain Free Library on Facebook.

Country Preacher

by Pastor Dan West

Have you ever wondered whether God wants believers to be sullen and serious, or happy and full of joy? In most any group of believers you will find both, and certainly there is a time for both, but which should we be predominately?

In John 15 Jesus is teaching about our relationship with Him. We are to live (abide) in Him and get our strength from Him as a branch does from a vine. He teaches about obeying His regulations, and our love relationship with Him (verse 10).

Then He says that He has told these things so that His joy would be in us, and our joy would be full! He wants our joy to be full! (verse 11)

Then in I John 1:4 the Apostle John shares his experience with the reality of the Savior so that "your joy may be full."

Do you want to be full of joy? You can be. Read and obey the teachings of Jesus recorded by the Apostle John.

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Original Valley

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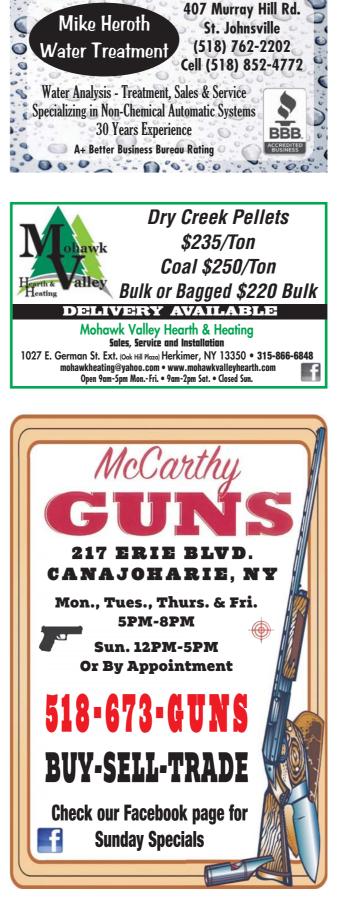
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Miss Fonda Fair Pageant Application Deadline: Wednesday, August 16th *ENTER EARLY to be awarded First Application Received*

Interview and Rehearsal Day - Saturday, August 19 Contestants check in at Kane Entertainment Bulding Miss - 9:00AM - Junior Miss - 10:00AM - Princess - 12:30PM - Junior Princess - 2:00PM On Stage Rehearsal - Miss Pageant 10:30 - Princess Pageant 3:00 stants will practice on stage walking patterns and become acquainted with the microph

Pageant Day Saturday, August 26 Kane Entertainment Building Contestants check in 30 minutes prior to pageant Miss Fonda Fair Pageant 3:00 - Princess Fonda Fair Pageant 5:00 Crowning of all divisions at 7:00 at Community Celebration Party

Nominate Your Mom for the Mother of the Year Award essay exp

For Info & Application go to: www.fondafair.com

Join Us for the Baby Contests at the Kane Entertainment Building 11AM: Thursday, 8/31-Birth - 1 Year • Friday, 9/1 - 1 & 2 years Saturday, 9/2 - 3 & 4 years

rime

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Rabies vaccination clinic

Saturday, Aug. 12 Rural Grove Fire Department, 1192 Rt. 162, Rural Grove 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.

Veterinarian administration fee is \$10 per rabies vaccination. Only rabies vaccines were offered at the Aug. 1 clinic in Palatine Bridge but other vaccinations are available at the Rural Grove clinic.

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.

For more information about rabies contact Montgomery County Public Health at 518-853-3531 Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or your veterinarian.





Whatchamacallits

I hope you'll permit me one more musket ball related Whatchamacallit.

These little guys were found in a farmer's field in Stone Arabia, NY; however, there is something peculiar about them.

The pockmarks visible on them are actually teeth marks. There have been many discoveries like these examples in areas where Revolutionary War or Colo-

nial battles occurred. There are opposing theories regarding who or what made the teeth marks.

At one time the prevailing thought was that the musket balls were either used to generate saliva during hot and humid marches (while rolling them around in one's mouth) or they were used during surgery for the wounded men to bite down on because of the lack of anesthesia — where it was thought the phrase "bite the bullet" originated. This conundrum has generated heated discussion online over recent years on many forums.

Recently another theory has surfaced — that the chewed musket balls were actually marked by wild pigs as they were rooting around in the fields after the battles were over.

Supporting this new explanation was a discovery in the early twenty-teens in St. Leonard, MD (jefpat.org – Feb. 2013). Apparently a pig tooth, split in half, was found at one of the archaeological sites encompassed by the Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum. Embedded deeply into the crown was a foreign object, which based on x-rays is thought to be lead (it is a white metal).

I was told that it has been proven that our examples do in fact have human teeth marks on them, not those of animals, as they were found on the site of a fortification used during Colonial times.

So the debate continues.

One forum member said the phrase "bite the bullet" more likely originated from the act of biting off the end of the paper cartridges (containing projectile and powder) that were used to load the muskets.

Do you have your own Whatchamacallit?

Send a photo and short description to csuo@leepub.com or call Colleen at 518-673-0145

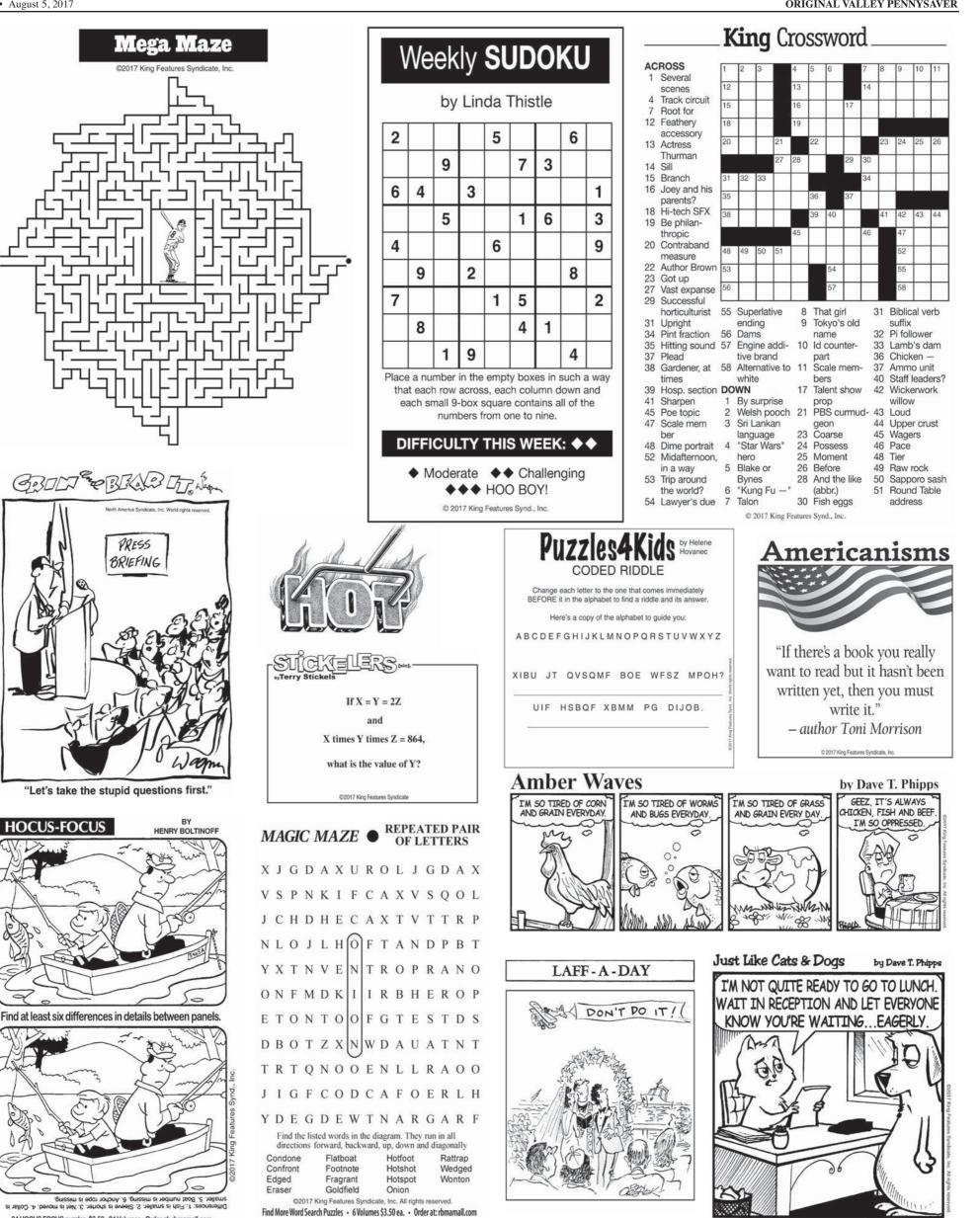
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Saturday August 5th

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ENTER TO WIN CONTESTS

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For Sale By Owner



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Studio North visits Arkell

Studio North which is located in Sharon Springs, led by instructor Betty Gavin-Singer, had their summer camp last week and treated us to a wonderful performance on Friday, July 14. Between a special dance to the movie "Hairspray" along with some acrobatics and dance interpretation, the dancers, ranging from three years experience to 10 years gave a wonderful performance.



Special dance to the movie "Hairspray.



Students performing acrobatics.



Dance interpretation.

Photos courtesy of Joan Cimino

Master the wedding save-the-date

Many couples' weddings take more than a year to plan. Couples want all of the special people in their lives to witness their vows, and giving guests advance notice can ensure as many loved ones as possible attend the ceremony.

To be certain that guests have ample notice to clear their schedules, many couples now turn to save-the-date cards, which announce weddings well in advance of the actual wedding day.

Save-the-date cards once were reserved only for weddings that required travel or special circumstances, such as destination weddings. But such cards have now become commonplace for all weddings. That's because many people plan vacations or business trips anywhere from four to six months in advance. Busy people require plenty of notice to include this important date on their calendars, particularly when wedding dates fall during popular travel seasons or around the holidays.

Kleinfeld Bridal, a premiere New York bridal boutique, says that savethe-date cards are typically mailed six to eight months prior to the wedding, though some are sent as early as a year before the big day. Once a date and a location is secured. save-the-dates can be ordered and mailed.

Save-the-date cards require couples to assemble their guest lists well in advance of the wedding. The bridal resource The Knot notes that everyone who will get a wedding invitation should also receive a save-the-date card. There's no turning back once cards are sent, so couples will need to be certain everyone they want to attend is getting advanced notice.

It's acceptable to mail save-the-date cards even if some wedding day details are still up in the air. Guests really only need to know the date and location of the wedding. Couples also can use the save-the-date card to direct invitees to a wedding website where guests can learn the details of the wedding as they unfold.

RSVP information does

not need to be included on the save-the-date card.

Save-the-date cards are much less formal than invitations, so couples can have fun with them. They can showcase couples' clever personalities or funny quirks. Keep in mind it is in poor taste to mention gifts or registries

on save-the-date cards. There will be plenty of time to direct guests to registries later on.

Couples are increasingly turning to save-thedate cards when planning their weddings to make sure busy friends and family will have enough time to make plans to attend their weddings.



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Treating lawns during drought or dry periods

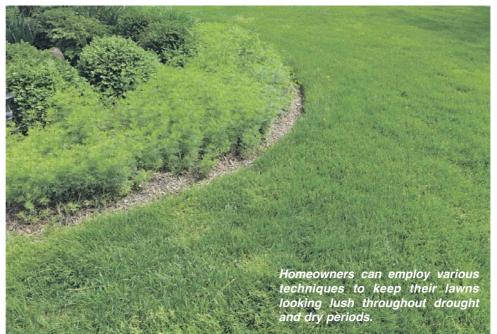
"Drought" can be a four-letter word to many lawncare enthusiasts. Homeowners who put in the hours and hard work to create beautiful, lush lawns can see the fruits of all their labor gradualdisappear when lv drought sets in. That can be both frustrating to homeowners and detrimental to long-term lawn health.

Treating lawns during drought or dry periods can be tricky, as some homeowners may be forced to adhere to water restrictions established by their local governments. Still, there are some ways to obey the law and still help lawns

withstand drought and dry periods.

• Postpone fertilizer applications. Fertilizers are designed to help grass grow, but growing grass needs water it won't have access to when water restrictions have been put in place. If a lawn needs to be fertilized during drought or dry periods, homeowners should consult with lawncare professionals, who may have experience applying fertilizer during drought. Professionals also may have access to more fertilizing products than homeowners will find at nearby lawn and garden centers. • Pull weeds by hand instead of applying herbicides. Herbicides are substances used to destroy unwanted vegetation, such as weeds. When applied during droughts or dry periods, such products can make it harder for grass to overcome weeds. Instead of applying herbicides during drought or dry periods, pull weeds by hand. Doing so can address a weed problem without harming the grass.

• Water early. Water restrictions might not completely deny homeowners the right to water their lawns. Rather, such regulations restrict how much water homeowners can use to treat their lawns during drought or dry pe-



riods. Watering early, ideally between the hours of 4 a.m. and 8 a.m., ensures as little water as possible will be lost to evaporation and as much as possible will find its way onto the grass and into the soil. During periods of drought, temperatures tend to be at their highest in mid- to late-afternoon, so change automatic sprinkler timers if they are set to water during these hours.

• Adjust lawnmower blade height. Grass grows more slowly during drought or dry periods. As a result, homeowners won't need to mow as often during such times as they would when conditions are more favorable. But lawns may still need to be mowed during drought. When mowing, leave grass on the longer side. Mowing stresses grass, which is already under considerable stress during drought. By setting mower blades to cut no more than one-third of the leaf blade at a time. homeowners can encourage roots to grow deeper. Deep roots help the grass combat the effects of drought.

Drought and dry periods need not ruin homeowners' lush lawns. But lawn care enthusiasts will have to alter their lawn care routines when conditions are dry.

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HAVING A PARTY? Did you know the Canajoharie Volunteer Fire Department rents the kitchen and banquet room. For your convenience we now have an elevator. 518-673-3812 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 appropriate 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 stonewalls;

• 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; and

• Do a final, full body

tick check at the end of the day (also check children and pets), and remove ticks promptly.

Lyme Disease advisory

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, visit www.cdc.gov/Lyme .





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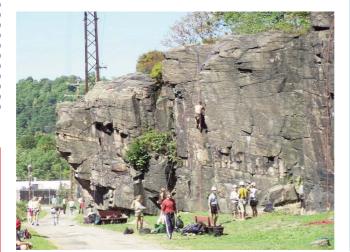
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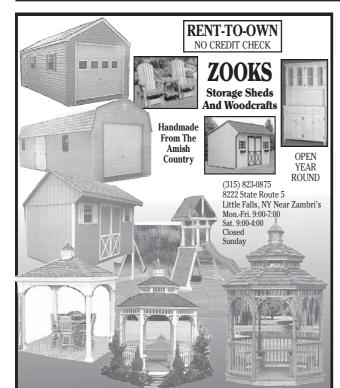


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History comes to life aboard the Lois McCure schooner's 2017 Legacy Tour

by Elizabeth A. Tomlin

July 2017 commemorated 200 years since the groundbreaking of the Erie Canal in Rome, NY.

Celebrating the anniversary, the Lois McClure schooner embarked on the 2017 Legacy Tour and is stopping along the canal system at more than 35 communities, allowing folks the opportunity to venture aboard to tour the historic vessel and learn facts about the schooner, the canal system and the effect deforestation has had on communities.

Aboard the Lois McClure, crew nurture white oak and white pine seedlings provided by NYS DEC's Trees for Tributaries Program, which are distributed to visitors for planting in

communities along the canal.

Crew member Len Ruth explained, "We're bringing these to each community to help bring back forests."

Crew members explain to visitors how deforestation caused "eroded soil, silted waterways, loss of habitat for fish and wildlife and the arrival of invasive species."

Christine and Lee Ferris of Montgomery County were among the hundreds touring the vessel.

"We both love the area's history," Ferris said. "[The crew] explained the plants on board were oak and pine, which were originally used to build the hull and mast."

Northern Forest trees were used to build thousands of wooden boats that traveled the canal system.

Ferris and her husband were impressed with the friendliness of the staff and the construction of the Lois McClure.

"They copied the steering mechanism from a wreck on the bottom of Lake Champlain," Ferris said. Ferris said she and her husband were impressed that the schooner was built to the exact measurements of the schooner recovered from the bottom of lake.

Crew members explained that the Lois Mc-Clure is an 1862 sailing freighter replica that traveled Lake Champlain, dropped her masts, then raised her centerboard to become a canal barge, able to be towed through the Champlain Canal and sail down the Hudson River to New York City.

"They were originally the 'trucks' of the handdug Erie canal," remarked Ferris. The schooner is owned and operated by the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum.

"What a beauty," remarked Laura Haggard. "I would rethink the pot-bellied wood burning stove, though."

Haggard said that anyone who is looking for a "fun way to spend a week on the water," the Lois McClure looks for volunteers every year. "And if you are looking to stay on the water for a longer period, they are in the market for a cook at the moment."

The 2017 Legacy Tour continues along the canal through Oct. 15. To access the schedule or for more information, visit www.lcmm.org.



2017 Legacy Tour of the Lois McClure is scheduled to reach more than 30 ports along the canal between July 1 and Oct. 15.

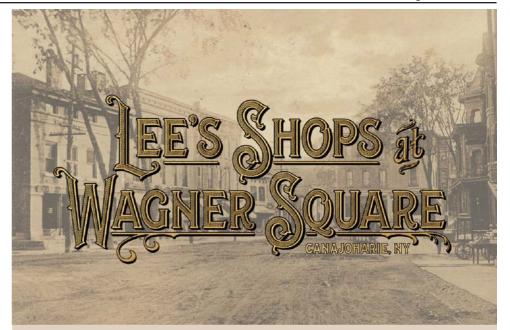
Photos by Elizabeth A. Tomlin



Captain Erick Tichonuk and crew member Len Ruth show the steering wheel, replicated to represent the original schooner.



Sue and John Ford try out the ice tongs in the cargo hold of the schooner.



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<u>ome in period costume</u>.

"One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well." – Virginia Woolf

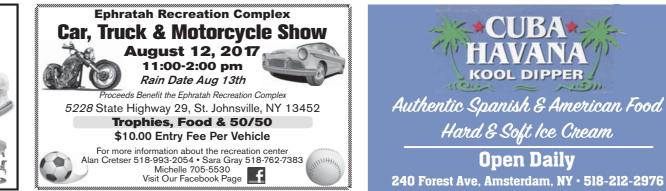


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 Breakfast only - Closed at 12:30 PM Monday, August 7th ALL YOU CAN EAT SPAGHETTL 3-7 PM Ham Steak w/Potato & Veg Cheese Burger Cold Plate Tuesday, August 8th Lasagna w/Small Toss Salad
 Turkey Club w/FF Wednesday, August 9th ♦ ALL YOU CAN EAT SPAGHETTI 3-7 PM ◆ Seafood Salad Wrap w/FF Spaghetti w/Meatballs,
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Local dining spots foster community

Dining out is a great way to celebrate life's milestones or simply reconnect with friends and loved ones. Research firm NPD Group found that, by the end of 2015, restaurant visits by consumers increased by 700 million compared to just five years prior.

While chain restaurants invest heavily in advertising, independently owned restaurants do not have those same resources. Multi-unit chains also have more pull with suppliers and might be able to negotiate better deals, or can spread operational costs across various locations. Too often diners are not aware of the vast array of tasty, well-priced and artisanal foods awaiting them just down the street. But dining out at local eateries can be beneficial in various ways.

• High-quality food: Many local establishments have complete control over their suppliers and menus. As a result, they can be picky with regard to the vendors they use and the produce, meats, dairy, and other ingredients that they select. Many small, independently owned restaurants team up with local organic farmers and distributors to supply a farm-to-table experience that many diners now enjoy.

• Freedom of experimentation: Although chain restaurants may have to meet approval from administrative boards and marketing departments before they can introduce new fare, independently owned restaurants can let their diners decide which foods remain on the menu and even adapt to community trends. Local restaurants may take pride in serving cultural or regional foods.

• Ability to customize: Independently owned restaurants may be more amenable to adapting recipes or making substitutions to meet diners' requests. Skilled local chefs can think on the fly and modify recipes, which may not always be possible in chain establishments.

Crowd control: Local restaurants tend to be smaller and more intimate than many chain restaurants. This can translate into a calm dining experience. When crowds are small, the noise level inside the restaurant may be muted and service may be fast because there aren't as many tables to serve.
Furthermore, local establishments, although concerned about making a profit, may be less worried about table turnover rate, preferring to let diners linger if it means repeat business.
Familiar faces: Some diners enjoy being a "regular" at their

favorite local restaurants. Local dining spots also become gathering locations for residents in the know, instead of passing-through tourists or commuters.

Much can be said about the advantages of patronizing local eateries. Men and women who want unique dining experiences can give local, independently owned establishments a try.

Thurs., Aug. 3rd - Food Auction ~ 6:33pm Sat., Aug 5th Consignment Auction ~ 6:33pm Sat., Aug 12th Consigment Auction ~ 6:33pm Sun., Aug 13th Breeder Sale ~ 11:33AM Burrows Rd., West Winfield, NY • (315) 822-5221 WE ACCEPT CASH - CREDIT CARDS - DEBIT CARDS

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Friday, Aug. 14th - Norman wonday sale as wonthing hence Sale Friday, Aug. 18th - 11:00 AM Sale on farm, Leonardsville, NY. Ward Farm - David & Tamar Ward. Complete Herd Dispersal 100 Head of Grade Holsteins - a few Crosses. 60 Milking age, 15 Bred heifers, balance Open and calves. Cows are ave. 83# day/ with cows milking up to 130#. SCC 100,000. Cattle go out everyday -Dry cows & heifers are in freestall. This is a tremendous group of cattle from top to bottom - well bred cows with deep open ribs & tremendous feet & legs. Working hard on a high forage diet-you will not be disappointed. GPS address: 2159 St. Hwy. 8, Leonardsville, NY.

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To your good health: Strange dreams? Check medications

by Keith Roach, M.D.

Dear Dr. Roach: I am 90 years old and take many medications. I am having many different dreams at night. Can medications cause this? — A.C.

Answer: Pretty much whenever I get the question, "Can medications cause this?" the answer is "yes." In your case, it's very clear that some medications cause unusual dreams in many people who take them. Antibiotics, antidepressants, blood pressure medications and even sleeping medications can cause remarkable dreams. Some people hate this side effect; others enjoy it. Knowing that medications could be causing them often is a source of relief.

I would caution you not to stop your medications suddenly or without talking to your doctor. You should go over your list of medicines and try to discover which are the most likely to be the source. Sometimes, a medicine can be stopped if the dreams are very bothersome.

Dear Dr. Roach: I am 73 years old, with osteoporosis and scoliosis. Can scoliosis be corrected? — W.E.W.

Answer: Osteoporosis is loss of strength of the bones, and scoliosis is a curvature of the spine. They may or may not be related. The osteoporosis should be treated, but the scoliosis usually does not need to be treated. Muscle strengthening exercises are important, and braces and injections may be used. Surgery is reserved for very severe cases, particularly in adults.

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by Dan Joling, Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA Everybody needs a shoulder to lean on now and then. A walrus calf at the Alaska SeaLife Center in Seward, Alaska, is getting one 24 hours a day. Trained staff members,

working in pairs, are touching, massaging and cuddling a calf all day and all night as part of its recuperation. The calf, estimated to be about six weeks old, was found last month without its mother several miles outside Nome.

Walrus are highly social and spend two years with their mothers, said Jennifer Gibbins, marketing and communications director for the center.

"They need constant contact," Gibbins said. "Part of the caregiving is providing that constant contact and tactile interaction.

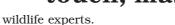
The calf was spotted in mid-June on the deck of a mining barge. The walrus was still on the barge the next morning and the barge crew summoned

Pride of American Agriculture

1114

8 THUMA (2017 2017)

CELEBRATING



The SeaLife Center is dedicated to marine research and education and features a public aquarium. It's the only facility in Alaska that holds a permit for marine mammal rescue and rehabilitation.

When the calf reached Seward on June 17, it weighed 120-pounds and was extremely lethargic."He was severely dehydrated," Gibbins said. "That was really the first concern.'

The calf initially was fed with a tube down its throat that sent food directly to the stomach. It was considered a hopeful sign when the animal began bottle feeding about a week later.

The calf now sucks down up to a liter of formula seven times a day. As the calf rehydrated and recuperated, he became more active, curious and plump. He now 143-pounds. weighs "That's a pretty dramatic change in a short time.' Gibbins said.

The cuddling is critical, Gibbins said.

"One of the unique things about walrus is that there is a very high level of maternal investment with a calf," she said. "They are with their moms for two years in the wild."

Twenty staff members have been trained to be with the little guy. He leans on them and sometimes lies on them. Sometimes he sucks their arms. Gibbins calls it nursing behavior.

infant human "An might be sucking on your fingers. That's what they're doing," she said.

Walrus have practical reasons for refined touching. They use their hundreds of short, highly sensitive whiskers to search for clams and other seafood on the ocean floor, according to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

A sea otter, ringed seal and two harbor seals also are receiving care. Most of the center's rehabbed animals return to the wild but the young wal-

CARNIVAL MIDWAY BY COLEMAN BROS SHOW

f

AUG. 30TH

thru SEPT. 4TH

Rx for orphan Walrus calf: touch, massage, cuddle, repeat

rus won't be.

"We can care for this calf. We can take care of its health. We can give it some good social interaction. But we cannot teach that animal how to be an animal in the wild," Gibbins said. "That's why they're non-releasable." No decision has been

made on placement. The SeaLife Center will determine what facility can give it the best veterinary and social care. "This walrus needs to be with other walrus," she said. The center expects to house the animal through summer and into the fall.



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ORIGINAL VALLEY PENNYSAVER



Calendar of events

Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site. Artist Joe

Bruchac attending. For more

information call the Visitor

Center at 518-829-7516, email SchoharieCrossing@

parks.ny.gov or visit our Facebook page Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site.

SEP 9 - 10

Fort Klock Craft Fair

Fort Klock. Sat. 9 am-4

pm, Sun. 9 am-3 pm. For

ORIGINAL VALLEY PENNYSAVER

NOTE: Calendar entries must arrive at the Original Valley Pennysaver office 10 Days Prior to the publication date. Send events to Lee Publications c/o The Original Valley Pennysaver, 6113 State Highway 5, P.O. Box 121, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428 or email: dshariff@leepub.com . Any entries arriving past this deadline will be included with the next available publication issue date as long as they are not outdated.

AUG Arkell Center Programs for

ALL AREA Seniors during August are as follows: Monday-Friday: 11:45 am. The OFA Meals of Montgomery Program serves hot meals, suggested \$3 donation for 60 and older. Call 673-2000 for reservations. Tuesdays: 9-10 am. A Core

Strength & Stability Class in the basement. \$5 donation. Instructor Sharon Charles. For more information call 673-4408.

Tuesdays: 10-11 am. Tai Chi Workshop. Sponsored by Mont. County OFFA. Earl O'Bryon Instructor. Tuesdays: 11:10 am-12:10

pm. Intermediate Tai Chi Workshop. Sponsored by Mont. County OFFA. Earl O'Bryon Instructor.

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

Wednesdays: 2-2:25 pm. Chair Yoga with instructor Patty Pietrowicz. Free through the summer in the Gallery.

Wednesdays: 2:30-3:30 pm. Gentle Yoga with instructor Patty Pietrowicz in the basement. Open to all Area Seniors. \$5 donation. Fridays: 9-10 am. Vinyasa

Flow Yoga with Bonnie Fiore

in the Gallery, \$10 fee. SIGN UP FOR OUR NEXT DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS AUG. 15.

Call 673-4408 for information on any programs. COMING SEP. 19: LAKE

GEORGE STEAMBOAT CRUISE.

Board Luncheon Saint Cruise at 10:30 am for 11 am sail, 2 pm return to dock. Leave Dutchtown Plaza 9 am return 5pm. \$36-Members & \$41 non-members. Reserve 673-5588 no later than Aug. 14.

MEETINGS

• No meeting in August: Canajoharie/Pal. Br. Chamber of Commerce. AUG 5

The Herkimer County Historical Society and the **1834 Herkimer County** Jail at the Historic Four **Corners Tours**

Herkimer. 10 am-3 pm. For more information call the Herkimer County Historical Society at 315-866-6413. AUG 6

Not Just for Kids Storytelling Series

Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site. Artist Elizabeth Ellis attending. For more information call the Visitor Center at 518-829-7516, email SchoharieCrossing@ parks.ny.gov or visit our Facebook page Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site. AUG 12

The Village of Ames

Museum 611 Latimer Hill Road, Ames. Open for tours 9 am-3 pm. Registering vendors and 5K runners for Sept. 16 festival. Vendor space is free. 518-673-5820. For more information visit www.amesmuseum.weebly.com

AUG 13

Heiser Family Reunion Glimmerglass State Park. Noon. Not Just for Kids Storytelling Series

Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site. Artist Peter Cook attending. For more information call the Visitor Center at 518-829-7516, email SchoharieCrossing@ parks.ny.gov or visit our Facebook page Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site. AUG 20

Not Just for Kids Storytelling Series

Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site. Artist Michael Reno Harrell attending. For more information call the Visitor Center at 518-829-7516, email SchoharieCrossing@parks. ny.gov or visit our Facebook page Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site. AUG 27

Not Just for Kids

Storytelling Series

more information contact email FortKlock@gmail.com or visit www.fortklockrestoration.org . Interested vendors call Joan Kark-Wren at 518-649-2531

SEP 10 Not Just for Kids **Storytelling Series**

Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site. Artist Becky Holder will be attend-For more information ing. call the Visitor Center at

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Putting Contest Winner 1st Place Ralph Spina

> **2nd Place** Carol Shineman

Chipping Contest We had a tie **1st Place** Linda Kolnick Ralph Spina







DEGDEWITNA

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

Weekly SUDOKU ____

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9	8	2	7	3	4	1	5	6
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-	— King Crossword —											
	Answers Solution time: 27 mins.											
5											i.	
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0





What is purple and very long? The grape wall of China.

REPEATED PAIR OF LETTERS Stickelers Answer Since X = Y: 1) Since Z = Y/2, we can rewrite Y^3 2) $Y^3 = 1728$ 3) Y = 124) So both X and Y = 12

Mega Maze

Solution

a tip

by JoAnn Derson

Gold Is At

"To loosen grime in the shower, run the shower hot for a few minutes and then use a cleaner. The heat and steam make it easier to clean. Or you can clean up the shower just before T.G. in Texas

• When moving, pack a suitcase or two with essentials for a few days: toiletries, clothing, medicines, etc. This way, the pressure is off to set everything up right away. • "To make sure you don't get any slipped stitches when you're interrupted while knitting or crocheting, just clip the work at the needle with a clothespin. It stays put, and you can pick it right back up after you are done taking a break." - C.C. in Arkansas

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check references for any

home service professional

you hire. Get estimates in

writing and make sure

the estimates list what is

included — and what is

• "My three year old

wants to help with

EVERYTHING these days,

so when I clean house, I

give her a spray bottle

with plain water and a

large, clean cloth. She's

responsible for 'cleaning'

the sliding glass door,

which she does very well

and safely. I also have her

dust shelves and fold washcloths." — R.V. in

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electricity too.

not.

Arizona

Synd., Inc.

Calendar of events • If you use cold water to clean all of your clothes, you can save about \$40 a year in elec-518-829-7516. tricity costs. Your clothes will last longer, as well.

SchoharieCrossing@parks. ny.gov or visit our Facebook page Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site. **SEP 16**

The Village of Ames **Museum Summers End** Celebration

611 Latimer Hill Road, Ames. 9 am-3 pm. 5K race, vendors, historic displays, food, games. 5K race begins at 9 am. For more information visit www.amesmuseum. weebly.com .

OCT 14 The Village of Ames Museum

611 Latimer Hill Road, Ames. Open for tours 9 am-3 pm. Enjoy a museum scavenger hunt. One for adults and one for children. For more information visit www.amesmuseum.weebly.com .

NOV 4 The Village of Ames Museum

611 Latimer Hill Road, Ames. Open for tours 9 am-3 pm. The museum will close for the season at 3 pm. For more information visit www. amesmuseum.weebly.com .

DEC 3

St. Nicholas Day

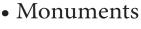
Klock. Noon-3:30 Fort pm. For more information call 518-568-7779, email FortKlock@gmail.com visit www.fortklockrestoration.org .

DEC 6 The Village of Ames

Museum

611 Latimer Hill Road. Ames. Village of Ames tree lighting celebration in front of the museum 6:30 pm. Refreshments to follow at the fire station.

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by Sam Mazzotta Dear Paw's Corner:

My apartment building doesn't allow dogs or cats, but I just found out from a neighbor (who was walking her cat outside) that the management does allow "therapy" pets or companion animals, with a doctor's letter. What kind of dog is best for a small apartment, though? Sign me - Not a Cat Person

Dear Not a Cat Person: There are a number of dog breeds you might consider for a companion pet, and I'm glad you're taking the size of your apartment into consideration. Once you have the doctor's let-

companion animal you ter and management approval, take some extra would like to make part of your family. time — plenty of it — to consider what kind of

DRIVEASEAL

A search online for small

and medium sized breeds will give you a good overview of the different traits of each breed. Basenjis, for example, don't bark - which is great if you don't want to annoy your neighbors but also are energetic and playful. Pomeranians and Chihuahuas can be big

barkers and even somewhat aggressive. Bulldogs are impressive, but can suffer from specific health problems.

Then of course, you can (and I hope you will) look at adopting a dog from your local shelter, whether purebred or a mutt.

Dogs take quite a bit

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more attention and training than cats, of course. While they can make great companion pets, they will need daily walking and behavior training. Because they'll likely spend more time indoors than outdoors, you'll need to monitor their diet and make sure they get enough exercise.

August 5, 2017 • 25

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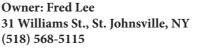
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ORIGINAL VALLEY PENNYSAVER

Drums Along the Mohawk's wedding of Gil and Lana celebrates third year of re-enactment

by Elizabeth A. Tomlin

Palatine Church and the 1747 Nellis Tavern opened their doors on July 22, to host the wedding and reception of "Gil and Lana Borst Martin," portrayed by re-enactors Ness Stark and Dave De-Fazio.

"The Drums Along the Mohawk, Wedding of Gil and Lana, is in its third year," commented Norman Bollen, President of Mohawk Country, Inc.

"Our mission has been not only to protect and preserve our historic sites, but to promote them nationally in order to attract tourist dollars to our area," said Bollen. "The event is supported by colonial re-enactors from the Living History Alliance and members of the Fort Plain Museum, Fort Klock Historic Restoration, Nellis Tavern and the historic Palatine Church.'

Bollen explained that Mohawk Valley's colonial



Steve Mihal and John Case waited patiently with carriage horse, Scotty, to transport the wedding party.

Photo by Elizabeth A. Tomlin th

All things automotive

history is nationally recognized for its contribution to the founding of the U.S.

"As such, heritage tourists want to come here and learn more about it. It is important to get this message out to our local supporters and encourage everyone to get behind this effort."

The wedding ceremony is taken from Walter Edmonds' 1936 classic, fictitious American Revolutionary War novel, 'Drums Along the Mohawk.'

The novel, a drama, depicts the Palatine Church area, known as Fox's Mills in the 18th century, as the fictional home of Lana Borst's family.

Ness Stark, who portrayed Lana Borst in the wedding re-enactment, says she enjoys playing the part of Lana. "It's a lot of fun!" remarked Stark enthusiastically. "And the community really enjoys it! It's great that they get to connect to their heritage. People learn about history while they have a good time!"

DeFazio agrees wholeheartedly. "We're fortunate to have such interesting early American history," DeFazio said. "It's great to be able to share that local history."

"I am getting married in real life three weeks from today," DeFazio announced, explaining that he had actually met the young lady on an evening of the 'Gil and Lana Borst Martin' wedding two years ago.

At the reception, period music was provided by Ron Burch, Olof Jansson

DRUMS 27



All things automotive

DRUMS from 26

and Carle Kopecky. "A beautiful 2-layer wedding cake from a period recipe, was baked by Lesha Dolan and decorated with fresh flowers,'

commented Sandy Nellis Lane, board member at 1747 Nellis Tavern. "The newly stenciled east room was a fine setting for music and some dancing." reported that Lane

stenciling is currently being restored on the second floor as well.

"A fundraiser for this restoration will be held at Saltsman's Hotel on Sunday, August 20, and another at The Table on Sunday, November 5. Tickets are available from Board members."

Bollen reports that there are more colonial era historic sites in Montgomery County than any other county in New York State.

"Recently Mohawk Country incorporated as a not-for-profit organization, and will be working to raise money to support its preservation objectives." said Bollen. "Our historic site membership continues to grow and we expect the program to soon expand into neighboring counties."

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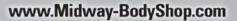
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John Reheuser, as father of the bride, and Jeff Tew, as Rev. Daniel Gros, look on as bride, Ness Stark, and groom, Dave DeFazio exchange their vows.



Re-enactors Norm Bollen, Sandy Lane, Lisa Emden, Bob Metzger, Ness Stark and Dave DeFazio celebrated at the 1747 Nellis Tavern during the reception.

"It is better to remain silent at the risk of being thought a fool, than to talk and remove all doubt of it." — Maurice Switzer





2016 Chevy Cruze LS Red, 17,000 mlles 2016 Ford Fusion SE Black, 22,000 Miles 2016 Ford Fusion SE Silver, 14,000 Miles 2016 Nissan Versa SV 4 Dr., White, 7,600 Miles 2015 Chevy Impala LT Silver, V6, 23,000 Miles 2014 Ford Mustang V6, Black, Loaded, 23,000 Miles 2006 Buick Lucerne Silver. Loaded 2005 Pontiac Vibe Black

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2010 Ford Box Truck w/Lift Gate, 81,000 Miles 2006 Saturn Vue V6, AWD, White, Loaded 79,000 Miles 1991 Ford F800 Dump Truck, Diesel 12,000 Miles

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 15th

- 3:00 pm Opening Ceremonies Memorial Park
- 4:00 pm Gates Officially Open
- 4:00 pm "Sports Challenge"
- 5:30 pm Small Animal Judging
- 6:30 pm "Jr. Miss, Little Mister, Little Miss Pageants"
- 8:30 pm "Princess, Prince, & Queen Pagents"

10:30 pm. - Fireworks

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16th

9:30 am. - Youth & Open Colored Dairy Breed Show 10:00 am. - 4:00 P.M. Children's Day (Rides open at noon) -½ Price for Adults & Seniors till 4:00 P.M.

11:00 am. - 2:00 P.M. - Senior Bingo

5:00 pm. - Kiddie Firematics

- 6:00 pm. BrookField Garden Tractor Pull
- 7:30 pm. & 9:30 pm. "Shania Twin"

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17th

9:30 am. - "Youth & Open Beef Show" followed by "Meat Goat Show"
10:00 am. - 4:00 pm. "Children's Day" (Rides open at noon)
1:00 pm.- "ICE CREAM GIVEAWAY"
5:00 pm. - "Youth & Open Sheep Show"
5:00 pm. - "Kiddie Firematics"
7:00 pm. - "Demolition Derby with Vans and Trucks"
7:30 pm. & 9:30 pm. - Voice Finalist "Jake Worthington" (Country)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18th

9:30 am. - "Youth & Open Holstien" 11:00 am. - 2:00 pm. "Agricultural Scavenger Hunt"

ADMISSION:

ADULTS (over 12) ------ \$10.00 CHILDREN 5 - 12 ----- \$ 3.00 CHILDREN UNDER 5 FREE

Childrens Days (Children 11 & under Admitted Free / Rides open at Noon) Wednesday AUGUST 16th - 10.00a.m. - 4:00p.m Thursday AUGUST 17th - 10:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.

Pay One Price for Ride Specials:

Wednesday AUGUST 16th - 12.00p.m. - 4:00p.m or Wednesday AUGUST 16th - 6:00p.m. - 10:00p.m or Thursday AUGUST 17th - 12:00p.m. - 4:00p.m. or Sunday AUGUST 20st - 12:00p.m. - 6:00p.m.

SENIOR CITIZEN / ADULT DAY (Half Price Admission for all Adults) WEDNESDAY AUGUST 16th - 10.00a.m. - 4:00p.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18th

3:00 pm. - "Children's Pedal Tractor Pull" 5:00 pm. - "Children's Pedal Tractor Pull" 7:00 pm. - "Demolition Derby" 7:30 pm. & 9:30 pm. - "The Beadle Brothers" (Country)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19th

9:00 am. - "Open & Youth Horse Show" 10:00 am. - "Youth & Open Goat Show 11:00 am. - "Soccer Kick" 1:00 pm.- "Talent Show" 4:00 pm. - "Children's Rodeo" 6:00 pm. - "4 Wheel Drive Truck Pull" 7:30 pm. & 9:30 pm. - "Swamp Drivers"

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20th

9:00 am. - "Open & Youth GymKana Horse Show" 11:00 am. - "Tractor Pull" 11:00 am. - "Hoop Shoot" 1:00 pm. - "Bug Country Showdown" - followed by "Grit-N-Grace Band" (country) 1:00 pm. - "Milking Contest" 3:00 pm. - "Milking Contest" 3:00 pm. - "Farmyard Olympics" 4:00 pm. - "Children's Rodeo" 6:00 pm. - "Children's Power Wheel Demo" Following Showdown until 5:00pm. - "Grit-N-Grace Band" (Country)





REAL ESTATE GUIDE

Supplement to the Original Valley Pennysaver Produced by Lee Publications • 6113 St. Hwy. 5 • Palatine Bridge, NY 13428 • 518-673-3237 • 800-218-5586 • www.leepub.com



2 • August 5, 2017

REAL ESTATE GUIDE • ORIGINAL VALLEY PENNYSAVER





960: 262 Goldman Road, SPRAKERS: Private, Spacious off the grid Country Property! Come take a look, almost 8 acres, large pond, huge yard for the kids and pets to roam. Plenty of room for a couple horses, large barn/garage. Endless possibilities with this Country Gem!!! Low Electric Bills!!! Solar Power!!! Asking \$125,000

6 bedrooms, two and a half baths, three operating fireplaces, oak floors, 96%

cast iron radiators and so much more. Large 2 story barn in excellent shape, work shop, concrete floor, horse stalls, several outbuilding and pens. Currently being used as a operating Paint Ball Business. Let your mind wander the endless possibilities. Come take a look. Centrally locat ed in the Historic Mohawk Valley. Asking \$339,000



NEW LISTING!!! A gorgeous 1880s Farm House on almost six acres

This home features four bedrooms, two baths, formal dining room, three

car garage, large pond, apple orchard and a Pristine Country Setting.

Centrally located in the Historic Mohawk Valley. One hour to Albany or

Utica, thirty minutes to Cooperstown or the Adirondacks. Asking \$234,900

FIVE STEPS THAT CAN IMPROVE your credit score in 100 days or less

(BPT) — Low interest rates, a strong economy and the turn of the seasons are all causing the real estate market to heat up. More homes on the market bring more competition to buy the inventory that is out there. And one way to stand apart from other buyers who are vying for their dream home is to take steps to improve your credit score now.

"Preparing your finances is a must before the busy real estate season," says Barrett Burns, president and CEO of credit score model developer VantageScore Solutions. "Knowing your credit scores and making improvements is essential to getting the best loan at the best rates. This also makes you a more attractive home buyer, especially in a competitive market."

With limited time, you may think there's nothing you can do to improve your score. Burns says that's an incorrect assumption. While you can't make dramatic jumps in just a couple months, there are several steps you can take that may influence your score to increase enough to get you prequalified for the loan you want.

Keep in mind, lenders will pull your scores from all three major credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian and TransUnion), so it's wise to check your credit report from each of them. You can do so for free once every 12 months at AnnualCreditReport.com. For best results, monitor at least one credit score from each of the bureaus. You also can check your credit score for free through a large number of online services, such as CreditKarma.com, Nerd-Wallet.com or Credit.com. Other sites offering free VantageScore credit scores can be found at VantageScore.com/free.

Once you have your reports in hand, you can take steps that may have a positive impact on your scores.

Step 1: Check for errors

A credit report gives a comprehensive list of your lines of credit and payment history. The first step is to review your credit report for errors and take steps to make corrections, including past and present names, loan amounts and credit cards in your name.



a realstered WVS Historie District Cooperstown, 10 miles - Albany, 50 miles, easy access to two State Highways and Interstate Systems. Oneonta 30 mins., Utica and Binghamton 1 Hou



Two story, two-three bedrooms, one and one half bathrooms, contemporary kitchen attached seasonal porch, two out-buildings: two story carriage garage with new roo and a restored post and beam barn. Surveyed $\frac{1}{2}$ ac. lot, mature trees, shrubs and peren nials. High efficiency furnace and hot water heater, insulated and totally caulked and painted exterior and interiors. Wood floors, great old windows with screeps and storms updated baths, deep well with wonderful water. Propane parlor stove and 5 burner kitchen stove. Updated electric wiring with generator hookup. DRY basement. Move ir condition with some furniture and all window treatments. New roof 2015/16.

Cherry Valley Springfield School District with current school taxes of \$1025 and Towr of Roseboom property taxes of \$826. Roseboom is a family friendly little hamlet of ap-proximately 20 families with a great General Store where everything from the daily wspapers, a Post Office Box, if you choose, fuel and food is available six days a week.

KING \$159,000

607-264-8120 (Days and evenings until 8PM) Location: 155 Beaver Street in Roseboom, NY



One way to stand apart from other buyers who are vying for their dream home is to take steps to improve your credit score now.

When checking your credit score, bear in mind that some differences in credit scores across bureaus is normal. But if one of the three credit scores is an extreme outlier, it could be worth double-checking your credit report from that bureau to make sure it doesn't reflect any questionable or erroneous activity.

Step 2: Don't miss a payment

Creditors are interested in seeing how you manage credit, and the consistency of behavior counts. You should always pay at least the minimum amount due on bills on time every month. An easy way to ensure you don't miss a payment is to sign up for automatic bill pay when available.



Country Living

This 3 Bedroom Ranch is located in South Central Montgomery County with EZ access to either Rt. 20 or I-90 (NYS Thruway) - the property offers so many possibilities- The home features a Spacious 20 x 20' Living room with a Tennessee Marble fireplace- Southern Exposure-Combination Kitchen and Dining- Den- Bath-Full Line of Appliances-Full attic-Full Basement/Garage -There is a 24 x 36' plus a 14 x 36' Extension- this building has 2 heat sources and overhead storage. Plenty of room for a home business. All on 1.90 Acres of land (Corner Lot) - just a mile outside a quaint Country Village. There is an easy commute to SUNY Cobleskill - 45 Min. to Cooperstown- Hour to the Capital Dist. or Saratoga - Taxes: \$ 4000 - Canajoharie Central School Dist. Must See to Appreciate! Being Offered at: \$149,900 H-406

Visit our website for other Rural Homes-Farmsteads and Acreage:



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Step 3: Lower credit utilization levels

Credit utilization is the ratio of a credit card balance to the credit limit. If your balance is \$5,000 and your credit limit is \$10,000, then your credit utilization for that credit card is 50 percent. In general, a good credit utilization is less than 30 percent, so if you have a higher ratio, consider using your tax refund to pay down this debt.

Step 4: Don't close old credit cards

If you have a credit card that is no longer used but was previously paid off on time each month, don't close the account. Not only is this good for your credit utilization ratio, but it also is another indicator you're a responsible candidate for a loan.

Step 5: Don't apply for new credit

Avoid applying for any new credit, such as an auto loan or a new credit card account, between now and the time you will close on a home purchase. Lenders considering your loan application request your credit score from one or more credit bureaus. And these lender "inquiries" are recorded with one or more of the three national credit bureaus, which may lower your credit score by 10 to 20 points. The score decreases typically only last a few months, as long as you continue to make payments on time. But unless they're absolutely necessary, try to avoid additional inquiries until after you've secured your mortgage.

If you follow these five steps, you may see an increase in your score within a few months so you can get a loan and be an attractive buyer when it comes time to put in a bid for your dream home

Keep in mind, the more you can put toward the down payment, the more instant equity you'll have, the lower your monthly payment will be, and the better your chances are of not needing private mortgage insurance (PMI), which can add hundreds of dollars to your monthly payment.

Plus, if you're able to put down more than a lender requires, a mortgage company may be willing to give you a pass on other issues on your application, such as a less-than-stellar credit score.

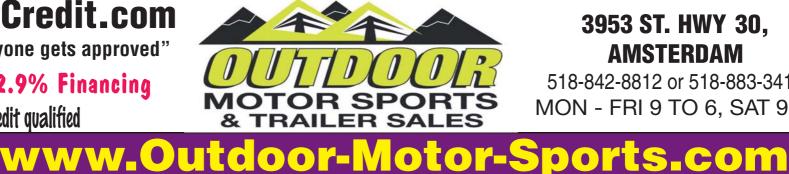


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DON'T SWEAT YOUR SUMMER MOVE: 10 tips for smarter moving





(BPT) — Summer isn't just vacation season, it's also peak moving season. Studies show more people move during summer months than any other time of year; kids are out of school and weather is less likely to delay moves. However, moving is hard work no matter what time of year you do it. You'll need careful planning and smart packing to ensure your summer move goes smoothly and safely.

These 10 tips can help:

1. Rent the right size moving truck.

Choose a truck that's too big, and you'll waste gas and space, plus empty room inside the truck means your belongings are more likely to shift in transit. Choose one that's too small, and you could face multiple trips or the hard decision of what to leave behind. Penske Truck Rental professionals recommend you allow 150 cubic feet of truck space for each fully furnished room you'll be moving. A 12-foot truck that offers 450 cubic feet could move three rooms — the equivalent of a one-bedroom apartment while a 26-foot truck affords 1,400 cubic feet, approximately enough to move a two- or three-bedroom house.

2. Perfect your packing schedule.

Pack too soon and you'll be living surrounded by boxes, some of which might contain stuff you need right now. Pack too late and scrambling at the last minute could mean you make mistakes that lead to damage. Pack out-of-season and non-essential items several weeks before moving day. Donate or sell anything you won't need in vour new home. Wait until the day before or morning of your move to pack essentials like personal necessities and basic cookware.

3. Protect packed items.

Nothing's worse than opening a box at your destination only to find something broken. Use plenty of paper and bubble wrap to protect packed items. Towels, socks, pillows and other soft materials can help protect breakable items, too.

4. Reserve your rental truck early.

It's no surprise that truck rental places get very busy during summer months. Reserve your rental truck at least two weeks prior to the move — earlier if you'll be moving during a peak month like July or August.

5. Clearly label all boxes. Remember to label every box with what's inside it and the room it will go to in your new home.

6. Have plenty of help on hand.

Having help loading and unloading boxes will make the move go more smoothly — and reduce the risk you'll get hurt trying to do everything yourself. Enlist friends and family to help out. If you have large, heavy or very delicate items, consider hiring professionals to help load and unload those items.

7. Load the truck efficiently.

How well you load the truck will affect the safety of your belongings. Load heavy items like big furniture pieces and heavy boxes first, then stack lighter boxes and items to fill the remaining space. Be aware of the possibility that contents can shift in transit, so try to eliminate excess space that might allow the load to shift.

8. Lift carefully.

Improper lifting can cause injury. When lifting, bend your knees and lift with your legs, not your back. Get help lifting heavy items and use hand trucks and moving dollies to move heavy or bulky items. Take plenty of breaks and stay hydrated.

9. Schedule your drive to avoid peak traffic times.

You already know when peak traffic times occur around your current neighborhood, and a simple online search can help you identify rush hour at your destination. Schedule your drive so you won't be on the road during the worst traffic times. Leaving very early before morning rush hour can help you avoid the frustration of sitting in traffic, and give you extra time to unload at your destination.

10. Learn safe truck driving practices.

Most people don't have a lot of experience driving moving trucks, so take extra care to ensure your own safety and the security of your belongings. Ask your rental professional to familiarize you with the vehicle. For safe driving tips, visit pensketruckrental. com.

www.vpennysaver.com

Paving stones can add beauty to walkways, driveways and backyard patios, providing that eye-catching finishing touch to a property while enhancing its curb appeal.

Even though the installation of pavers can be a labor-intensive process, with the right tools and tips, this can be a do-it-yourself project for homeowners with renovation experience. Consider these tricks and how-to tips courtesy of The Home Depot, DIY Network and Unilock.

Get your supplies

To begin a paver project, homeowners will need to stock up on some supplies they may not already have at home. Marking paint, mason line, wooden stakes, leveling sand, paver base, and more will be required. A manual tamper can be used. However, for larger areas, it can be worth the cost to rent a plate compactor.

Measure the area

The number of bags of sand, paver base and paving stones needed for the project depends on the size of the area. For example, according to the Home Depot, for 60 square feet, homeowners will need about 30 12 x 12-inch paver stones, 40 bags of paver base and 12 bags of paver leveling sand.

Spray or mark the area where the paving

stones will be laid. Measure carefully so you can order exactly how many stones you will need. Have the materials delivered to reduce heavy lifting and trips to the store. Be sure to have all utility lines marked prior to excavation to avoid damage.

Prepare the base carefully

One of the most important aspects of paver installation involves preparing the base. If you cut corners in this process, the finished results can be sloppy, weeds can grow through and/or stones may loosen.



It's essential to grade the area away from the house. That means that the highest point of the patio or walkway should be closest to the house and then the incline gradually flattens out as it moves away from the home. This allows proper water runoff. Mark the height on the stakes and adjust the mason line. Remember to slope the area away from your home with a drop-off of about one inch for every eight feet.

The base of many DIY applications should be between four and six inches deep. Work incrementally, raking and tamping until the base is firm. Lightly wetting the material can help it solidify.

Sand helps inhibit weed growth and anchor the pavers together. Plastic lining will not be practical.

Installation

Use edge restraints and a string line to keep the design straight. Do not hammer the pavers together. Paver sand will need to be swept over and settled between the stones to help set them in place.

It helps to read tutorials and watch videos on paving stone installation prior to beginning the project. With practice, the installation will go more smoothly.











644 ACRES INCLUDED WITH THIS ESTATE STYLE HOME AND A 2 CAR ATTACHED GARAGE, GLASS GREENHOUSE, 71 STALL DAIRY BARN WITH CONNECTED HEIFER BARN, 8 STALL HORSE STABLE, EXTRA GARAGE & DOG KENNEL, HEATED 1300 SQ. FT. WORK SHOP THAT WILL HOLD NUMER-OUS TRACTORS AND IMPLEMENTS. AS A BONUS THERE IS A RANCH STYLE 2 BEDROOM HIRED MANS HOME, HUNTING CABIN IN THE WOODS, SEVERAL PONDS, LARGE MORTON BUILDING AND 2 SEPARATE HAY BARNS. MAKE THIS A PACKAGE DEAL AND ADD THE THIRD HOME ALSO BEING OFFERED SEPARATELY. CONTACT BRENDA FOR MORE DETAILS AND INFORMATION.











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LET TODAY'S TECHNOLOGY SAVE YOU FROM 'RENOPHOBIA'

(NAPS) — If you've been thinking, or even just dreaming, about buying a new home but "renophobia—the fear of having to do renovations—is holding you back, you may be glad to hear two things.

1. You're not alone. Often, prospective homebuyers, particularly millennials, want a turnkey home but can't afford one in their desired area, and a fear of renovating means they remain renters. At the same time, many older homes have the potential to become a dream house with a little TLC.

2. Technological advancements can make homebuying easier and less expensive.

You can now know just what renovations and repairs a house you're considering will need, even before you visit it. That's because Intero Real Estate Services (interorealestate.com) has partnered with Kukun, an online platform offering digital solutions that help homeowners navigate the home remodeling process. Through the widget, you get real-time home renovation estimates and return on investment information for the online listings. You can see which renovations you'd like to do, how much they will cost and what the property will be worth once they're complete. You can even see which other homes in the area have had renovations and which construction companies or contractors were used.

What's more, there are easy-to-use tools that help home renovators manage the process from beginning to end and control the time and money involved along the way. It's simple to do. You can access the system through an app on your phone as well as the widget and get valuable data as you walk through a property.

What to look for While you're doing that, think about these seven things.

1. Is the building structurally sound? Look for big cracks, dampness around baseboards, and sagging walls. Check the window frames for cracked paint. Look at the ceiling for cracks, flaky plaster or water stains.

2. Are the rooms and closets big enough? Are there enough bathrooms? Are the ceilings a good height for you? Will your family and furniture fit comfortably?

3. Inspect the plumbing. Check the water pressure. Turn on all the faucets and flush all the toilets. See whether the pipes are insulated and make sure they're not lead. Look under the sinks for leaks, water damage or mold.

4. Check out the basement and the attic. How easy is access? Is there much storage space? Could it be converted into extra rooms? Is there insulation?

5. Learn about the neighborhood. How are the schools? How close is shopping? What's the transportation like in the area? Is it under a flight path?

6. Look to the layout. How easy is it to get from room to room and from indoors to out?

7. It's a hot idea to be sure the heating and cooling systems work.

Visit www.mykukun.com for further information and an Estimator Tool or download the Kukun Mobile app on iOS and Android devices.



Before you buy that fixer-upper, you can get a good idea of just how much fixing it up will cost.

For Sale By Owner



Completely Remodeled in 2015, 2 BR, 2 BA, laundry on main floor, natural gas, central air, hardwood floors, 2 car attached garage, 200 sq ft covered back porch, 40'x 40' fenced in area for children or pets, 1.5 acre lot, 3 out buildings, paved driveway, 2 stall garage w/opener, custom master bath. Canajoharie Schools. Asking \$154,900 With Possible Owner Financing Available.



GROWING TRENDS in today's homes

Although the heydays of the real estate boom of the early 2000s have not quite returned, things look positive. In the United States, 1,226,000 new homes were built in 2016, according to data from Consumer Reports. That was the most since 2007.

Resales also have been more promising. The National Association of Realtors® says the median number of days a home was on the market in April 2017 reached a new low of 29 days. However, low supply levels did stanch existing home sales somewhat. By mid-2017, the market was a seller's market, with more people in the market for homes than properties available. But sales during that time were still outpacing sales figures from a year prior.

Low interest rates on mortgages and more confidence in the economy has driven many people to make improvements to their existing homes. As is typical, the things homeowners are looking for in 2017 have evolved from years past. The following are some trends that are helping to steer the real estate market further.

• Smaller homes: Home sizes in the United States steadily increased for decades, eventually leading to an average of 2,453 square feet in 2014, according to U.S. Census figures. However, Realtor.com reported in 2015 that new construction homes have already begun to shrink by 40 square feet. There seems to be a slight trend toward more modest homes as people consider affordability and maintenance on larger properties. The National Association of Home Builders states buyers are now looking for smaller, more livable homes with flexible floor plans, energy-efficient appliances and plenty of storage space.

• Matte finishes: Stainless steel and luster have been popular for years. However, the next big thing is matte finishes on faucets, appliances and even in countertops. These less flashy finishes are prized for their warmth and elegance. While some high-end models with matte finishes have been available for several years, even less expensive models are now available.

• Smarter technology: Many homeowners are embracing smart technology throughout their homes, but it's not just lights that turn on with voice command or more efficient thermostats. Innovative technology includes toilets that can autonomously stay clean and sanitized, refrigerators equipped with cameras so homeowners can see the contents inside and indoor food recyclers that can turn food waste into fertilizer.

Staying abreast of the ever-changing trends in home improvement and real estate can help consumers make the best choices with regard to buying and building their homes.

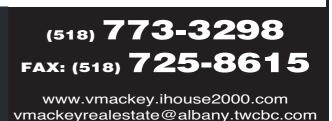
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- Virginia M. Mackey GRI - CRS Licensed Real Estate Broker 725-3348
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• Fulton County & Capital District MLS

Eugene D. Reppenhagen 773-3298 Markie King 774-2717 Gina Emden 332-4020 Katie-Anne Isabella 866-1089



226 E Fulton St., Gloversville, NY 12078



IR. MLS



LAKE HOME ON PECK'S LAKE (Gloversville): Quiet cove, beautiful view, 265' lake frontage. New hardwood floors, open LR/DR/kitchen. Fireplace w/gas insert. Master BR, full bath down; family room, 2 BRs, full bath up. ..Asking \$550,000 Detached 2-car garage.



BEAUTIFUL RANCH (Gloversville): LR/DR. new kitchen. half-bath family rm opens to deck and in-ground pool. Master BR (3/4 bath) opens to encl porch w/ hot tub. Two more BR's, another full bath. Family Rm and workshop in basement. Two fireplaces, att. 2car garage Asking \$235,000



HISTORIC COLONIAL (Gloversville): LR w/fireplace, DR kitchen w/pantry, den and half-bath down, 3 BRs and full bath up. Deck, 3-level barn and detached garage. Very deep lot, wooded. Some deferred maintenance, being sold Asking \$135,000 "as is".



COMPLETELY RENOVATED: (Johnstown): This adorable one family has been completely renovated including, kitchen/ granite counter tops, new windows, new flooring, CB wiring, new walls, new bathrooms with tile. Deck and one-car .Reduced to \$69.900 garage

TWO-FAMILY (Gloversville): Long-term tenant downstairs

Upstairs flat is vacant, freshly painted, new floors, move-in

ready for new tenant! Well-maintained and many updates.

Asking \$49,900

Separate utilities, 2 driveways for off-street parking

MLS 201706367



BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED LOG HOME ON 69 ACRES (Bleecker): Exceptional interior w/open LR/DR, working kitchen, den, 4 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. 2-car garage under house, outbuilding w/workshop and space for two more vehicles/boat/snowmobiles. Mostly wooded, stream, small Asking \$325,000



CONTEMPORARY HOME ON 3.2 ACRES (Town of Northampton): Knotty pine interior, open LR/DR with wood-stove, kitchen, master BR and full bath w/laundry down, 2 BRs and 3/4 bath up. Large rear deck overlooks backyard and wooded area Asking \$215.000



(Johnstown): Move right in! LR, DR, eat-in kitchen, small bedroom down. Master BR, large walk-thru room, updated full bath, new BR w/electric heat up. Detached two-car garageAsking \$79,900



RANCH ON LARGE LOT (Gloversville): Nice starte home, several updates, but needs some TLC. LR, DR, kitchen. 3BRs and 1 full bath. One BR is now set up as laundry room for one-floor living. Large deck, attache . Asking \$62.000 car garage

SMALL UPDATED BUNGALOW: (Gloversville): Knotty

pine entryway, LR, eat-in kitchen, small BR and full bath w/

laundry hookup down, large loft BR up. Fenced backyard,

off-street parking. Move-in ready! Asking \$30.000



CONTEMPORARY ON CUL-DE-SAC (Fonda): Country living on 1.1 acres just 3 miles from NYS Thruway. LR w/ wall of windows, updated kitchen opens to dining area, 2 BRs and full bath down, master BR and bath up. Full basement w family room, attached 2-car garage. Private backyard paradise w/decks, pergola, patio, berries, fruit trees, gardens. Move-in Asking \$250,000 condition



CUSTOM-DESIGNED KNOTTY PINE INTERIOR (Caroga Lake) Front porch ins. and heated. LR. DR. new kitchen and den down. 2 BRs and new bath w/laundry up. Decking. covered patio, det. two- car garage. One-acre wooded lot near Asking \$149,500



GREAT FAMILY HOME (Gloversville): Move-in ready, freshly painted, lots of space. Large LR, DR, kitchen, family room, half-bath w/laundry, 4th BR or den down. 3 BRs, small extra room, full bath up. Large yard, nice deck and patio, dead-end street Asking \$74,900



GREAT GET-AWAY (Broadalbin): Cottage w/new windows overlooking Great Sacandaga Lake, knotty pine interior, screened room, new kitchen appliances and cabinets, 2 BRs plus loft, 1 bath. PLUS shared lot with 47' lake frontage across the stree Asking \$239.900



BEAUTIFUL RANCH (Gloversville): Many updates! LR w/gas fireplace, DR, kitchen, 3 BRs, full bath on 1st floor, family room, laundry and half-bath in basement. Attached garage, new deck, covered patio, fenced yard. 2-car



LOVELY OLDER HOME (Gloversville): Very well-maintained, many unique features and TONS of storage. LR, DR, kitchen and half bath down, 3 BRs and full bath up. Fenced backyard, one-car garage. Move-in condition! Reduced to \$72,000





RUSTIC ADIRONDACK RETREAT (Wells): Small cottage on quiet Charley Lake. Screened porch overlooks 66' lakefront. Woodstove for heat, biodegradable toilet inside outhouse. Drilled well. no septic. Asking \$79,000

MULTIPLE COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES AVAILABLE IN JOHNSTOWN:

Some with existing structures in need of renovation, others vacant land. Close to historic downtown area, some adjoining lovely creek that flows through town. In area being marketed for upgrading and development as part of Sir William Project.

> See website for details www.vmackey.ihouse2000.com



freshly painted interior, vinyl siding, replacement windows Some exterior work still needed. LR, DR w/pellet stove kitchen. full bath down; 3 BRs up.. . Askina \$53.500



FIXER-UPPER (Fonda): With some elbow grease, this could be a great family home! LR, DR, kitchen and halfbath down, 3 BRs and full bath up. Detached garage/ Asking \$29,000 barn. . .





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REAL ESTATE GUIDE • ORIGINAL VALLEY PENNYSAVER



Looking For Land?

50 Acres Town of Caroga • 60 Acres Town of Mohawk • 37 Acres Town of Bleeker Off Lake Lots • Large Tracts of Land also available • LOTS OF NEW LISTINGS!! See www.adksrealty.com for details!



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Local Guide To The Southern Adirondacks!



See www.adksrealty.com for details!

TIPS TO PREPARE YOUR BUDGET before buying a home

(BPT) — It's virtually impossible to know what size home you can afford if you aren't fully aware of how much money you are earning and how much you are spending each month.

Start with your income: How much do you bring home after taxes and retirement plan contributions?

Next, look at your expenses: What are your necessary expenses? How much are you paying each month toward your debt? What additional expenses do you have that wouldn't be deemed "necessary?" How much money do you have left (if any)?

This will help you see how much breathing room is in your current budget, what expenses might be on the chopping block and the space you have for additional home and mortgage expenses when buying a home.

Consider the potential costs of being a homeowner While rent payments are generally straightforward and predictable, the same can't always be said for homeownership costs. Your situation can vary depending on a variety of factors, but here are a few things you might need to prepare your budget for.

• Property taxes: The amount you pay will depend on the area in which you are purchasing a home. This amount can be subject to annual adjustment by the municipality or local taxing authority.

• Homeowners insurance: Lenders will require you to provide proof of coverage before closing. The amount you pay will depend on your level of coverage, your property and the location. Insurance costs can increase from time to time. • Private mortgage insurance (PMI) or mortgage insurance premiums (MIP): If your down payment is less than 20 percent on a conventional mortgage, your lender will require you to carry private mortgage insurance. If you have an FHA loan, you'll be required to pay mortgage insurance premiums throughout the life of the loan.

• Home ownership assistance: A company like Unison Home Ownership Investors can strengthen your down payment overnight and eliminate the need for private mortgage insurance. Using this method will typically save you between 15 and 20 percent per month on your mortgage payment, but you could owe a portion of the appreciation on the home when you sell.

• Homeowners association fees: Fortunately, not all homes have a homeowners association to pay into. Purchasing a home with HOA-covered amenities could cost, on average, an additional \$200-\$400 per month.

• Maintenance fees: Ah, the pitfalls of being a homeowner. The costs that would normally fall to a landlord, like fixing broken plumbing or a heater on the fritz, will now fall on your shoulders. Some suggest saving one percent of your home's value annually for maintenance.

• Utility costs: Unless your rent has included the cost of utilities, this is probably already an expense you're used to. However, if you're moving into a bigger home with less energy efficient appliances, you should be prepared to see an uptick.

Start living like a homeowner

If you want to avoid experiencing sticker shock after your home purchase is complete, start living like a homeowner now.

Consider your current rental or home-ownership costs and compare them to the costs for a home in your target price point. Can your current budget handle the difference? Are you still able to pay for your necessities plus shore up your financial future through short- and long-term savings? Or do you find yourself feeling desperate by the end of the month?

Not only will this allow you to get used to the change before the stakes are higher, but it can also help you save more money to put toward unexpected costs for your future home purchase.

Determine where to make adjustments

Does living like a homeowner make you a little wary for what's next? Now is the perfect time to create space in your budget by cutting back expenses and paying down debt.

Now that you know where your money is going, determine the unnecessary leaks. Maybe your monthly food bill is exorbitantly high. Or maybe your subscription services have gotten out of hand. If your priority is purchasing a home — and being financially comfortable in that home — work to cut expenses that are contradictory to that goal.

Next, tackle your debt. There are two big benefits to beefing up your debt repayments now: You can lower your monthly obligation and improve your chances of getting approved for a loan. It's a win-win.



JUNELLREALTY LLC

My name is Junell Gray, I have been in the real estate industry now for 19 years. Through the years I have been employed as a real estate paralegal, licensed real estate salesperson and now I am a licensed real estate Broker and Owner of Junell Realty, LLC. I have always had a tireless work ethic. I am honest, dependable, reliable and will do everything I can to provide to my clients the absolute very best service. I am down to earth and I have a sense of humor. I believe that communication, honesty and knowledge are the most important things in this business.

COMMUNICATION: You want and need to know what is going on with your home as it affects your life, your finances & your family. I am always trying to keep my clients & customers in the loop or dig for information or facts for them.

HONESTY: I believe being honest is the only way to do business. I will always tell you or anyone that I am working with what you need to hear and NOT what you want to hear, so that you can make the best decision possible for yourself or your family. **KNOWLEDGE:** Everyday I learn something new, everyday I keep my eyes and ears open so I can learn something and I take the time to research new financing products or vendors to help those I am working with. If you cannot get a home, land or business financed then chances are it will never be sold. It is important to keep an open mind in this business and to always look into new resources we may have.

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I believe if you always do the right thing for the right reasons success will always follow. I follow that and always do what I feel the right thing is. I have a huge heart for this business and I put my entire heart and soul into each and every client & transaction that I am a part of.

My logo was designed to specifically reflect the fact that I take the time to not only find people their forever homes but also animals. There have been times, that I have walked into homes to find animals abandoned or dead. Animals do NOT have voices and in the busy & sometimes cruel world we are all living in, so many are in need of loving homes. I ask everyone to PLEASE open your HEART, open your DOOR and give a pet in need a loving home. PLEASE take the time to support your local animal shelter. Pets just give so much back to us and many times we do not even realize how much love, comfort and joy they do bring into our lives. The dog represented in my logo is one of my very own, her name is Abigail.

I am also a proud supporter of our VETERANS. To any Veteran or any Veteran's family member -THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU FOR THE TIME YOU HAVE SERVED, ARE SERVING OR SACRIFICING YOUR LOVED ONE FOR US! My family and I appreciate and respect you and your time.

I urge anyone that is considering to use me for their needs, to please contact me in any fashion that is convenient for you. You may call me or text me at (518) 588-5141 or you may email me at Junellrealty@yahoo.com. I look forward to hearing from you and hopefully have the opportunity to do business with you.

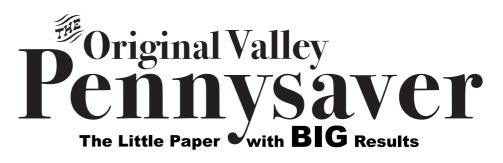


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HOST A SUCCESSFUL OPEN HOUSE

When selling their homes, homeowners can employ several strategies in an effort to drum up interest among potential buyers. One such strategy is to host an open house, which invites prospective buyers to tour the property.

Realtors have long used open houses to introduce properties to the market, and a well-planned open house can help sellers generate numerous offers in a single day. Whether working with a realtor or listing homes on their own, homeowners can follow a few simple tips to ensure their open house is a success.

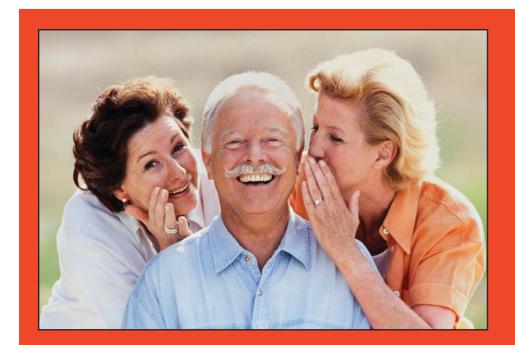
• Generate publicity online. Nowadays many prospective homebuyers do the bulk of their research via their computers and devices. By advertising their open houses online, sellers have the potential to reach a wide array of buyers. Many real estate agents employ sites such as Zillow.com and Trulia.com to promote open houses and showcase properties, so sellers can make sure their agents are taking advantage of these wildly popular sites. Some even allow sellers to list their homes on apps that buyers can peruse on their smartphones.

• Generate publicity in traditional ways as well. Traditional publicity should not be overlooked when promoting an open house. A \$5 "Open House" lawn sign is an effective and inexpensive way to attract buyers who are driving through desirable neighborhoods looking for their next homes. While the Internet is a valuable resource to promote your open house, the sheer volume of online listings can make it hard to reach potential buyers. A traditional lawn sign and a listing in your local newspaper are budget-friendly promotional opportunities that can generate interest in your open house.

• Invite your neighbors. Neighbors can be great salesmen for your home and the community where you live. Invite friendly neighbors to your open house and encourage them to chat with prospective buyers. Buyers will appreciate neighbors' firsthand knowledge about the community, and their friendliness can help to create a strong first impression that increases buyer interest in your home.

• Consider some changes to your home decor. When hosting an open house, you might not need to go so far as to stage your home, but you may want to make some changes to the decor to make your home more neutral and appealing to buyers from all walks of life. Remove any potentially controversial artwork or decorative items, replacing them with more neutral items that won't offend or distract any potential buyers. • Leave the hosting to the professionals. Unless you're selling the home on your own, resist the temptation to attend your open house. Let your realtor do the work. Your absence can make it easier for potential buyers to see themselves in your home, while your presence may make them uncomfortable or hesitant to explore the property and ask any questions.





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DON'T PACK THIS PEST

(NAPS) — If you're moving to a new home this year, watch out for certain stowaways: gypsy moths.



These insects are among the most destructive pests of trees and shrubs in America. Gorging themselves on leaves, gypsy moth caterpillars weaken and can kill more than 300 different species of trees. Since 1970, they've defoliated more than 75 million acres.

The Answer

That's why the U.S. Department of Agriculture requires homeowners by law to inspect and remove gypsy moth egg masses from household goods prior to moving across state lines — and get an official certificate of inspection.

What you need to do

• Check all outdoor household goods — lawn furniture, grills, outdoor toys, camping equipment — for egg masses.

• Use a putty knife, stiff brush or similar hand tool to dispose of any egg masses you do find into a container of hot, soapy water, or place them in a plastic bag, seal it, and set it in the sun.

To get the certificate, you can perform a self-inspection or hire a state-certified pesticide applicator. The American Moving and Storage Association says you should then give the inspection certificate to your moving van driver.

A free gypsy moth removal checklist and additional information can be found at www.Moving.org.

DID YOU KNOW?

Of the 29 projects it studied for its 2017 "Cost vs. Value Report," Remodeling magazine found that the average payback in resale value was 64.3 cents. The lone project in the 2017 report to return a higher value than its cost was the installation of loose-fill insulation in an attic, which provided a return of 107.7 percent. Homeowners who replaced an existing entry door with a 20-gauge steel unit recouped 90.7 percent of their investment at resale, placing that project second on the list.

What helps homeowners who finance such projects recoup their associated costs is the relatively low sticker price of the projects, which both rank among the five least expensive projects examined in the 2017 report. But a recovering real estate market has helped homeowners recoup more of their investments on some expensive projects as well.

For example, the 2017 report saw the biggest year-over-year percentage increases in value on expensive projects like upscale bathroom remodels, upscale master suites, two-story additions, grand entrance installations, and family room additions. The increase in value on those projects ranged from 5.6 percent to 7.4 percent from a year earlier.





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HOW TO BUY A HOUSE WHEN YOU'RE ONLY 23

(NAPS) — Amy is a typical millennial: She's 23, she graduated from college two years ago, she pays \$321 in student loan debt every month and she rents an apartment in downtown Grand Rapids, MN. She's a sales manager for an international food distribution company and volunteers as an English tutor every week. She loves bike riding, playing her guitar, Saturday brunch and beer tastings.

One thing, however, is not typical about Amy: She bought a house and will move in next month.

Why and how did she do that? Saving money was the biggest reason. "My friend Mike just bought a house and his mortgage is \$300 less than his rent! When I heard that, I was definitely interested. Plus, I need a tax deduction," Amy said. She currently pays \$1,440 a month in rent.

She already saved enough for a 5 percent down payment. Amy tapped into a financial calculator found at mgic.com/buynow to figure out if she should buy now or wait to save for a bigger down payment. "My dad really wanted me to save enough to put 20 percent down. But I showed him that it could take me eight years to save that much money! In that time, I could build up \$63,000 in equity or spend \$140,000 in rent payments," Amy explained.

Surprisingly, student loan debt was actually an advantage. Amy has been conscientiously paying her college loan every month since she graduated in 2015. "My loan officer said that because I have been paying consistently, it worked in my favor and boosted my credit score. She also said that I can obviously stay focused and live within a budget," Amy noted.

Credit history started when she was 16. Thanks to her mom's advice, Amy applied for a credit card when she was still in high school, used it and then paid it off every month. Amy's credit score is now a highly respectable 771.



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A low-down-payment mortgage leads to homeownership for a 23-year old recent grad

Private mortgage insurance (PMI) was also her friend. Amy explained, "Okay, one of the reasons my dad wanted me to save for a 20 percent down payment was so I would avoid paying private mortgage insurance. Maybe I could have put more down but I didn't want to deplete my savings. What if something breaks in my new house? Or what if I want to buy a new sofa? So PMI helped me buy my house with only 5 percent down."

Could you buy a house now or would it be better to wait? Find out! Go to mgic.com/ buynow. Plus, you can follow the stories of other first-time homebuyers and learn from their experiences at www.HomeDiggidy.com.



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MLS 201616391 New Price \$209,900 Wake up to the call of the Loons and the sunshine as it streams into the master bedroom windows. Inspect this family cabin with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, glass enclosed porch 100' foot water front grassy knoll... a paradise for kids to swim and play. With a beautiful upper level view.

LAKE ALOGONQUIN



MLS 201700580 \$251,900 This quaint 192 year old, historic, lakefront Colonial style home located in the idyllic Village of Northville Enjoy a Picnic Perfect tree shaded patio with lake access and beautiful Adirondack views. This lakefront home has

2260 sq. ft. of living space, three bedrooms, 1.5 baths and a fireplace that everyone can enjoy.



PECK LAKE

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MLS 201616919 New Price \$270,000

Rustic and inviting custom log home on a private 32 plus acres in scenic Wells, New York just a quick walk to Lake Algonquin! Beautiful oak floors, stunning cathedral ceilings with fans and remote operated sky lights. 2 bedrooms and 2 baths on main floor plus master suite loft. Relaxing sun room overlooking the back yard! Large deck for entertaining. Zoned propane hot water heating system plus toasty pellet stove. Oversized 2-car garage with full second story wood working shop. One of a kind property!

PECK LAKE

MLS 201614432 \$325,000

PACK UP THE WHOLE FAMILY! This waterfront 3 bedroom home offers space

for everyone. 1st floor has open kitchen, living room, dining room and family

room with deck and lower level has master suite, game room, living area, small

kitchen and glass enclosed porch. Both levels enjoy great waterfront views





MLS 201611298 \$284,500

Tucked away and shadowed by stately cherry and beech trees, sits this southern exposed, contemporary lake house with wrap around deck, multiple sliding glass doors, walk out basement, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, fireplace and lake access rights.

LAKE PLEASANT



MLS 201712967 \$445,000

Impressive custom-built Lok-n-Logs home nestled on 5.7 private acres. Beautiful cathedral ceilinged living room with floor to ceiling fireplace. Gorgeous woodwork, hickory floors, and radiant floor heating throughout. 3 large bedrooms and 2 full paths with a jacuzzi in the ensuite master bath. Expansive 16x72 deck for relaxing and entertaining. Close to all local boat launches. If you're looking for peace and quiet and the availability of everything the Adirondacks has to offer, this is the home for you.





MLS 201710074 \$495,000

Distinctive property having a new kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances. Formal dining room plus dining area, large living room with fireplace and lots of windows for natural light and an additional office/den area. Back yard has an inviting deck overlooking the tranquil in ground pool that is fully fenced and professionally landscaped. Basement recently finished into 1200 sqft of additional living area. Retreat to the master suite located on the second floor.







MLS 201518709 New Price \$525,000 275ft of LAKEFRONT on pure and pristine Peck's Lake. Enjoy he bay, the open lake and the level, sandy lakefront. This 2000 sqft contemporary style home features exquisite stone work on the exterior, new siding, new deck, new dock, replacement windows and a newer roof. The interior of this lakefront home features 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 3 gas fireplaces, new custom

built kitchen with granite countertops, stainless appliances and new flooring. This is not a drive by, as it cannot be seen from the road AND YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS OUT ON THIS EXCEPTIONAL LAKEFRONT PROPERTY

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