

Fort Plain Free Library hosts writers

FORT PLAIN - Do you enjoy playing with words? Would you like to share your poems or stories with like-minded individuals? Come to the Fort Plain Free Library each Thursday from 3 - 5 p.m.

Plain. The Writers at Fort

Plain is a creative writing group made up of writers from varied writing backgrounds, genres, interests, goals and experi-

for the Writers at Fort ence levels. In addition to exercises, participants share their work on memoirs, novels, short stories, poems and more.

This group is facilitated by published writer Joan Caska. The group features constructive feedback in a friendly, fun and supportive setting. The forum is free and open to the public.

Call 518.993.4646 or visit the library at 19 Willett St. for information.

2006 Forest River, 3 slide-outs, 46,000 mi, real nice! Contrade, sider \$42,000. 518-634-2310

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WOOD PELLETS -FALL SALE -New England Premium Wood Pellets, which are low ash, low maintenance, and clean burning. Buy Now & C.H. BURK-Save -DORF & SON, 35 Houah St. St. Johnsville 518-568-7016

MAKE our phone ring so we can return the favor!! Place your reader ad today. Ónly \$4.00 for the first 14 words. 518-673-0111

CENTRAL BOILER EClassic OUTDOOR FURNACES. Cleaner and Greener. EPA Certified. Call North Creek Heat 315-866-3698

FONDA: 2+ bedroom apartment, refrigerator & stove included, access to River, Mohawk Available \$675+. August 1st. 518-301-5739

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PACA GARDENS has Gift Certificates available in any amount. If you are not sure what to buy, you can't go wrong with a Gift Certificate. Everyone loves Alpaca clothing. Paca Gardens, 27 West Main St., Little Falls, NY 13365. 315-823-1100 M-F 10-5. Sat 10-4.

KOVAL'S APPLIANCE repair is affordable and fast. Call anytime (315) 867-9333.

The Valley Choralaires will present their Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 9, at 3 P.M. at the Canajoharie Methodist Church, East Main St., Canajoharie.

PACA GARDENS, 27 West Main St, Little Falls, NY stocks Fine Alpaca Clothing. Socks, sweaters, fur hats, scarves, gloves, mittens and much more. Alpaca is warmer than wool and softer than cashmere. 315-823-1100 M-F 10-5, Sat 10-4. Layaways available.

ALPACA PRODUCTS from Paca Gardens make great GIFTS for anyone, any time of year. Follow us on Facebook for daily updates on new arrivals. Socks, Sweaters, Blankets, Hats, Mittens, Gloves and so much more. Layaways available! Paca Gardens, 27 West Main St., Little Falls, NY 13365. 315-823-1100 M-F 10-5, Sat 10-4.

LAND FOR SALE: County, Montgomery 16 acres, hay fields, 2 barns, great view, 1220' frontage, \$66,000. County: 7 Herkimer acres fields & woods, great view, \$25,000. 10.1 acres, fields, nice view, \$27,000. Owner financing.518-861-6541, 518-256-6344 Helderbergrealty.com

WE CARRY 2 ½ gallon and 5 gallon chlorine, 5 gallon of 7% and 34% peroxide. Behind Every Project is a True Value! 12 Willett St Fort Plain (518)993-3834

WANTED: Steel file cabinets, 2 or 4 drawers. 518-673-5810.

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BUY LOCAL or BYE BYE LOCAL!

by Verla Jean Laymon Medora Moose. One day while eating hay, found a blue fedora. Which she promptly

She tied it with ribbons She looked in the mirror

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315-508-5329 Medora Moose

Hardware

Many Sizes To Choose From!

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put on her head.

round her chin. and had to grin. She had a look that would surely win

rchards Everything You Need For Thanksgiving Apples • Cider • Pies And More Order **Your Pies** For Wednesday, November 21st Pickup Closed Thanksgiving Day 7869 State Route 10 Sharon Springs, NY 18-284-2256 **Open 9-5 Daily**



the handsome moose

She sang "to town I go today,

what will everyone say?"

of her dreams.

MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR





MOTORCYCLE, Automatic, 2013 Honda 250 CBR, 3,228 miles, \$2,200. 518-921-6700



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Thank You to all of my friends and neighbors for making the benefit a success, especially the Kennedy's, Lusk's, and Allen's. Thank you to everyone who helped. May you all be blessed.

~Eli Kurtz Family





WILL REMOVE UNWANTED APPLIANCES FOR FREE

If you have unwanted refrigerators, freezers, washers, dryers, push lawn mowers, riding mowers, bikes, tillers, stoves, hotwater tanks, furnaces in cellar,



PAINTING A ROOM between the holidays? We have got the deal for you! BOGO Easy-Care from November 23rd until November 26th ONLY! Behind Every Project is a True Value! 12 Willett St Fort Plain (518)993-3834

8 FOOT TABLES & folding chairs for rent. Canajoharie Volunteer Fire Department 518-673-3812

USED 12X24 COT-TAGE SHED. Sold new for \$4,167 used price \$3,000. Yoder Quality Sheds. 315-858-0841

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LOOKING for it? Selling it? Looking for work? Looking to hire... give us a call at 518-673-0111 to place your reader ad today.

ESTHER'S BUDGET SHOP! Esther's is the place to SHOP on 11/16/18 for midnight madness!

DID YOU KNOW? -We have a generous selection of hardware, hand tools, plumbing, and PEX pipe & fittings in stock. Items not in stock may be ordered. - C.H. BURK-& SON, 35 DORF Hough St., St. Johnsville 518-568-7016

NOVEMBER SALE! All ice chests – ½ price at Willy's Get Around to it! 14 Bridge Street, St. Johnsville, NY 13452

MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR

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

DOES YOUR APPLI-ANCE NEED REPAIR? Need prompt service that's affordable? Call KOVAL's Major Appliance Repair. (315)867-9333

Attention Hikers! Paca Gardens has the ideal mid-calf sock for hikers. Cushioned from top to bottom for less fatigue. Many styles and colors to choose from. Alpaca is odor resistant and wicks away moisture better than any other natural fiber. We guarantee you will love them. Paca Gardens, 27 West Main St, Little Falls. 315-823-1100 M-F 10-5, Sat 10-4. Layaways available.

HANDYMAN: AC-**CESS TRANSPORTA-**TION is looking for a Handyman- "Jack of all Trades" type person to perform duties such as, but not limited to: Grounds Maintenance (including snow removal and mowing/ trimming), light building maintenance and general cleaning, light mechanical work and general errands. Candidate must be able to work independently and with others. Must possess a clean NYS drivers license. 40 hrs per week. Salary based on experience. Apply in person, 16 River St. Plain. NO Fort PHONE CALLS.

WANTED TO BUY: AMHR Mares, bigger is better. Call: 518-848-7040

KOVAL'S Major Appliance Repair has over 30 years experience and is affordable. Call 315-867-9333

MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR

THANK YOU: For each card, on- line message ane expression of sympathy since Leslie's passing. My sincere thank you. Special thanks to Luann and Jake Fisher who have been there and continue to be there for me. Sandra Hazzard

We are not "going out of business", or "retir-ing", or "cutting back", and definitely not a "sister company" or affiliated with ANY other monument dealer. We are McFee Memorials, proud to be a family business, in our 3rd generation of skilled sandblast experts. Located for the last 20 plus years at 65 Hancock Street Fort Plain, NY 13339, and in Fort Plain since 1965.

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HUSQVARNA SNOW-BLOWER SALE. Featuring electric startpower steering. heated handle grips- prices start at \$799.00. Financing available-Randall Implements. 2991 St. Hwy 5S, Fultonville 518-853-4500. LITTLE FALLS: West Main Street, second floor, 3 bedroom apartment, includes appliances, washer/dryer \$480 per hookup, month plus utilities.

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ATTENTION SKIERS! Paca Gardens has the ultimate Skier sock. Made with 70% Baby Alpaca for warmth and comfort. Tall enough to stay above the boot with padding in the right areas. Your feet will love these socks! We sold out last year but just got our shipment in. Just \$25.95 a pr. Available in Silver/Denim & Black/Fuchsia. Paca Gardens, 27 West Main St., Little Falls, NY 13365. 315-823-1100 M-F 10-5, Sat 10-4.

ALPACA SWEATERS in stock. Hundreds to choose from. NEW luxurious styles. Warmer than wool, softer than cashmere, smoother than silk and hypo-allergenic. Paca Gardens, 27 West Main St, Little Falls, NY 315-823-1100 M-F 10-5, Sat 10-4. Layaways available

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518-673-3546

KING'S Fri., November 16th Christmas Auction ~ 6:33PM Sat., November 17th Consignment Auction ~ 6:33PM Sat., November 24th Consignment Auction ~ 6:33PM Sun.. November 25th Breeder Sale ~ 11:33AM Thurs., December 6th Food Auction ~ 6:33PM Burrows Rd., West Winfield, NY • (315) 822-5221 WE ACCEPT CASH - CREDIT CARDS - DEBIT CARDS

ADIRONDACK AUCTION SALES Selling merchandise used and new tack starting at 11:00 a.m. followed by Livestock Horses, donkeys, small livestock, tack and merchandise blow out sale. SATURDAY DEC 1, 2018 Just in time for Christmas. Western boots and hats Tons of western gift items for Christmas •Tack, Tools, large selection of winter blankets •Gates, mini panels, 60 foot round pen •4 nice trail type horses consigned form Maryland •5 real cool geldings already consigned Notice Also selling two mini white face herfords NOTICE: This will not be a catalog sale. No consignment fee Just a 10% commission fee on livestock 25% commission on all tack and equipment * Excepting consignments of all kinds Friday 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. **Also Saturday morning until sale time! *** Must have a coggins test in hand, dated within one year of the sale date. Out of state horses must have a health certificate. Sale held at 3554 State Highway 30, Gloversville, New York 12078 Auctioneers: Dave and Tye Eglin CASH OR GOOD CHECK ACCEPTED- sorry no debit or credit cards will be accepted For more information contact Dave 518-848-7040 • Tye 518-774-8594 All announcements made day of sale take precedent over all written material.

NO RESERVE AUCTION Guns and Sporting Goods Auction Wed., November 28th • 6:00pm Guns. Ammunition. Sporting Good Rifles. Shotguns **BB Guns. Black Powder Guns and Pistols.**

Already Consigned is SPRINGFIELD TRAPDOOR 50-70 U.S. 748 with original sling (early gun) Remington model 7400 30-06 Semi, Ruger American 270 with Nikon Scope Brand

new, Winchester model 63 22 Rifle Super Speed X. Ranger 20 Ga. Over/Under model 103. Thompson Center 54 Caliber nice early gun, Moore Side by Side 10 Ga. and 12 Ga. H & R 410/44 Caliber single shot, Weatherby Orion Over/Under 12 Ga. Mossburg Model 195 KA

12 Ga. Winchester Ranger Deerslayer 12 Ga. Savage model 6A 22 Rifle. Winchester model 69A 22 long rifle.. Ruger Mini 14 223 caliber..lots of 357 Ammo, 38 Special Ammo, and other assorted pistol and Long Rifle ammunition,

and more still coming...also brand new guns. Consign your Guns, Rifles, Fishing Tackle, Trapping, Boats, Canoes, Kayaks, and Ammunition!! See photos on auctionzip.com

> JR'S Auction • 518-993-4668 7403 St Hwy 5, St. Johnsville, NY

 \star ATTENTION \star WANTED FOR AUCTION!! **GUNS.. AMMUNITION..SPORTING GOODS..** Shop and Farm Clean Outs..Business Close Outs.. Old Trunks, Singer Sewing Machines, Cast Iron Flower Pots, Cast Iron Lawn Furniture, Old Pottery, Old Tools, Old Oil Can Cans, Old Tin & Metal Signs, Railroad Lanterns, Sleighs, Surreys, Buggy's, Blacksmith Anvils, Hay Wagons, Old Bottles, Old Car Parts, Wooden Bowls, Antique Kitchen Utensils, Old Rolling Pins!! **CONSIGN TO ONE OF OUR MANY AUCTIONS!!**

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HOSKING SALES LLC – CERTIFIED ORGANIC MARKETING AGENCY

Weekly Sales Every Monday 11:30 with

Misc. & Small animals followed by Dairy & Livestock Mon. Nov. 5th - Sold 205 head. Cull Ave. \$.35 Top Cow \$.45, Bulls/Steers \$.54-\$.87, Bull calves top \$.85, beef calf top \$2.00, heifer calf top \$.25, Dairy feeders \$.25 - \$.50, Feeder

bulls \$.80 - \$1.06, Feeder Steers \$.77 - \$.86.
Mon. Nov. 19th - Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Sheep, Lamb, Goat & Pig Sale.
Mon. Nov. 26th - Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Organic Day.

Special: Conventional Herd – Dairy Dispersal for Bill Tompkins, Gilboa, NY. 36 head of Jersey & Jersey-Holstein Cross Dairy Cattle. Nov. DHI RHA 13435 4.6 548 3.3 444. SCC 200,000 Cows are in all stages of lactation with a 12.3 mo. Calving interval. 18 of the 26 milking cows are in 1st or 2nd lactation. 26 cows and 10 bred and open heifers.

Mon. Dec. 3rd - Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Fat Cow & Feeder Sale

Mon. Dec. 10th - Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Heifer Sale. Mon. Dec. 17th - Due to being closed Monday Dec. 24th this will be our Normal Monday Sale – Sheep, Lamb, Goat , Pig

Sale & Monthly Organic Day. **Mon. Dec. 24th** – We will be closed this week due to the hol-idays. **Trucking Assistance – Call the Sale Barn or check out our trucker list on our Web-Site. Call to advertise in any of these sales it makes a difference. Watch website for any last minute updates.

Directions: Hosking Sales LLC 6096 NYS Rt. 8, 30 miles South of Utica & 6 miles North of New Berlin, NY.

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Tom & Brenda Hosking	HUSKING	607-847-880
& Family	SALES LUC	cell: 607-972-1770 or 177
6096 St. Hwy. 8, New Berlin	NY 13411	Dan Hosking: 607-972-877



Follow these Thanksgiving travel safety tips

The week of Thanksgiving is a busy time of the year to travel that's marked by a large number of people traveling to see loved ones. In 2017, AAA projected 50.9 million Americans would journey 50 miles or more from home on Thanksgiving. While many people look forward to seeing their loved ones, the sheer volume of cars on the road during Thanksgiving week



Refreshments following the service

makes it a dangerous time to travel.

A 2013 study examining the previous five years of data on traffic crashes in Alberta, Canada, found that long weekends have 18 percent more deadly accidents than non-holiday weekends. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Thanksgiving is the most dangerous holiday for driving. The most recent data available from NHTSA's Fatality Analysis Reporting System indicates that there were 764 crashes involving a fatality during Thanksgiving 2012. In comparison, there were 654 crashes involving a fatality during Christmas that year.

This Thanksgiving, drivers should make it a point to follow these tips to ensure they get to their destinations safely and soundly.

• Check the forecast before you go. Weather can be unpredictable around Thanksgiving. Conditions may be sunny one day and then cold and icy the next. Stay up-to-date on the latest weather forecasts and road conditions as you prepare for your trip, making sensible decisions about traveling if there is inclement weather

• Get your vehicle inspected. Have your vehicle inspected in the days before you hit the road. A mechanic's diagnostic checkup and routine servicing, such as topping off fluids and changing windshield wipers, can make driving safer.

• Keep your fuel tank more than half-full. FEMA suggests keeping the tank full when temperatures are extremely cold. This is because condensation can build up in near-empty gas tanks, potentially freezing fuel lines and leaving you stranded.

• Opt for airline updates. Flights can be delayed or canceled when weather is poor. Many airlines will now text travelers who are subscribed to updates or frequent-flyer programs and apps. That's a convenient and free bonus.

• Plan for stops. Drowsy driving and distracted driving are extreme dangers across North America. Take breaks to avoid drowsiness, and only use a mobile device when safely pulled over at a rest stop.

• Leave plenty of time. There are bound to be many travelers come Thanksgiving week. Build extra time into your trip so you don't have to speed or rush to make it on time.

Thanksgiving is a big travel holiday. Make it to family dinner safe and full of smiles by following various safety trips during your travels.



Whatchamacallits

Earliest man used the earliest form of hammer available. He found a sturdy rock, picked it up and swung away at whatever needed pounding.

We've come a long way from using rocks as hammers. Today, there are dozens of different varieties of one of the most basic tools available for dozens of different jobs – more than 40 in total.

A modern day hammer consists of a weighted "head" fixed to a long handle that is swung to deliver an impact to a small area of an object - for example, to drive nails into wood, to shape metal (as with a forge) or to crush rock. Hammers are used for all sorts of driving, shaping and breaking applications.

The modern hammer head is

been heat treated for hardness, and the handle (also called a haft or a helve) is typically made of wood or plastic.

typically made of steel which has of hammers used in different trades include sledgehammers, mallets and ball-peen hammers. The hammer on display this week falls loosely in that last category.



The most recognizable tool in this class today is the claw hammer, which has a "claw" to pull nails out of wood. Other types

As far as we can tell, this tool is closest in shape and size to a swage bar hammer. Swaging is a forging process in which the size and dimensions of an item are altered using dies into which the item is forced. The process is usually done with unheated items. Swages were originally tools used by blacksmiths to form metal into various shapes too intricate to make with a hammer alone. These have handles for holding or pegs for attaching to an anvil, and often a flat head for striking with a hammer. Swage blocks are anvil-like dies with various shapes forged into them, which are also used for forming metal. Swages called "fullers" are specific to making grooves in swords and knives.

As this trade required precise work, a small, quick hammer like the one on display would have been required, rather than a bulker, heavier-headed hammer.

Do you have your own Whatchamacallit?

Send a photo and short description to cllewellyn@leepub.com or call Courtney at 518.673.0144



St. Johnsville Senior Saints meeting

Fortv-two members were present on Wednesday, Nov. 7 for the St. Johnsville Senior Saints meeting. We welcomed new member Nancy Shaw to the group. November birthdays were celebrated with refreshments and song

Reminder was given to members that Christmas party money is due by

Nov. 26 for the Dec. 8 party at the HC Smith Benefit Club.

Raffle winners were Cathy Miles and Lorraine Thomas. Ann Bilobrowka won farm fresh eggs. Cres Smith and Leonora Gutowski won panettones.

The next meeting and luncheon is set for Wednesday, Nov. 21 at

the Community House on Washington Street in St. Johnsville. The luncheon will be at noon, followed by the business meeting at 12:30 p.m.

At the close of the meeting, Nutrition Class Number Four will be held (fourth of four), led by OFA nutritionist Molly Capito.

tary tried to convince

Kennedy the president

not to go on a trip to Dal-

• If you're like the aver-

age man, your beard

grows about half an inch

• Those who study such

things claim that an aver-

age bank robber in the

United States nets about

\$4,000 for every job. No

info at hand on how the

• You might think that

hot dogs are a relatively recent food offering, but

you'd be wrong. The first

sausages were created

more than 3,500 years

ago when ancient Babylo-

nians began stuffing

spiced meat into the in-

testines of animals.

acquired

every month.

researchers

their data.

las, where he was shot.

by Samantha Weaver

• In an odd coincidence, President Abraham Lincoln had a secretary named Kennedy, and President John F. Kennedy had a secretary named Lincoln. Kennedy the secretary told Lincoln the president that he shouldn't go to Ford's Theatre the night he was shot; Lincoln the secre-

Strange but True

• The fastest of all nondomesticated canines, the African wild dog can sprint faster than 40 mph.

• Many people make provisions in their wills for their pets; it's the compassionate thing to do. Singer Dusty Springfield went a bit further than most, though; she specified that her cat was to be fed only imported baby food.

Thought for the Day: "Every man possesses three characters: that which he exhibits, that which he really has, and that which he believes he has." - Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr

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Calendar of events

NOTE: Calendar items must be submitted by Tuesday prior to the publication date to be included in the Calendar of Events. Entries may be emailed to cfeditor@leepub.com

Nov 17

Soup and sandwich luncheon day. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Church of Christ Uniting, 22 Church Street, Richfield Springs. Soup and sandwich luncheon by donation 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Pre-Thanksgiving Bake Sale and Holiday Craft Corner 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Pre-Thanksgiving fundraiser. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Church of Christ Uniting, 22 Church Street, Richfield Springs. Luncheon 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Bake sale 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit www.rschurchofchristuniting.com, find us on Facebook, or call Carol Simpson, Guild President, at 315.868.0319 for more information.

Soup, Pie, and Craft Sale. 10 a.m. 2 p.m. Frothingham Free Library, 28 West Main Street, Fonda. A variety of homemade soup, pies, and rolls will be available as well as unique crafts.

Nov 18

Holiday Shopping Extravaganza. 1 - 4 p.m. Richfield Springs Community Center, 6 Ann Street, Richfield Springs. For crafter/vendor questions please call Angella at 315.219.2002. Fundraiser to benefit the youth programs at the Community Center. For more information on its programs or to rent the facility go to www.richfieldzone.org or call 315.858.3200.

Spaghetti Luncheon. Following 11 a.m. mass. Holy Spirit Polish National Catholic Church, 618 E. Gansevoort St., Little Falls. Adults \$9. Children 13+ \$5. 12 and under free. Take-outs available. Visit WWW.Holy SpiritPNCC.org.

20th Annual "Evening of Praise and Thanksgiving". 7 p.m. Canajoharie Reformed Church, 19 Front St., Canajoharie. Vocal and instrumental praise offerings. Offering for RCA's Global Mission for Hurricane Relief. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the service.

Nov 20 and 27

NYS History Month Tuesday Talks Series. Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site, Fort Hunter. "The Mabee Farm: New Stories from Old

Schenectady". "Fulton County in Hollywood" Nov. 20. "Colonial Medicine" Nov. 27. For information, call the Visitor Center at 518.829.7516 or email SchoharieCrossing@parks. ny.gov, or visit our Facebook page.

Nov 20

Fulton County in Hollywood. 6:30 p.m. Enders House. Free. Contact Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site at 518.829.7516.

Nov 21

Local History Round Table cancelled. Fort Plain Free Library. Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, this gathering has been cancelled. The next meeting is set for Dec. 19. Please call 518.993.4646 for more information.

St Johnsville Senior Saints meeting. Luncheon 12 noon. Business meeting 12:30 p.m. Fourth and final nutrition class led by OFA Molly Capito following the business meeting. New members are always welcome.

Nov 22 and 29

Creative Textile Fibers Group. Nov. 22 and 29. Each Thursday from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Fort Plain Free Library, 19 Willett St., Fort Plain. Contact: 518.993.4646.

Writers Group at Fort Plain. Nov. 22 and 29. Each Thursday from 3 to 5 p.m. Fort Plain Free Library, 19 Willett St., Fort Plain, NY. Group is facilitated by published writer, Joan Caska. Contact 518.993.4646.

Nov 27

6:30 p.m. Colonial Medicine. Enders House. Free. Contact Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site at 518.829.7516.

Joint luncheon with Meals of Montgomery and Arkell Hall. 11:45 a.m. Arkell Center, 2 Lower Maple Ave., Canajoharie. Pasta primavera, spinach and roll with warm apples w/raisins. Following at 12:30 p.m. — Gary Van Slyke "Over the River & Through the Woods".

Nov 28

Senior Citizens Pinochle Card Party. Arkell Center, 2 Lower Maple Ave., Canajoharie. Donation \$2, prizes and refreshments. Looking to sub, call Terry at 518.673.5635.

Nov 29

Diet Club. Arkell Center, 2 Lower Maple Ave., Canajoharie. The goal is to be held accountable while maintaining weight. Call 518.673.2112.

Nov 30

Bingo with our Senior Citizens Club. 1:30 p.m. Arkell Center, 2 Lower Maple Ave., Canajoharie. Bingo starts directly following the Senior Citizens Club meeting.

Canajoharie Senior Citizens Club Meeting. 1 p.m. Arkell Center, 2 Lower Maple Ave., Canajoharie.

Dec. 2

St. Nicholas Day at Fort Klock. Noon-3 p.m. Fort Klock, 7214 State Route 5, St. Johnsville. For more information visit http://www.fortklockrestoration.org.

Dec. 5

Village of Ames Christmas Tree lighting. Dec 5 18. 6 p.m. Refreshments will follow at the fire station. Visit www.amesmuseum.weebly. com or at f@amesmuseum. Visit www.amesmuseum.weebly.com or at f@amesmuseum.

Dec. 8

Fort Plain Reformed Church Faith Formation Holiday Fair 2018. 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. 165 Canal Street, Fort Plain. Serving Breakfast 7-9:30 a.m. Serving Lunch 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Auction Number Calling 12:30 p.m.165 Canal Street, Fort Plain, NY, 518-993-4302. Call the church at 518.993.4302.



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Thomas McCarthy, integral member of the Country Folks Farm Newspaper sales team, dies

Thomas D. McCarthy, 81, of Cherry Valley, NY, peacefully passed away on Nov. 1, 2018 surrounded by his wife and children. Born to the late William C. and Anna (Ryder) McCarthy, of Cherry Valley, he graduated from Cherry Valley Central School, attended SUNY Cobleskill and graduated in 1957 with a degree in Agriculture.

McCarthy worked in the milk and agriculture field that included Canajoharie Co-op, Dairylea, NEDCO and Farmland Dairies. McCarthy was an integral member of the Country Folks Newspaper sales team, consistently finishing at or near the top in sales performance. After devoting 17 years to serving his advertising customers, McCarthy retired from Lee Publications in 2002.

McCarthy was an active member of St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Cherry Valley.

McCarthy is survived by his wife of 58 years, Roberta (Olmsted). His sister, Gloria McCarthy, sister-inlaw, Theresa M. McCarthy and nephew, Patrick Porteus, predeceased him.

Survivors include his two sons, Thomas W. (Kathy), John P. and one daughter Suzanne McCarthy-Sheppeck (John). He also leaves a sister, Rosemary Porteus and three brothers, William, James and Michael. Mc-Carthy has four grandsons, one granddaughter and several great-grandchildren.





Beat The Fall Rush Call Today

Calling hours and a mass were held on Nov. 10 in Cherry Valley. Memorial contributions may be made to the Cherry Valley EMS or St. Thomas the Apostle Church.



Thomas D. McCarthy was an integral member of the Country Folks Newspaper sales team for 17 years.

KEEP THE LEAVES & SNOW OFF YOUR PORCH! Use PALRUF Corrugated PVC – 26" x 8' or 26" x 12' clear panels. Easy to cut and easy to install. - C.H. BURKDORF & SON, 35 Hough St., St. Johnsville 518-568-7016

NEED SOMEONE TO HEM up your pants? Call: 518-993-4937 for more information.





Historic Golden Eagle Day at Oneonta Hawk Watch



Golden Eagle at Franklin Mt. Hawkwatch.

The city of Oneonta was the site of an historic event on Oct. 25, although very few were aware at the time. Hawk counters at the Franklin Mountain Hawk Watch overlooking the city and the Susquehanna River valley tallied 128 migrating golden eagles, by far the highest single day total for the species in eastern North America.

Flying on northwest winds, which provide lift from the Franklin Mountain ridge, the big raptors glided past steadily from 10 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. when the gathering dusk ended the flight. Counters Peter Fauth and Becky Gretton, along with many visitors, were awestruck by the concentration of the relatively rare birds, many of which passed over Oneonta on their southbound journey. Gretton noted, "There was a spirit of celebration that grew and grew among the humans on the mountain."

Golden eagles are similar in size but not closely related to the local population of bald eagles, according to Andy Mason, co-president of the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society, which sponsors the hawk

Photo by Curt Morgan

watch. Although the species is more common in the west and in Alaska, the eastern population is estimated at a few thousand birds which nest in far northern Canada and migrate down through the Appalachians in autumn. "We have known for some time that we are on a major flyway for goldens," said Mason, "but we have never experienced a phenomenon like this."

The previous single day high count was 75, set at the Allegheny Front hawk watch in western Pennsylvania in 2015. and Franklin Mountain had a big day with 71 in November 2005, said Mason, but the Oct. 25 flight shattered those records. No one at the Franklin Mountain site, now in its 31st year of operation, had a ready explanation for the huge movement of golden eagles. Mason speculated that possibly weather conditions or food supply were factors, noting that the birds were migrating well ahead of the traditional mid-November peak for their passage. Other lookouts had also reported larger than normal numbers of golden eagles through October.

Golden eagles have been a focus of the local Audubon group, said Mason. A project using baited camera traps has documented that a significant number of the birds overwinter in Delaware and Otsego counties, previously unknown to ornithologists. DOAS also has instituted an educational campaign to alert hunters to the dangers of lead ammunition, which can be lethal if ingested by both species of eagles when they feed on carcasses or gut piles of shot deer. The group is encouraging the use of copper bullets as an alternative.

The Franklin Mountain Hawkwatch will continue through November and into December, with counters present except on rainy days. Visitors are welcome at the site, with the best conditions for viewing golden eagles and other raptors coming the day or two after the passage of a cold front, which brings strong northwest winds.

More information on the hawk watch, including directions, is available at www.franklinmt.org or at 607.652.2162.



How to choose and care for table linens

Table linens must be able to bear the brunt of spilled wine, dropped food and even drippings of candle wax. Learning how to choose and care for table linens can benefit frequent party hosts.

Selecting table linens

According to the etiquette and entertaining experts at Better Homes & Gardens, white damask or plain white linen tablecloths are traditionally used for formal dinners. However, for many other parties, hosts and hostesses can use a variety of different tablecloth materials and styles to fit their decor.

If frequent spills or table service with young children is expected, many table linen materials bead up liquids for easy cleanup. Also, for ease of use, select linens that can be machine-washed and will not require special treatment.

Napkins should match the tablecloth at formal dinners. Otherwise, have fun mixing and matching patterns and colors.

Tablecloth length

Buffet tables should be set with a tablecloth that reaches the floor. For the dinner table, select a length that drops below the top of the table, anywhere between eight and 18 inches. Err on the larger size so that tablecloths will hang accordingly and not expose the edges of the table.

Display old linens

A dinner party can be made extra-special by using antique or passed-down linens. Many of these tablecloths may be made from actual linen. Use care when laundering linens that cannot be tumble-dried, which can over-dry the fibers, advises the Farmer's Almanac. Line dry and store rolled for the best results. Steamiron linens so they'll be crisp on the table.

Treating stains

The quicker you act, the more likely it is that stains can be remedied and table linens salvaged. Spot-treat the stain during service to remove much of it. Soak the tablecloth or napkins overnight in water to release stains. Tough stains may need to be treated with a prewash stain remover before soaking. Hot water is usually acceptable for most stains, but consider soaking items in cool water to treat red wine stains. Also, be mindful of care instructions on cloth products.

Be sure that stains have been completely removed;

otherwise, they can be further heat-set by tumble-drying the tablecloth. Many people prefer to line-dry linens to protect the nature of the fibers, particularly for fine linens.

Table linens can set the scene for a dinner party or other event. Proper selection, care and storage can keep them looking beautiful for years to come.





Gift

rapping

Did you know?

According to a survey of more than 2,000 adults in the United States conducted in September 2017 by the International Council of Shopping Centers, holiday shoppers still prefer to shop at physical retailers for their gifting needs.

The survey found that nearly all shoppers (96 percent) planned to make a purchase from a retailer who has both a physical and online presence. Furthermore, 91 percent of holiday shoppers said they were planning to buy some of the items they researched online at physical locations. Even though online sales are booming, this data reinforces the fact that holiday shoppers still rely on brick-and-mortar stores. Retailers who understand how to seamlessly offer both online resources as well as a strong physical retail presence may enjoy an especially profitable holiday season.



Gifting those who live far away

Food

People move away for many reasons, including access to better jobs, a lower cost of living, mandatory job relocation or to attend school. Some people enjoy seeing the world and make frequent travel part of their lifestyles.

Distant friends and family members may be out of sight but certainly not out of mind come the holidays. Even though not everyone can get together for Christmas dinner or to light the Chanukah menorah, there are ways to show those special people across the country - or around the world - just how much they are appreciated.

Although video chatting, texting and email can make it easier to stay in touch, distance can make sharing the holidays and gifts a bit more challenging. However. these gifting ideas and tips can make easy work out of sending holiday cheer across the globe.

Accepted



Reg Hours: Tues-Fri 10-5; Sat. 10-1

December Hours: M-F 10-5; Sat. 10-3,

Christmas Eve, Sunday 10-5

Food can be a one-sizefits all gift. Exploring the offerings of food gifts, one will quickly find there are all types of options. If a recipient is living overseas or on the opposite side of the country, gift a favorite local food from his or her hometown. Cookie or fruit bouquets can be shipped and are universally enjoyed gifts. Treat towers, popcorn, cheeses and much more are available for holiday giving. **Consider size** Large, heavy items will

cost more to ship. Therefore, small gifts may be more practical. Consult with the post office or a preferred shipping provider about their pricing. Otherwise, consider shipping directly to a loved one's house. Online retailers usually give shoppers a choice of shipping address, and free or low-cost shipping may be included.

Leave ample time for delivery

The holiday season is a busy time of year for the shipping industry. While shipping companies try their best to get items to recipients in a timely manner, delays can occur. The best way to ensure that gifts arrive on time is to send them a week or two in advance, which also saves giftgivers from having to pay



MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR

extra for rush shipping. The U.S. Postal Service says international deliveries can take between seven and 21 days to arrive, so leave more time for overseas gifts.

Try a subscription service

Subscription services, such as beauty boxes, recipe boxes and meal kits, can be a great way to keep the gifts arriving long after the holidays have come and gone.

Avoid breakables

Stick to gifts that will ship well; otherwise, you may have to spend extra time and money wrapping and insuring items. Clothing gifts, blankets, stuffed animals, books and other durable gifts can be shipped with ease and peace of mind.

Gifting loved ones who live far away requires a little extra effort. But that extra effort will show friends and family members just how much they're loved.





Great gifts for beloved seniors

By the time they reach senior status, many adults have amassed a ton of stuff along with their irreplaceable knowledge. Come their golden years, grandparents and other aging loved ones probably don't need much in the way of material possessions, which can make it challenging to find them holiday gifts.

Finding great gifts for seniors may take a little more effort, but with these ideas at the ready, it's likely gift-

givers can make this holiday merry for everyone on their shopping lists. Hiring a visiting care worker who can do everything from or-

Family photo memories

Many seniors love to talk about their life histories. What better way to be the catalyst for conversation than to create a photo album that chronicles their lives? Photos can be included alongside historical documents, such as old school projects, military discharge papers, awards and even genealogical information. Photo puzzles, photo calendars and any home decor with a photo printed on it are variations on this theme.

Assistance gifts

Seniors want to remain as independent as possible. By giving items that help them do just that, you can bring smiles to their faces.

One idea is motion-sensing light switches and fixtures. If and when nature calls in the middle of the night, hallways or bathrooms can be illuminated effortlessly.

Shower and bathroom grab bars are another idea. These provide extra security and stability when getting in and out of the shower or when using the toilet.

For seniors who just need a little extra reach, a grab tool can easily snag packages from a top shelf or pick up items that may have dropped to the floor, eliminating bending or straining.

Practical technology

Seniors may not be as immersed in technology as young people, but they purchase their share of gadgets and increasingly rely on tech to get through the day. To free up more time for rest and relaxation, invest in an iRobot Roomba Robot Vacuum. This simple device will clean floors easily, moving from room to room without the need for a bulky canister or upright vacuum.

Consider an easy-to-use tablet, pre-loaded with handy applications. Grandparents can use video chatting to keep in touch with grandchildren living across the country. Easily refill prescription medication with a pharmacy app just a click away. Stream favorite movies or channels through video streaming sites, like Netflix or Amazon Prime. Tablets tend to be lightweight, portable and user-friendly.

Personal care

Even independent seniors may benefit from a little extra companionship and assistance when family

members are not able to make frequent visits. Hiring a visiting care worker who can do everything from organizing pills to making dinner to tackling some laundry can provide the help seniors need with their daily errands.

Seniors are a thriving and growing demographic. It may seem challenging to purchase gifts for older loved ones, but with a little know-how, it's easy to find the right present.



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36 Canal Street, Fort Plain, NY 13339 518-993-1010 Check out our Facebook page for upcoming events! Store Hours: Tues & Thurs 8-5 • Wed & Fri 8-7 • Sat 8-2



• 4:30PM ~ Santa arrives at the Canajoharie Post Office to pick upthe sletters from our children.

6:00PM ~ Lighting of the Christmas Tree & Carolling led by our
 elementary choir and of course Santa & his elves. (Park is downtown
 adjacent to Little Mohawk Street, near the dummy light.)

After the Tree Lighting ~ Santa entertains the little ones and hears their "wish lists". Christmas cookies and hot cococa will be served at the Canajoharie Library/Arkell Museum.

Horse Drawn Wagon Rides from 5-8:30PM

Basket Rafifie - New This Year! Hosted by Canajoharie Reformed Curch at their downtown ministry location- Berean Beans-64 Church St., Canajoharie. See baskets available starting Wed., Dec. 5 @ 3PM. Basket donations are greatley appreciated. Call Janet 518-673-0292. We are already up to 15 baskets, won't you consider adding to the fun? Proceeds will benefit the annual Elves Night Out activities.

50/50 Raffle Tickets will be available at participating downtown businesses All Week Long!

Canajoharie Youth Center will once again be hosting vendor tables in their gym - Interested vendors should contact Amanda Sweet 518-673-5117. The Youth Center will also be hosting a craft area for the kids starting at 6pm. Community Calendar Fund Raiser! Get your 2019 callendar filled with nostalgic photos of Canajoharie and Palatine Bridge!

Montgomery County Office for Aging will again join with Liberty Day Hab folks to bring some great craft projects for the kids. Please join them for some cookies, hot chocolate and hot cider too!

Downtown Shops will stay open latewatch ads for specific specials!

Elves will take over the town! Lots of photo opportunities... snacks... bargains... fellowship.. watch for more details!!

For information contact Chamber President, Janet Stanley M-F 10-5 518-673-0292

Holiday Gift Guide

Shopping facts and figures

The holidays are here, and that means millions of people will spend time decorating, making shopping lists, purchasing presents and stocking up on entertaining essentials. Various groups and consumer watchdogs track trends in holiday spending and giving, and many facts and figures may surprise holiday enthusiasts.

• Economists with the National Retail Federation say online and retail sales in 2017 increased by 10.5 percent over the previous year. The combination of job and wage gains, modest inflation and elevated consumer confidence has led to higher holiday spending.

• Between Thanksgiving Day and Cyber Monday 2017, more than 174 million Americans shopped in stores and online, offers the NRF. Black Friday still reigns supreme, with 77 million consumers. However, Small Business Saturday was not far behind, with 55 million consumers.

• Data from Prosper Insights & Analytics says people planned to spend an average of \$967.13 in 2017 on the holiday season. That was up 3.4 percent from the year prior.

• Tracking of spending on video games by The NPD Group reflects a growth of 15 percent when compared to a year ago. All categories have shown gains, including





Various groups and consumer watchdogs track trends in holiday spending and giving, and many facts and figures may surprise holiday enthusiasts.

software, hardware, accessories and game cards. Fortnite has been a significant software sales driver for 2018, ratcheting up legions of fans seemingly overnight. • Many people pride themselves on shopping

early for gifts, but there are eleventh-hour consumers as well. NRF says around 15 percent of last-minute shoppers plan to buy gifts at supermarkets or grocery stores.

• Charitable giving tends to skyrocket at the end of the year, when the spirit of giving synonymous with the season inspires individuals to give back. According to PricewaterhouseCoopers, the average total cash contribution to charity by individuals is roughly \$245.

• The NRF notes that, in 2017, only about 12 percent of consumers finished their holiday shopping by the second week of December.

• Research from Forbes found that gift cards will continue to reign supreme. Gift cards are convenient for gift-givers, and PWC found that 42 percent of people prefer to receive gift cards for the holidays.

• Sales are strong for both online and brickand-mortar retailers. Accenture's 10th Annual Accenture Holiday Shopping Survey discovered 84 percent of consumers plan to go online, particularly to Amazon.com, to research and price-check gifts before looking or buying elsewhere.

• The Accenture survey also found that at least three-quarters of shoppers are enticed by coupons and other promotions to shop at stores they have not visited before.

• Don't let the holiday buying season fool you. Shopping continues even after Santa has slid down the chimney. The NRF states 48 percent of shoppers will take advantage of after-Christmas sales in stores.



Workplace gifting etiquette: Get giving right

Gift giving in the workplace can be challenging territory to navigate. And as anyone who has received an inappropriate gift or something that really wasn't useful can attest, he or she probably doesn't want to face a situation in which a gift leads to office gossip.

According to a poll conducted by Harris, around half of workers plan to gift at least one business associate around the holidays but are confused about what to give. Too often it's up to workers to navigate these etiquette minefields on their own, but the following tips can help the process go smoothly.

• Keep it impersonal. Impersonal doesn't mean it's acceptable to grab anything off the shelf. But the gift should not be something that would offend tastes or sentiments. Avoid clothing, perfume, jewelry or accessories. Lotions and other scented items are also ill-advised.

• Skip your boss. Etiquette experts say that gifts should flow downward, not upward, in the realm of employment ranking. That means it's best to stick with gifting colleagues who are on the same level as you. Buying a gift for the boss may look like you're simply

• Keep prices modest. Office giving is not about illustrating who can afford the most expensive place for gifting others. • Avoid cash gifts. Giving cash or checks is not a good idea. Money should only come by way of bonuses from higherups. If you're stuck on what to give, a gift card to a store that a coworker visits is acceptable.

Gifting at work is complicated, and certain etiquette should be followed so no lines are crossed.







Navigating office gifting can be tricky. It's important to avoid overly personal items.

trying to score brownie points instead of offering a meaningful gift.

• Give group gifts. Rather than gifting individuals, it can be safer to give a group gift from which many can benefit. This can include coffee and pastries from a nearby bakery, or a bouquet of flowers to brighten up the office environment.

gift. Remember, some people will not be able to reciprocate, and they shouldn't feel uncomfortable for being on the receiving end of a lavish gift.

• Follow the rules. Gift exchanges should be cleared with supervisors or human resources professionals. It pays to check if there are rules in



Did you know?

Giving the gift of an experience is a rising trend, particularly among Millennials. Harris research has determined that Millennials (defined as people born between 1980 and 1996) highly value experiences, and they are increasingly spending time and money on them.

Types of experiences include athletic pursuits, cultural visits, concerts, social events and various travel. The research goes on to say that more than three out of four Millennials choose to spend money on a desirable experience instead of buying a product. And it's not just Millennials.

Overall, consumer spending has shifted in the last 10 to 15 years. HSBC Bank Chief Economist Kevin Logan said consumer spending on recreation, travel and eating out has been trending upward for more than a decade, while purchases of clothing and shoes as a share of discretionary spending has dropped. These trends can help drive purchases during holiday gift-giving. Gifts that are more experience-oriented may be more appreciated by their recipients.



Join us at Hand's & Roll the Dice For our Black Friday Sale Win up to 30% off your purchases Cash, Credit Card and Check Only (limited to store stock, all sale items excluded)

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Save the Date!!

Santa and Mrs Claus will be coming to visit L.J. Hand Farm Center on Saturday, December 1st and 15th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Santa's Special North Pole Express Mailbox arrives at L.J. Hand Farm Center on Friday, November 24th., Come visit and drop your letter to Santa here at the store. Can't make it to the store...no problem...simply mail to <u>L.J.</u> Hand Farm Center, c/o Santa's North Pole Express, 1431 State Huy 161, Fultomille, NY 12072. To receive a response from Santa Claus Don't forget to include your name, age and address with your letter to Santa Claus.

Thanksgiving quiche puts sweet potatoes front and center

Sweet potatoes are a favorite side dish at Thanksgiving dinner tables. Packed with vitamins, nutrients, fiber and delectable flavor, sweet potatoes have earned their place on holiday dinner tables. While many holiday hosts bake, fry or mash their sweet potatoes, these beloved tubers can be prepared in other ways as well.

If you want to put a new twist on this Thanksgiving staple, whip up this recipe for "Sweet Potato Quiche," courtesy of the North Carolina Sweet Potato Commission. Submitted to the NC State Fair Tailgate Recipe Contest by Kristen Frybort, this recipe marries sweet tubers with decadent cheese, rich cream and savory spices.

Sweet Potato Quiche

Makes 8 servings

2 cups sweet potatoes, peeled and diced into small cubes

3/4 cup yellow onion, diced 2 1/2 tablespoons olive oil

1/2 teaspoon salt

CANAJOHARIE

Crossbow

Women - \$50

Youth - \$53

3 Gun

Men - \$100

Women - \$100

\$853

518-673-3993

Youth - \$100

Men - \$50

Black pepper to taste Egg mixture:

4 eggs

1 cup heavy cream

1/2 teaspoon fresh rosemary, minced 1/2 tablespoon fresh parsley, minced 1 1/2 teaspoons salt

1/4 teaspoon pepper 3 ounces Gruyere cheese, shredded

Pre-baked deep dish pie crust

Preheat oven to 400°F. Mix together the first five ingredients and place on baking sheet. Roast in the oven for 15 to 20 minutes.

While sweet potatoes and onions are roasting, shred cheese and set aside. Whisk the egg mixture and set aside.

Once potatoes and onions have finished roasting, spoon them into the prebaked pie shell. Next, layer the shredded cheese on top of the sweet potatoes. Reduce oven to 375 F. Pour egg mix-

ture over the cheese and potatoes. Place quiche in the oven on a center rack. Bake 20 to 25 minutes, or until eggs are set.

November gathering of the Local **History Round Table cancelled**

FORT PLAIN - Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, the November gathering of the Local History Round Table at the Fort Plain Free Library has been cancelled. Interested local history buffs are invited to join us on Wednesday, Dec. 19 to share memories, family histories, vintage postcards, memorabilia and more.

The local history forum is a free, dropin discussion group facilitated by town and village historians at the 19 Willett St. library on the third Wednesday of each month from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Call 518.993.4646 for more information.

Did you know?

Antibiotics are not effective in preventing or treating the flu. Antibiotics are used when bacteria is the cause of illnesses and help kill bacteria or stop them from reproducing, indicates Medline Plus. Influenza is a viral infection, meaning antibiotics will be useless against it. The only times when antibiotics may be prescribed during a flu illness is if flu symptoms have con-

tributed to secondary or tertiary illnesses, such as strep throat or ear infections.

Requesting antibiotics without the presence of a bacterial infection will not help a person feel better faster, and taking antibiotics unnecessarily could compound the growing problem of antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria.





Chamber of Commerce - Call Pres., Janet Stanley 518-673-0292

Sports Quiz

by Chris Richcreek

1. In 2017, three Oakland A's hit their first majorleague home run in the same game. Name two of the three players.

2. Which two teams played in the first World Series? 3. Five NFL players have scored three touchdowns in a Super Bowl. Name three of them.

4. When was the last time before 2018 that the University of Virginia men's basketball team was ranked No. 1 in the Associated Press poll?

5. Winnipeg Jets forward Mark Scheifele set an NHL single-year playoff record in 2018 for most goals as a visitor (11). Who had held the mark?

6. When was the last time before 2018 (Brad Keselowski) that a Ford driver won NASCAR's Brickyard 400?

7. Rafael Nadal set a men's tennis record in 2018 for most consecutive sets won (50) on the same surface (clay). Who had held the record?

Answers

1. Matt Olson, Jaycob Brugman and Franklin Barreto.

The Boston Americans and the Pittsburgh Pirates.
 Roger Craig, Jerry Rice (twice), Ricky Watters, Ter-

rell Davis and James White.

4. It was December 1982.

5. Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby (2009) and Calgary's Joe Mullen (1989), with 10 each.

6. It was Dale Jarrett, in 1999.

7. John McEnroe won 49 straight sets on carpet in 1984

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Moments in Time The History Channel

• On Nov. 19, 1863, at the dedication of a military cemetery at Gettysburg, PA, President Abraham Lincoln delivers one of the most memorable speeches in American history. In just 272 words, Lincoln reminded a war-weary public why the Union had to fight, and win, the Civil War.

• On Nov. 21, 1877, Thomas Edison announces his invention of the phonograph, a way to record and play back sound. He used a stylus on a tinfoil cylinder to play back a song he had recorded, "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

• On Nov. 24, 1932, the FBI crime lab officially opens in Washington, D.C. The single room lab, chosen because it had a sink, had scant equipment and was used primarily as a public relations tool.

• On Nov. 20, 1967, San Jose State College students demonstrate against Dow Chemical, the maker of napalm. Napalm was an acronym derived from naphthetic and palmic acids, whose salts were used to make the jellied gasoline – napalm – used in flame-throwers and bombs.

• On Nov. 23, 1972, secret peace talks resume in Paris between Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho, the North Vietnamese representative. The talks deadlocked weeks later, leading President Richard Nixon to order the massive "Christmas bombing" campaign to break the impasse.

• On Nov. 25, 1986, Attorney General Edwin Meese reveals that proceeds from arms sales to Iran were illegally diverted to the anti-communist Contras in Nicaragua. President Ronald Reagan accepted the resignation of his national security adviser, Vice Admiral John Poindexter, and fired Lt. Col. Oliver North, a Poindexter aide.

• On Nov. 22, 2002, the James Bond movie "Die Another Day," starring Pierce Brosnan as the fictional British secret-service agent 007, opens in theaters. Its debut came almost exactly 40 years after the first Bond movie, "Dr. No," was released.

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& suggestions to the **Mohawk Valley**

Country Editor PO Box 121, Palatine Bridge, NY

13428 OR email jsnyder@leepub.com

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Pros and cons to early retirement



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When life gives you lemons, squirt someone in the eye. Cathy Guiswite



compels many people to look forward to their retirement. Some people even work to retire early. But what are the advantages of early retirement beyond starting a life of leisure? And are there any detriments to this plan?

A lifetime of working

A 2014 survey by the financial services provider TIAA-CREF found that 37 percent of Americans plan to retire before age 65. However, many of them will not have control over the matter. Those who do may want to consider the pros and cons of early retirement. **Advantages**

Many people seek early retirement so that they can live a life free of the constraints of schedules. In retirement, time becomes, more or less, a re-

Leaving a job can be a boon to a person's health as well. Relieving oneself

tiree's own.

of the pressures and stresses of professional life can free up the mind and body. Stress can affect mental and physical health, taxing the heart and contributing to conditions such as depression or anxiety. According to the Mayo Clinic, stress can cause headache, muscle and chest pain and contribute to trouble sleeping.

The earlier the retirement, the more opportunity to travel before health issues begin to limit mobility. Early retirement also can be a way to volunteer more or even start a new job opportunity - one where workers have greater control over their schedules and careers.

Disadvantages

One of the disadvantages of early retirement is a loss of income. Contributions to retirement accounts also ceases at retirement. This can lead

to financial setbacks if adequate savings were not allocated for retirement. According to the resource Wealth How. some people who retire early fear outliving their savings.

While retiring early may be good for health, it also can have negative consequences. An analysis from the National Bureau of Economic Research found that retirement can lead to declines in mental health and mobility as well as feelings of isolation. Retiring early may jump start these health implications.

Another consideration is that health insurance provided by an employer typically ends at retirement. That means having to pay out of pocket until a person ages into government-subsidized healthcare, such as Medicare in the United States, at age 65.



Retiring early is a complex issue that requires weighing the pros and cons.



Five ways to prep your home's exterior for cold weather pest problems



Protect your home from critters so that you can spend more time relaxing and staying warm indoors.

(BPT) – One of the last things you want to deal with as temperatures get chilly is an infestation of cockroaches or mice. With a few tips from Terminix, you can help protect your home from these critters so that you can spend more time relaxing and staying warm indoors.

Seal possible entry points

Take a walk around the outside of your house, paying careful attention to any deteriorating structures or holes that could act as an access point for pests. Almost no hole is too small – some mice can squirm through an opening as small as a dime! Make sure your drains are covered with screens or metal grates to help keep rats and other small pests out of sewer pipes.

Keep your home's exterior clear of debris and shrubbery

Be aware of any piles of debris or bushes near your house that might act as a hiding place or access point for pesky animals. Clear away dead leaves and stack wood away from buildings. Overhanging branches can work almost like a ladder or bridge to allow







small pests like rats to h enter your home, so be W sure to trim back any foliage that's close to the you exterior of your house. Store trash safely te

It's important to store food safely inside your house to avoid attracting pests, but you should also be careful about how trash is stored outside. Keep food scraps and other garbage in secure, sealed trash cans. Additionally, try to eliminate or drain any easy outdoor sources of water that might attract pests.

Check for signs of pest activity Signs of pest activity inside your home, such as rodent droppings or shed bed bug skins, may indicate that an infestation has already taken root. While it's important to notice what's going on in your house, you should also pay attention to potential signs of pests outside your house, so you can catch an issue before it makes its way indoors. **Bring in**

a professional

If you do find yourself faced with an infestation,

know that you don't have to deal with it alone. Contact a professional to determine what kind of pest has invaded your home and how best to deal with it. Trained technicians will develop a pest control plan to help remove any unwelcome animal visitors and leave you to enjoy the colder months in peace.



D'ining,

Entertainment,

How to make smart choices at the buffet table

Buffet dining can be found everywhere from wedding receptions to allinclusive resorts to cafeteria-style restaurants. Unlimited access to a wide array of foods means there's likely something for everyone to enjoy at the buffet table.

But having so many foods at one's fingertips

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Monday to Friday 9:30 to 6:00 Saturday 9:30 to 4:00 Sunday Closed for Worship and Rest also may compel some people to overeat. Some people are tempted to get their money's worth, while others have difficulty controlling portions with so many delicious offerings beckoning.

Limitless food supplies often tempt people to dine on much more than they normally would at sitdown meals. Dubbed "buffet binging," individuals may walk away from buffet lines feeling bloated. However, there are some tricks to enjoy buffets without ending up with the postbuffet bloat.

• Do a sweep of the area first. Examine the buffer offerings before picking up a plate. If something looks irresistible, leave room for it by going sparingly on other foods.

• Snack before arriving. Fill up on high-fiber foods before visiting the buffet line so you'll be less likely to overdo it. If that's not possible, have a salad or broth-based soup as an appetizer. Both options are filling but not too high in calories.

• Use a small plate. Pick a small plate so you can't fill it up with more food than you need to feel satisfied. If you're still hungry after finishing your plate, you can always go back for a second helping.

• Pick some protein. If the idea is to make the meal worth it from a financial standpoint, stick to protein-rich offerings like meat, poultry and seafood. These tend to be the most expensive items on the spread.

• Choose unusual foods. When indulging in an item or two, select foods you don't regularly have access

to. And don't hesitate to give signature dishes a try.Load up on veggies. Fill

your plate with plenty of vegetables, which are filling and healthy. Just be wary of how veggies are prepared, skipping those that are coated in cream sauces or look laden with butter.

• Indulge wisely in desserts. Pick up very small pieces of dessert if you want to sample various offerings. Fill the rest of the plate with fresh fruit, which is refreshing and low in calories.

• Slow down. Eat slowly and register when you are full. This will help you eat with your stomach and not your eyes. After visiting the buffet line, sit beyond the sightline of the buffet so you're not tempted to revisit it.





Healthy eaters can do their best to avoid the "buffet binge" at their next special occasion.

If you're too open-minded; your brains will fall out. Lawrence Ferlinghetti

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King Crossword ACROSS Night flier 4 Typing measures 9 Sis' counterpart 12 Work with 13 "Pokemon" genre 14 Reaction to fireworks 15 Kin of threecard monte 17 Silent 18 Brewerv product 19 Sun-dried bricks 21 Prize at a county fair 24 Information 25 Playwright 49 In the style of 7 Jordan's 32 Scrabble Levin piece 34 Marsh mari-26 Pirates' guaff Percy Bysshe capital 28 Detox center, 54 Zero 8 Garden tool for short 31 Half quart gold 37 Goes on 55 Lukewarm 9 Stunner 56 First lady 10 Libertine 33 And so on (Abbr.) 57 Ailing 58 Hits with an momentum 39 Relinquishes 11 Resistance measures open hand 59 Tit for – 35 Strike from 16 Science 42 Lucy's pal 44 Appomattox the text workshop 36 British term 20 As yet unpaid VIP 45 Hindu prin-DOWN for sonar 21 Kelly of TV 38 - sauce 40 Meadow 1 Urban trans-22 Eye part cess port 2 Fire residue 23 Hollywood 46 Wicked Bowl structure 50 Clean air org. 41 Plumlike fruit 51 Still 52 Actress 27 Peaks (Abbr.) 43 Bequeathed 3 Ball prop Wan state 29 Sheltered, at 45 Prepare left-5 Naive woman, Gardner overs sea 47 Spot 30 Rosary com-53 Butterfly on stage 48 Rd. 6 Spy novel org. ponent catcher





Insurance policies everyone should have

Insurance is something everyone needs but hopes to never use. Without insurance, already difficult situations could be made much worse and cause financial devastation.

Certain types of insurance may not be necessary for everyone, but other types are almost universally necessary regardless of the policy holder's

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particular situation. The following are some examples of insurance policies everyone should have. Health insurance

Everyone needs health insurance. The out-ofpocket costs for routine medical examinations can be quite high, and testing, hospitalization or surgery can take quite a toll on a person's fi-

Fully Insured

nances if he or she has no health insurance. In fact, a recent Harvard study noted that most people are statistically one serious illness away from bankruptcy. Shopping around for adequate coverage and the most affordable plans for one's situation is essential, as even minimal coverage is better than nothing when it comes to offsetting the rising costs of healthcare.

Life insurance

Life insurance is something most people will never benefit from personally, but it leaves a financial legacy for the people they love, providing for those they leave behind. Parents or men and women who are the sole breadwinners in the household can rest easy knowing their life insurance will keep their loved ones financially secure in the event of their death. According to the financial resource Investopedia, individuals need to factor in mortgage or rent payments, loans, funeral expenses, childcare and taxes when calculating how much life insurance coverage they need. Experts suggest 10 times one's yearly income.

Disability insurance

Many people do not believe they will become ill or injured, but the statistics speak otherwise. Data from the Social Security Administration show that three in 10 workers entering the workforce will become disabled before they reach retirement. Being

off from work anywhere from a few weeks to a few months is enough to jeopardize one's financial future. Short- and longterm disability policies provide partial and complete income replacement depending on the policy chosen.

Auto insurance

People who drive are urged to have auto insurance to protect themselves in the event of an accident or theft. Auto insurance also helps protect against any litigation as the result of accidents when a passenger or other driver is injured.

Insurance is a wholly necessary expense that provides peace of mind and protection.

MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR

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> Community Auction September 22, watch for details

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> · Shop Small Saturday Saturday, Nov. 24, 2018

> > · Elves Night Out Friday, Dec. 7, 2018

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Tales from the Minden History Whisperer Fort Plain Theatre (1911-1965)



The Fort Plain Theatre was built in late 1911 as a theater and vaudeville house. Photo courtesy of Robert C. Carter, Town of Minden Historian

by Robert C. Carter, Town of Minden Historian The Fort Plain Theatre was built in late 1911 as a theater and vaudeville house. It was built by Dr. Jackson along with a number of businessmen after the fire of May 4, 1911 burned the Fritcher Opera House and Union Hotel, located on River Street, to the ground. It stood on the site of the former Brunswick Hotel (which burned in 1910)

on Center Street. Dr. Jackson wanted residents of the village to still have a theater to enjoy. By 1914 movies were also being played there. It was renamed Mohawk Valley Theatre and was taken over by the Smalley circuit in 1922 and became Smalley's Fort Plain Theatre. By 1941 it was simply known as Smalley's Theatre. Smalley's Theatre was still open in 1957, but was soon re-

named the Fort Plain Theatre (again) before it closed in 1964. It was then used for public storage until it was demolished in 1965 to make way for a parking lot.

– King Crossword — — Weekly SUDOKU —

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins. CAS В NIME OOH SHELLGAME миим ADOBE RIIBBON NEWS RUM REHAB P NT ETC DE ASDIC SOY SL OLE WI LIL EHEA Т SE F V E S HEL L EY E D

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November 17, 2018 • 23

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MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR

Jobs and Career Opportunities Task-force

On Oct. 18, the Mohawk Valley Economic Development District Inc. launched an ad hoc committee charged with developing a strategy toward exclusively engaging the nine colleges and universities in the MVEDD service area to provide guidance and advice in planning the future growth of commerce and population throughout the region. The MVEDD executive board named Albert Colone of Oneonta to chair the committee; Colone is also co-convener of the Greater Oneonta Eco-Development Council (GO-EDC). Learn more at www.goedc.org . Steve Smith, Executive Director of MVEDD, said "the idea was Colone's. one that he brought to the MVEDD board's attention back in early 2018." He continued, "It is about working through our centers of higher learning to help us address the ongoing population loss throughout our Upstate Region." The idea is to develop a strategy that when implemented could lead to retaining some of the highly educated, skilled, talented and creative young graduates by identifying and possibly courting brand companies to the area whose products and services align with the academic strengths of the nine colleges and universities in the MVEDD's six county area.

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Six of the nine higher educational institutions were represented at the Oct. 18 launch luncheon by career placement representatives from Herkimer College, Hamilton College, Oneonta State, Fulton-Montgomery Community College, SUNY Poly and SUNY Cobleskill; Utica College, Mohawk Valley Community College and Hartwick College were unable to attend but asked to be kept in the loop on the committee's progress. Also attending were representatives of government, businesses and workforce training professionals. Colone noted that over 35,000 students are enrolled in the nine institutions and if a resulting strategy leads to retaining just 1 percent per year, that would translate into 350 students per year residing here - in 10 years that would grow the regional population by a minimum of 3,500 residents, founded in new, good-paying private sector jobs. The "jobs and career opportunities task force" report will be unveiled to MVEDD in

March 2019. M V E D D (www.mvedd.org) is a regional economic development agency headquartered in Mohawk which services a six-county territory in Upstate New York, including Fulton, Montgomery, Herkimer, Oneida, Otsego and Schoharie counties, which conducts infrastructure planning and development, business loans and grants and local government training and assistance.

For more information, contact MVEDD at info@mvedd.org or 315.866.4671.



MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR

November 17, 2018 • 25



Navigate these driver assistance apps

It is never a good idea to use smartphones or other devices while behind the wheel. In fact, distracted driving is a key risk factor for automotive accidents.

However, certain smartphone applications and features can make road trips and other excursions easier, safer and more enjoyable – provid-



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ed these apps are used before getting in the car, when safely pulled over or in the hands of a passenger.

Make a pit stop

Drivers may not know where to pull off the highway when they need a mid-trip snack or a restroom run. iExit enables you to see all upcoming exits on a particular roadway (when location services are turned on) and which amenities are accessible at each exit. The app also tells drivers which way to go if they need to find gas stations or restaurants. Icons indicating food, fuel, hospitals and even banks/ATMs are included to indicate what's available at the exit.

Popular sights

Field Trip by Google will pull from categories you have selected and your location to indicate potential sites of interest around you. The app works off of recommendations from travel and lifestyle sources, and will provide Bluetooth-enabled alerts when you're

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Exclusively for locating fuel stations, GasBuddy also helps drivers compare gas prices so they can save money if they so desire. When fuel costs can make or break a trip, this app will keep your tank and wallet full.

Gain performance data To keep track of vehicle performance, use Dynolicious Classic. While this app's not free, it's less expensive than a visit to a service station. Dynolicious relies on an iPhone's built-in accelerometers to gauge lateral and longitudinal acceleration and horsepower.

Get trusted repairs

It is important to find a trusted mechanic who will fix a problem for a reasonable price. Repair Pal is an app that has already culled quotes and reviews from nearby mechanics to simplify comparison shopping.

Navigation made easy Smartphones already feature built-in map apps that offer navigation and directions, such as those offered by Google and Apple. But Waze is a community-driven app that provides real-time updates to traffic situations, gas prices, law enforcement sightings and alternative routes to avoid delays.

No more lost cars

Finding that elusive parking spot can be challenging. When you finally grab a space in a parking garage or on city streets, you want to make sure you can find your way back there easily. Enter Honk, an app that can mark your vehicle's location with a GPS pin. You can also make text or verbal notes indicating position or how much time you have on a parking meter, as well as use the app to find businesses nearby.



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Utility vehicles: What's the difference?

The terms "sport utility (SUV)" vehicle and "crossover" (also dubbed a compact sport utility vehicle or CUV) are heard quite frequently and sometimes used interchangeably. It can be easy to blur the terms because of the subtle differences between these types of vehicles. But upon careful interpretation of these ultra-popular vehicles, the variations between them become more apparent.

The frames of these vehicles can help people

distinguish between them. Many car experts refer to SUVs as those vehicles that are equipped with the chassis of a truck, while crossovers are based on a car's platform.

SUVs rely on a "body on frame," which means the body is built separately from the frame of the vehicle and then assembled later on. Crossovers use "unibody" architecture, which means the body and frame are one piece. SUVs are classified as a

light truck and have the

towing and performance capabilities of a pickup truck. As a result, the wheelbase, floorplan, suspension, powertrain and other SUV arrangements are similar to those of a pickup. Conversely, crossovers use the platform of a sedan and handle much more like traditional passenger cars, offering smooth rides and responsive handling.

Crossovers are often smaller than SUVs and may not have the offroading or towing capacities of SUVs. Another difference is the driveline. Most SUVs employ fourwheel drive systems, while crossovers have two-wheel drive systems.





Get the financial facts about timeshares

Many people turn to timeshares as a way to enjoy annual vacations. But is investing in a timeshare a financially sound decision? That depends on who you ask.

Getting the facts about how timeshares work and learning a few tricks can help anyone make an educated decision about timeshares.

In a timeshare, individuals purchase a place to stay in vacation property. They typically can then use this room and the surrounding amenities once per year, and often must travel to the same location time and again. Timeshares long have held appeal because they are marketed toward people who may not be able to buy a vacation home, but still want to vacation each year.

There are some advantages to timeshares. They provide a guaranteed vacation destination each year in a familiar place. This is great for people who value familiarity. Timeshares also make it possible to afford a vacation in an expensive resort. Sometimes a person can trade times or locations with other timeshare owners, enabling more versatility and new destination experiences. For those who have to skip a year, it may be possible to sublet the timeshare or let family and friends use it if the agreement allows.

Timeshares have some notable drawbacks as well. Cost-efficiency is one notable drawback of timeshares. The American Resort Development Association, a trade group for timeshare companies, offers that the average cost of a timeshare is around \$20,000, with an annual maintenance fee of \$660. Those fees are paid even if the resort isn't used that year. Chances are a person can get a comparable vacation elsewhere for a lower cost – especially with the abundance of vacation property rentals available from traditional hotels as well as sites such as Airbnb.

A timeshare is not like a traditional real estate investment. According to Investopedia, it is an illiquid asset that is likely to lose value over time. Those who decide to sell their timeshares often find they must do so at a deep discount. Furthermore, those who sell a timeshare at a loss may find the Internal Revenue Service doesn't let them claim a capital loss, which is often the case with other investments and property.

To make timeshares work, individuals can opt to buy used, which is often at a fraction of the cost offered new by resort developers. Also, realize that a timeshare is a lifestyle purchase, not exactly a real estate investment. Timeshares are not a way to turn a profit. Try to purchase in desirable locations as well. Doing so increases the likelihood of resale in the future. **OPEN BLACK FRIDAY NOVEMBER 23RD 10-8**



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