



JULY 18, 2024



The Village of New Berlin Ambulance Service has been awarded a Grant Distribution Agreement for a \$75,000 reimbursement grant under the New York State "Community Resiliency, Economic Sustainability, and Technology" (CREST) Program. (Submitted photo)

New Berlin Ambulance Service awarded \$75,000 under CREST Program

BY KELLI MILLER
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

NEW BERLIN — The Village of New Berlin Ambulance Service has been awarded a Grant Distribution Agreement for a \$75,000 reimbursement grant under the New York State "Community Resiliency, Economic Sustainability, and Technology" (CREST) Program.

Village of New Berlin Mayor Peter Lennon said the funding will allow replenishment to the village user-funded account as funds were used last year for the purchase of the 2016 ambulance and communication system. He said the remaining reimbursement funds will be used to purchase a life-saving cardiac compression system.

"It was last year, during our desperate search for an ambulance, Assemblyman Joe Angelino contacted me and said he had access

to funds through the NY State CREST Program," said Lennon. "He asked if I could make use of the \$75,000 reimbursable funding."

"We started our wheels turning at that point and worked closely with the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) to make sure the grant request was properly crafted," said Lennon. "Some things are reimbursable and some are not."

He said Angelino's Chief of Staff Laurie Gialanella was a great help in coordinating with the New York State Office that processed the CREST grant.

Officials in Albany said it could be reimbursed in about six weeks after the grant distribution agreement is crafted.

"The reimbursement for the ambulance and the communication system totals about 58,000," said Lennon. "That will replenish our reserve account and allow us to further pur-

chase the cardiac compression system."

"The Cardiac Compression System is called a "Thumper" amongst team members," he said. "It's a wrap around system that actually does a cardiac massage, essentially it's CPR."

He said after the purchase of the cardiac system, they'll craft an additional proposal for grant reimbursement on that piece of equipment.

Lennon said the team in Albany works very hard to support the municipalities and they want the municipalities to have access to the money available through this program.

Lennon gave thanks to the grant funding team as New Berlin Ambulance Service will continue providing top-quality medical first-response and transport services to New Berlin and neighbors for years to come.

Planning Department taps into clean energy grants for electric equipment

BY SHAWN MAGRATH
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

NORWICH — Citing an opportunity to store additional green energy grants through the New York State Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), the Chenango County Department of Planning has purchased a cache of electric landscaping equipment to be used at county facilities.

The purchase utilizes \$10,000 recently awarded through NYSEDA's Clean Energy Communities Program which offers resources and funds for green energy projects to municipalities across the state.

The grant leverages another \$15,000 awarded to the county earlier this year. Funds were used to purchase three zero turn mowers for county facilities, as well as landscaping equipment to be used at the county-owned airport in Norwich. Electric weed eaters, leaf blowers, a chain saw, push mower, and batteries

and charging equipment were shared with the Chenango Sheriff's Office and other county-run facilities.

"Existing equipment was outdated and we thought it would be a great investment for those departments," said Allison Yacano, Chenango County planner and Climate Smart Communities program coordinator.

"Having this renewable energy landscaping equipment helps achieve the goals and objectives of the office," said Chenango County Undersheriff Dustin Smietana. "The maintenance team will put the equipment through various tests to determine its performance and reliability. The data collected will inform the sheriff on future purchases for the agency."

Sheriff Ernest Cutting expressed gratitude to the Chenango Planning Department and Norwich Outdoor Power Equipment for their support.

By participating and utilizing funds

in NYSEDA's Clean Communities Program, the county enters a points system in which it becomes eligible for additional funding for larger green energy projects. Recently, \$125,000 was awarded to the county which planners say will be used to serve local residents.

NYSERDA has a list of measures that local governments can take to save energy, cut costs, and earn a clean energy community designation.

Chenango County was designated a Clean Energy Community in February 2019 after completing four out of ten high impact actions identified by NYSEDA. Designation allowed Chenango County to apply for a grant up to \$150,000 toward an additional clean energy project.

Alongside the purchase of electric landscaping equipment, the county has also used \$15,000 in NYSEDA awards to install LED lighting at the T-hangers of the Lt. Warrant E. Eaton Airport.



The Chenango County Department of Planning delivers electric landscaping equipment purchased by NYSEDA grants to the Chenango County Correctional Facility. (Photo shared by the Chenango County Department of Planning)

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New Berlin Library Corner

Book Dahlias Wreaths at the Library

The New Berlin Library held an adult's art program on Monday, July 8th in the library's community room. This program was for adults and they made Book Dahlia

Wreaths.

The Book Dahlia Wreaths were created using twelve-inch cardboard circles, four-inch by four-inch book pages, twine, and glue. First,

participants rolled the book pages into cones. Next the cones were glued to the cardboard circle about an inch apart around the outer edge

of the cardboard. The process was repeated in a circular fashion until the center of the cardboard circle was reached. Finally, twine was then added so that the wreaths could be hung.

"We used old discarded books that spines had degraded and pages had yellowed for the Book Dahlia Wreath project. It was nice to be able to give these well used books a second life," said library director, Michelle Priola. "The library is already planning its fall adult and children's art classes. These classes will most likely take place in October and consist of Van Gogh 'Starry Night' inspired paintings."

The New Berlin Library 2024 Summer Reading Program takes place from July 1st to August 31st. The theme this year is "Adventure Begins at your Library". The New Berlin Library will be inviting participating children to join the crew for a Pirate Reading Adventure. Children 12 and younger are invited to pick up reading logs and pirate swag and begin their adventure. The Summer

Reading Program is free and open to all members of the public ages 12 and younger.

The New Berlin Library will be hosting a children's story and art program for three weeks this summer. This program is funded through a Four County Library System 2024 Summer Reading Program grant and it will be held in the New Berlin Library Community Room. The children's story and art program will be held July 29 - August 15, Monday through Thursday, from 10:00am until noon. The Unadilla Valley School Summer Feeding program will be serving lunch from 11:30 - noon at the library in conjunction with this program. The program is free to the public. The series is aimed at children 12 and younger but is open to children of any age. The library does require that children under 5 be accompanied by an adult.

Some great new additions to the library include: A death IN Cornwall by Daniel Silva, Ghost Girl by Ally Malinenko, This Appearing House by Ally Malinenko, A Refiner's

Fire (Commissario Guido Brunetti Mystery) by Donna Leon, The Sandwich Swap by Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah and Kelly Dipucchio, And Then Comes Summer by Tom Brenner, Godzilla X Kong The New Empire DVD, Ghost Busters Frozen Empire DVD, Boy Kills World DVD, Abigail DVD, and Bluey Season 3 DVD.

The New Berlin Library is located at 15 South Main Street, New Berlin. The Library is open Monday and Wednesday 10AM-8PM; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10AM-5PM; and Saturdays 10AM-noon. The web address is libraries.4cls.org/newberlin/. Please contact us at 607.847.8564 or like and message our Facebook page New Berlin Library and Museum (www.facebook.com/newberlinlibrary.newberlinny) or Twitter page @Lib_NewBerlin (twitter.com/Lib_NewBerlin) with any questions.

- From the New Berlin Library



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2nd annual Taste of Chenango hits the fairgrounds July 27

BY SARAH GENTER
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

CHENANGO COUNTY — Commerce Chenango will be hosting their 2nd annual Taste of Chenango Music and Food Festival on Saturday, July 27 from 1 to 8 p.m. at the Chenango County Fairgrounds.

Commerce Chenango President and CEO Sal Testani said the festival is a free, family-friendly way to highlight the food, agriculture, and products Chenango County has to offer.

“The Taste of Chenango is a celebration of all the things that make our community unique. We’ve tried to pull together as many of the different types of foods and beverages and farm products and the different things that we make and produce and sell in our county,” he said. “We’ve tried to pull them all together and bring some really good music and try to let everybody celebrate what we think makes Chenango County spe-



Taste of Chenango will return to the Chenango County Fairgrounds for their second year from 1 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, July 27. This year’s event will include more than 50 local vendors, activities for kids, and live music all day long. (Photo from Commerce Chenango)

cial.”

This year’s event will include more than 50 vendors from Chenango County, including Hidden Springs Brewery, Columbus Public House, Nina’s Pizzeria, Chobani, Taco Grind, Pires Farmers Market, Pretty Pretzel, Little Farmhouse Lavender, Angela’s Pizza, Daydream Herbals, Cook’s Maple, Vasquez Empanadas, Rolling Scones, and

more.

In addition to selling their goods, vendors will have \$1 samples so visitors can try out their varieties of food, wine, and beer.

There will be fun activities for kids as well, including a Touch-a-Truck section with more than 25 trucks and farm vehicles, face painting, a character artist, and a craft area.

Rounding out the event will be free live

music all day long, starting with Junkyard Heights on the main stage from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Khalil Jade will take the acoustic stage from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., followed by Nate Gross performing from 3:30 to 5 p.m. on the main stage. Finishing up the day will be Mark Nanni on the acoustic stage from 5 to 6 p.m., and Caviar and Grits playing from 6 to 8 p.m. on the main stage.

Testani encourages

residents of the area and beyond to stop by the fairgrounds and check out all the great products produced right here in Chenango County.

“Everything’s free. Attendance is free, parking is free, the music is free, the kid zone is free. The only thing people have to pay for is anything they want to consume,” said Testani.

“We wanted people to bring the whole family. If they just want to come down and listen to some music, they can. They won’t have to spend a penny. If they want to come down and sample a couple things for a dollar, they can. If people want to come down and get dinner or people want to come down and have a few drinks, they can do that as well,” he continued. “It was very, very family-oriented last year. We expect to build on that even more this year.”

He said the inaugural event last summer was a hit, with thousands of attendees of all ages, and they’re hoping to continue to grow the festival

this year and in years to come.

A large part of Taste of Chenango’s success is thanks to volunteer Mindy Chawgo, who organizes the event’s vendors each year. The festival is still accepting vendors for this year. Interested businesses can contact Mindy Chawgo at 607-226-2211 for more information.

Taste of Chenango is also made possible by support from Kerry Bioscience, Unison, and Sidney Federal Credit Union.

“It’s a great way to spend the afternoon for a family,” said Testani. “We’re trying to literally pull together as many unique things that make this place special. We’re hoping we’ll get a huge crowd and show it off. I’m just counting on some good weather, that’s all we really need.”

More information on Commerce Chenango and Taste of Chenango can be found at CommerceChenango.com or the Commerce Chenango Facebook page.

Chenango Farm Bureau backs USDA draft changes for federal milk marketing orders

BY SHAWN MAGRATH
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

CHENANGOCOUNTY — Citing financial burdens of dairy producers created by a flawed milk marketing system, the Chenango County Farm Bureau is getting behind the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s proposed changes to the way dairy processors buy their milk from farmers.

The USDA’s proposal to amend the uniform pricing formulas across all 11 federal milk marketing orders (MMO) follows a 49-day national hearing held from August 2023 to January 2024, where the USDA heard testimony and received evidence on 21 proposals from the dairy industry.

“The USDA has put out a proposal that the Chenango County Farm Bureau supports,” said Chenango County Farm Bureau President Terry Ives. “We think that this would ultimately be a good thing for farmers to



Under current standards, changes to milk pricing occur only when a USDA hearing process is requested. Changes to that system proposed by the USDA would require dairy processors to complete an annual survey detailing their costs, which would subsequently affect how much farmers get paid for their milk. (Submitted photo)

help with their costs.”

Under current MMO standards, changes to milk pricing occur only when a USDA hearing process is requested. Changes to that system proposed by the USDA would require dairy processors to complete an annual survey detailing their costs, which would subsequently affect how much farmers get paid for their milk.

“The biggest problem with the MMO now is that they don’t update it

often enough,” said Mike Barnes, director of AgriMark, a northeast cooperative of family farms in New York, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, and Vermont. “It’s not until someone asks for a hearing. What they’re trying to do is make the system more proactive than reactive.”

Since the last hearing was held in 2007, Barnes said his family farm in Mount Upton has been operating on an antiquated pricing

formula while the cost of operation has drastically inflated.

MMOs establish monthly uniform prices paid to farmers by first classifying milk by its intended use.

There are four uniform “classes” in the MMO system: Class I: fluid milk; Class II: milk used to make soft products (ice cream, cottage

cheese, yogurt, etc.); Class III: milk used to make hard cheese products; Class IV: milk used to make butter and powdered dry milk products.

The USDA’s proposed amendments to the MMO system include:

Updating milk composition factors to 3.3 percent true protein, 6 percent other solids, and 9.3 percent nonfat solids

Relying solely on the 40-pound block cheddar cheese price to determine the monthly average cheese price used in the formulas

Updating class III and class IV formula factors

Updating base class I skim milk price

Updating class I differential values to reflect the increased cost of servicing the class I market

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Community reading program presents central New York's evolving heritage

BY KELLI MILLER
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

NORWICH — Otselic Valley Fishing and Heritage Association (OVF and HA) Vice-Chair Michael Foor-Pessin is pleased to announce a two part series community reading program.

The first part will be held from 4 to 8 p.m., July 31 with the second part from 1 to 3 p.m., Saturday, October 12, both on the campus of the Chenango County Historical Society Museum, located at 45 Rexford Street.

Foor-Pessin said for the third year in a row, the Roger Follett Foundation Inc has funded the reading program centered on nonfiction and fiction works. This year's title is "Journey Through Chenango: Land of the Oneidas".

"The free presentation is open to all residents and will be held in the Loomis Barn," said

Foor-Pessin. "You don't have to be signed up for the reading program to attend."

Two books selected for the reading program this year are Daniel Koch's "Land of the Oneidas" and Walter Edmond's "Drums Along the Mohawk."

He explained both books give a depth of information regarding the evolving heritage of central New York and the United States and revisit the revolutionary era from 1774 to 1783, when the Oneida Nation and other Haudenosaunee Nations engaged in helping American Patriots secure the war over the British.

In addition to the presentation, he said tours will be given of the Haudenosaunee exhibition at the museum from 4 to 6 p.m.

Foor-Pessin said attendees previously signed up for the program will receive a free copy of each book about a half hour before author



Chenango County Museum summer Intern Madeline Olesky and Director Jessica Moquin, OVF and HA Vice-Chair Michael Foor-Pessin and C.S. Miller shop owner Jason Miller display the books "Land of the Oneidas" by Daniel Koch and "Drums Along The Mohawk" by Walter Edmond. Koch will present his book at the upcoming community reading program from 4 to 8 p.m., July 31, on the campus of the Chenango County Historical Society Museum, located at 45 Rexford Street. (Submitted photo)

Daniel Koch presents "Land of the Oneidas" at 6 p.m.

Members of the Oneida Nation will join Koch in the presentation and address this crucial Revolutionary time in America's history.

Foor-Pessin said Koch will be available for book signing after the presentation and participants not in the reading program can find a limited supply of "Land of the Oneidas" for sale at C.S. Miller Books locat-

ed at 14 Adams Street in Norwich.

He continued to brief on the second part of the series in October and said it coincides with the museums celebration of "Museums and More" and Indigenous People's

Day.

The two books distributed earlier will be discussed, along with guest speaker Jessica Farmer, who will share the story of Polly Cooper and the role she played in the American Revolution at Valley Forge and other topics.

The presentation will end with a film produced by the Oneida Nation, highlighting their role in the Revolutionary war.

The Chenango County Historical Society and C.S. Miller Books have partnered with OVF and HA and the Follett Foundation in sponsoring this valuable series.

Books can be reserved online at Eventbrite or by contacting Foor-Pessin at foorpessin@gmail.com.

Details about this program can be found on the OVF and HA website at ovfish.org.

For more information contact Michael Foor-Pessin at 315-653-7811.

Chenango in line for \$352,000 in multi-state vape marketing settlement

BY SHAWN MAGRATH
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

CHENANGO COUNTY — Chenango County will lay hold of nearly \$352,000 as part of a multi-state settlement with Juul Labs Inc. (Juul) for its role in the nationwide youth vaping epidemic.

New York State will receive a total \$112.7 of the \$462 million settlement with Juul. Roughly \$4.5 million

will be allocated in the state's Southern Tier. Neighboring counties slated for settlement money include Broome (\$596,588), Chemung (\$509,170.60), Delaware (\$315,519.52), Schuyler (\$216,589.36), Steuben (\$450,048.88), Tioga (\$323,674.26), and Tompkins (\$473,932.88).

Money will also make its way to several Board of Cooperative Educational Services

in the area, including \$184,000 to DCMO BOCES in Chenango County.

Broome-Delaware-Tioga BOCES will receive \$464,006.41; Greater Southern Tier BOCES will receive \$439,444.00; and Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES will receive \$183,380.64.

Chenango County's share of settlement money will be funneled through the county's Public Health Department which is now undergoing a request for proposal (RFP) process to contract with an outside agency to utilize the funds, some of which already have a presence in local school districts.

Hopes are to have an RFP awarded and programming in place by the fall, according to Chenango Public Health Director Isaiah Sutton.

"This is an opportunity to set up a program and achieve an outcome without affecting local taxpayers," said Sutton. "Any time we can do that as a small rural community is a plus for us."



The Chenango County Public Health Department will handle \$352,000 awarded to the county as part of a multi-state settlement with the e-cigarette maker Juul Labs Inc. (Photo by Shawn Magrath)

A few agencies have already expressed interest in spearheading programs to curtail e-cigarette use and vaping in the area. The settlement with Juul stipulates that money be used in five key categories: public education, anti-vaping programs, vaping cessation, enforcement of vaping laws, and public health research of e-cig-

arette use among young people.

"Youth programming is high on our list of priorities," Sutton said. "I think if you speak to most school administrators, vaping is a huge issue. Kids see it in their peer groups. The biggest danger for vaping is folks who are getting it through a non reputable source. It's people making cartridges at home and mixing in other products and in that respect, it's an important topic to address."

In 2023, Juul agreed to settle a two-year investigation launched by attorneys general in 33 states into the marketing of the company's high-nicotine vaping products to young people. Under the final legal agreement, Juul will pay out to six states — New York, California, Colorado, Illinois, Massachusetts, and New Mexico, as well as Washington D.C.

"Young New Yorkers have been preyed on by big tech and big tobacco companies that seek to profit by pushing addictive products to chil-

dren," said New York Attorney General Letitia James. "The settlement I secured with Juul will help turn the tide on the youth vaping epidemic by providing new resources to Southern Tier schools and communities to combat vaping and ensuring JUUL will end its deceptive marketing. I thank my partners in the Southern Tier for their cooperation and commitment to keeping New York youth safe."

After Juul launched in 2015, e-cigarette use among high school students skyrocketed and by 2019, the proliferation of vaping led to a national outbreak of severe vaping-related illnesses, according to the NY Attorney General. In October 2019, a 17-year-old male from the Bronx died due to a vaping-related illness, making him the first reported vaping-related fatality in New York, and the youngest vaping-related fatality in the United States.

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The Early Files *by Peggy Finnegan*

WEEK #29 THIRTY YEARS AGO July 21, 1994

Mid-July is here in glorious color. I think it is the best time of year.

Margaret Bowers Banta, born April 3, 1906, attended the Burrell school on King Settlement road and assisted on the family dairy farm.

Kathleen Barnes suffered 2nd degree burns over 15% of her body.

Bill Cornell was named Central New York Firemen's Association Citizen of the Year.

Butternut Valley Grange celebrated its 50th year and William Frone remembers when it formed. Songs like "My Bossie Gives Milk by the Gallon" and "Milk is the Best" were led by Georgianna Halbert.

50 WINGS & a Large Cheese Pizza \$13.95. NY Pizzeria

FORTY YEARS AGO July 19, 1984

NY maple production of 332,000 gallons was up 41% over 1983.

Henry Carpenter bicycled 125 miles to Glens Falls. It took him 13 hours and two gallons of water.

Fred Pope visited his brother, Sidney, in Texas.

Wayne Bunn and family are living with his father. He is working every day and Mrs. Bunn is also working.

West Hill was a-buzz when a big balloon landed on the Fredrickson farm.

FOR SALE: 2 bdrm ranch on lake, new wall-to-wall carpet, Wood-Mode kitchen, patio, double lot, \$26,000.

FIFTY YEARS AGO July 18, 1974

Although June was the coldest and wettest on record, rain is now badly needed.

About 50 gathered to view the Millbrook Watershed project. Unlike the Hunt's Pond project, it will proceed.

Mr. and Mrs. John Mitchell moved from Vermont and are living at Silver Lake.

Scouts attending Camp Tuscarora: Martin Potter, Kevin Phillips, John Elliott Michael Haney and James Prentice.

Wendy Penfold is doing very well at the horse shows.

The John VanVrankens held the annual neighborhood picnic with 96 attending.

Viggo Larsen, Richard Allan and Raymond Card mowed the Lena

Cemetery.

SIXTY YEARS AGO July 18, 1964

Barefoot Bob Kinney, popular WCHN DJ, will make his farewell appearance at the Afton Fair.

Aage Jensen is repairing the Fredrickson's barn where a wall washed out last spring.

Eugene Dunham escaped serious injury when his car went over an embankment near Five Corners.

Billie Mattice visited his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Foote.

Water in covered sources would probably be free of radioactive contamination even in heavy fallout.

Jammie Ackerman had the misfortune to fall from a horse and break his wrist.

EGGS: L & XL, 2 doz. 98c; Med, 2 doz. 89c; Cracked, 3 doz. \$1. Ball Poultry Farm

SEVENTY YEARS AGO July 15, 1954

Violet M. Robbins became the bride of Donald J. Elliott, DVM, in the Columbus Community Church.

Troop 60 Scouts are at Mt. Crumhorn: Warren Rolen, Richard Wood,

Tommy Reed, Larry Maxson, Lewis Brown, Del Sanford and John Siebert.

Jesse Wightman sold his farm on Great Brook road to Willis Slocombe.

The Misses Ruth and Esther Lindsey left Utica on a trip to the Pacific coast.

EIGHTY YEARS AGO July 22, 1944

24-Year Record Broken by June Milk Price of \$3.12.

A car driven by Axel Nelson crashed into an O&W train at the Rexford street crossing. He was not hurt.

Jack Lindsey has disposed of the Valley House to Major Forsythe.

The marriage of Beatrice Bice and Alf Benson was solemnized July 15th.

David Welch purchased the Nichols house at auction.

In a fitting ceremony, a former Norwich mayor presented a check for \$14,000, representing the purchase of property on East Park Place for an American Legion Home.

The death of Lloyd Mayne, 41, resulted from an abscess of the pharynx.

The famed Wallendas prepared for a high wire act as 6,000 spectators

waited at Hartford, CT. A small flame flared, then leaped... Great sheets of flaming canvas fell on the crowd... Bodies of 135 victims, mostly children, were taken from debris.

NINETY YEARS AGO July 23, 1934

The salary of Mrs. Maude Butterfield, post-mistress, will be cut from \$2,400 to \$2,300 a year. The clerk's allowance is also reduced to \$1,916.

Thieves broke into Marvin Williams' garage on North Main, stole a cash register, gum machine, pay telephone and two cartons of cigarettes. They made their escape in a 1932 Chevrolet convertible coupe, which had a key in the ignition.

July 15 is St. Swithins Day. The old adage is that the weather on this day, wet or dry, will continue 40 days.

HUNDRED YEARS AGO July 21, 1924

Our summer weather has caught a severe cold.

Gasoline sold at 12c a gallon in the price war in Rochester. This is the lowest price since before the world war.

Harold Oakley and family are moving into

rooms in the Page house on North street, vacated by Prof. Nelson.

E.W. Davis brought to this office a stalk of clover 4-1/2 feet tall.

If Non-bob wanted to start something she surely succeeded. If she likes her hair long, let her wear it so... Knickers or bobbed hair can't change any noble type of girl or woman. "Bob"

Emma Jane Carnrike Dixon, wife of Charles Dixon, passed peacefully away at her home in Morris, her death being the result of a shock.

Wesley Fuller's oldest boy Frederick, 6, was kicked by a horse.

A man charged with having four wives is fighting in an Ohio court. A man with four wives ought to be able to put up a pretty good fight.

C.A. Phelps has taken off the porch on his house and is building a Colonial entrance.

Mrs. Lewis Bingham has been quite sick with a cold and distemper.

If you want a lot at Silver Lake, write by August 1st. If I sell 35 lots by that date, I will survey land, build roads, etc. Lots 50x75 feet are \$100 to \$200. L.H. Sheff

Preparing your traps



Eric Davis

Outdoor Chenango

October 25 marks the first day you can set traps to catch some species of furbearers in New York. It may seem like it's a way away but it will be here before you know it, so start preparing your traps now so they are ready to go on opening day.

If you are using traps that you already had last year, the first step is to give them a quick inspection. Spotting problems now could save you later. Make sure the trap sets and

goes off, then make sure each trap has your name tag on it. In New York, your tag can have either your name and address or your 12-digit NYSDEC ID number (which is on your license). Some people like the DEC ID number so that if someone finds their trap that doesn't like trapping, they cannot find you. Environmental Conservation Officers can put the ID in their computers to get your information if they need to contact you about your traps. Once you have checked all the traps and made sure they are good to go, slightly open the jaws and insert a nail unless they are rubber-jawed traps. I use a piece of wire and make a loop and put 4-6 traps on a loop at the end of their chains.

While there are many ways to boil your traps, I like to use a turkey fryer and a large stock pot.

Some people use small water tubs used for livestock and I've seen guys use old beer kegs that were cut open. Fill the pot about halfway with water and put some degreaser in the water (toilet cleaner works well surprisingly). Bring the water to a boil and lower in a group of traps slowly. Depending on the trap size, you can sometimes get multiple bunches in the water at a time. Let the trap sit in the pot for about half an hour. After taking them off, spray them with a garden hose to remove any wax that might have clung on after pulling the traps up out of the water (the wax floats on the water). Hang the traps to dry someplace. I like to stand a pallet up and put nails across the top, hanging each wired loop of traps from a nail. Keep putting in traps and taking them out until you have done

all of them.

Let the traps sit outside for a week at a minimum to start getting some surface rust. The porosity of the rust lets the dye soak in better. Using the same pot as before, fill it about halfway with water and start heating it. I like logwood dye powder; one packet covers a couple dozen traps usually. Follow the direction on the packet for how long to leave your traps in the dye.

The final step is to wax your traps. You should do this the same day as dyeing your traps if possible. I keep my wax in a separate pot to keep it from being contaminated and as scent-free as possible. Warm us the wax slowly and wait for it to look like fryer oil. Make sure your traps don't have any water on them as the water will cause the wax to spurt and gurgle. Slowly lower a bundle of traps

into the melted wax. Immediately you will see a heavy layer of wax form on the traps since they are colder than the wax. Wait a few minutes until that heavy layer melts off as the traps get warmer. Now you can remove the traps from the pot and let the wax drip back into the pot for 10 or 15 seconds. Take the bundle and hang it to air dry out of direct sunlight.

Once all the traps have been waxed and are dry, remove them from their bundle, scrape the excess wax off the dog and pan latch, remove the nail

from between the jaws, set the trap and test fire it. Make sure it fires as a reasonable pan level and under the right amount of pressure on the pan. If the trap passes this, add a cable stake (if you use cable stakes) and place it into a plastic tote.

Remember, do not wax conibear or body-gripping traps. This makes them fire easier and can cause you a lot of pain if they accidentally fire when you are setting the trap.

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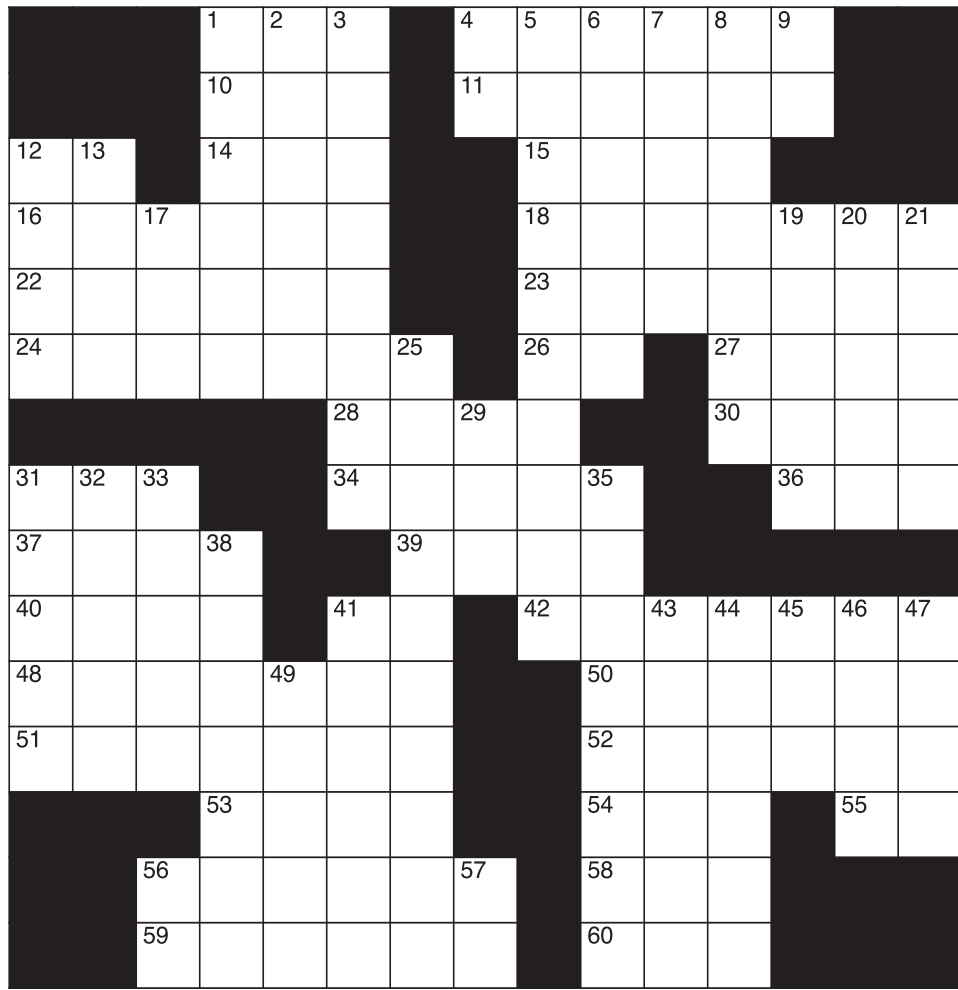
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Letter of the Greek alphabet
- 4. Cause to become entangled
- 10. Swiss river
- 11. Conversation
- 12. "Magnum" was one
- 14. Small integer
- 15. Christmas
- 16. Of a specific mountain region
- 18. Burrowing bugs
- 22. Of a symbol worthy of veneration
- 23. A type of syndrome
- 24. Cephalopod mollusks
- 26. Metric ton
- 27. Ornamental box
- 28. As quickly as can be done
- 30. "Hoop Dreams" subject Arthur
- 31. Old TV part
- 34. Extinct flightless birds
- 36. Former CIA
- 37. Successor
- 39. Archaic form of you
- 40. Within
- 41. Danny Hurley's alma mater
- 42. Not sacred or biblical
- 48. Written law
- 50. Popular hairstyle
- 51. Congressman
- 52. Type of font
- 53. A predetermined period in office
- 54. Pouch
- 55. Hormone that stimulates ovulation (abbr.)
- 56. One from a particular Asian region
- 58. One's sense of self-esteem
- 59. Headgear used to control a horse
- 60. The habitat of wild animals

CLUES DOWN

- 1. A right conferred through legal means
- 2. American island state
- 3. Inflexibly entrenched
- 4. "Pollock" actor Harris
- 5. Foolish person
- 6. Follows a particular Chairman
- 7. Choose
- 8. Sunrooms
- 9. One hundred grams (abbr.)
- 12. A symptom of some physical hurt or disorder
- 13. South American hummingbird
- 17. "Girl Chopping Onions" painter
- 19. Wild dog
- 20. Units of land
- 21. Footwear
- 25. Possessing a constant temperature
- 29. Hormone that promotes water retention (abbr.)
- 31. Popular game
- 32. Pension (German)
- 33. Giant of industry
- 35. Inferred
- 38. One who revolves
- 41. Kept possession of
- 43. Loss of electricity
- 44. Stopped bottle
- 45. Everything
- 46. First to walk on the moon
- 47. Engrave
- 49. Female organs
- 56. Equal to 1,024 bytes (abbr.)
- 57. Northeast

WORD SEARCH

TAKE A TRIP WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

- AIRPORT
- ALL-INCLUSIVE
- CRUISE
- DEPARTURE
- DESTINATION
- EMBARK
- HIGHWAY
- HOLIDAY
- HOTEL
- INTERNATIONAL
- ITINERARY
- LANDING
- LUGGAGE
- MEMORIES
- PACKING
- POSTCARD
- RELAXATION
- RESORT
- ROAD TRIP
- ROOM
- SIGHTS
- TAKE-OFF
- TRAIN
- VACATION

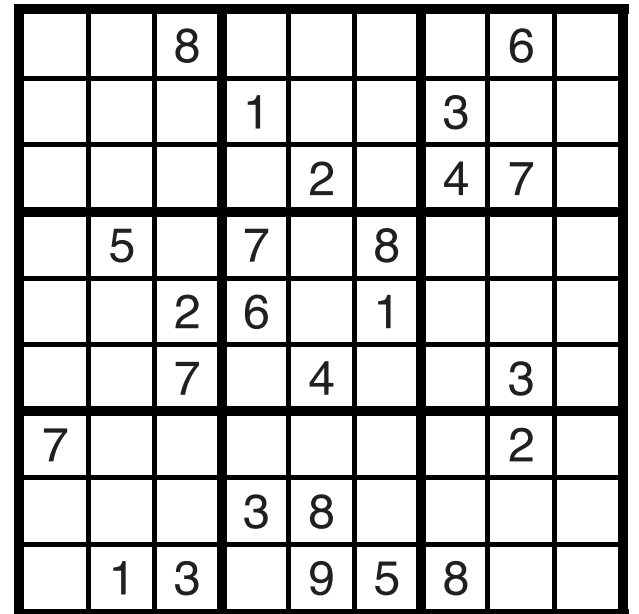
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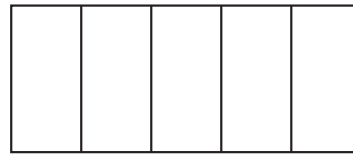


Level: Intermediate

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to vacations.

LAEXR



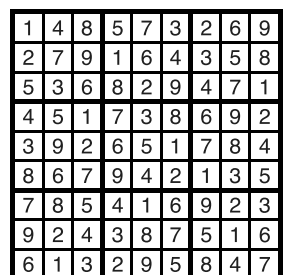
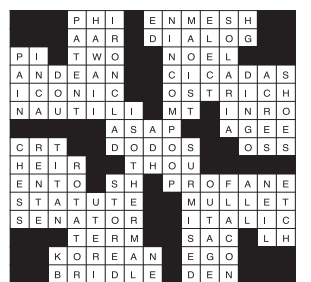
Answer: Relax

Guess Who?

I am a country singer born in Georgia on July 17, 1976. I played with local bands since age 14 and gained greater recognition in 2014 when I was named "Entertainer of the Year" at the CMA Awards. I have many hit singles, and now I share my music knowledge as a judge on "American Idol."

Answer: Luke Bryan

Solutions:



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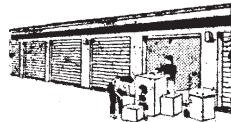
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Airball 2.0 won the Sportsmanship award on Top Men's Court. The Sportsmanship award was sponsored by Burrell's Excavating. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)



The 27th annual Norwich Gus Macker tournament returned to the downtown streets for the first time in five years and featured courts of all ages. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

The 27th annual Norwich Gus Macker Tournament wraps up on downtown streets

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

NORWICH – The 27th annual Norwich Gus Macker wrapped up over the weekend, after the tournament returned to the downtown streets of Norwich. It had been five years since the tournament was played on East Main Street.

It was Gus Macker's 50 year anniversary, celebrating 3 on 3 basketball since 1974's inauguration in the McNeal family driveway in Lowell, Michigan.

During the opening ceremonies, Scott "Gus" McNeal introduced his staff and the Norwich YMCA staff with Sports

Director Tom Revoir and Executive Director Jamey Mullen, who worked hard, along with dedicated volunteers, to make this tournament happen every year.

After giving them gifts of a Macker 50 year flag and new licensed chains, McNeal made a special announcement.

He and his staff honored two local Norwich volunteers who have been a part of the Norwich Gus Macker tournament for many years and have been notable members throughout Norwich and the YMCA. Congratulations to Steve Benenati and Jeff Abbott on being inducted into the Gus Macker Hall of Fame

and for being Norwich Macker Legends. Abbott helped out at the Gus Macker Brackets tent while Benenati officiated games.

Macker officially kicked off games at 8:30 a.m. after Katie Gawronski, surrounded by her family, made the "Do or Die Shot" in honor of her father, who passed away in late April from ALS.

On Saturday and Sunday, 298 teams played with two teams being the Norwich Police Department and Norwich Fire Department. The police and fire departments squared off at high noon on the dream court, in Preferred Mutual's first

ever Battle of the Badges. The PD pulled out the 16-14 win off of Officer Vinal's game-winning two point free throw. Preferred Mutual also made a donation to both stations.

Every court was full of players and spectators. Food vendors took over East Park and saw a lot of traffic throughout the weekend with local businesses getting support, especially NHS Football Boosters with Snow Cones on a hot day and Sherburne Blitz Boosters with pizza and candy.

Another first for the tournament was a knock out competition, sponsored by BlueOx. This competition replaced

the slam dunk and three-point competition from previous years. The knock out competition had four divisions, including a 10 and under division, which had 15 kids signed up, an 11, 12, 13, 14 division, a 15, 16, 17, 18 year old division, and lastly a 19 and up division. All winners went home with gift cards to purchase apparel from Threads by Gus on the final day of Macker.

Each court had winners of first, second, and third place along with the toilet bowl trophy. Burrell's sponsored the Sportsmanship award, where referees and scorekeepers collaborated to pick the team that

they thought showed good sportsmanship and were kind to opposing teams, which Norwich is the only tournament to still honor sportsmanship.

Games resumed at 8 a.m. on Sunday and wrapped up around 5:30 p.m. The Norwich YMCA posted on Facebook that East Main Street was all cleaned up and open to the public again around 7:15 p.m., concluding a great Macker weekend.

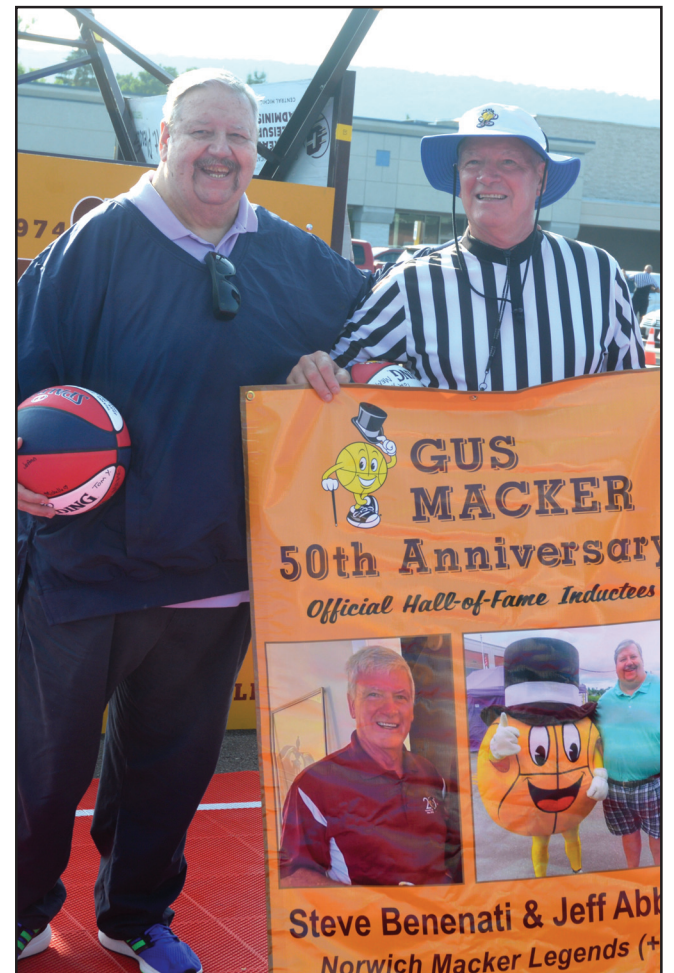
The Norwich YMCA and Gus Macker look forward to returning in 2025 for the 28th annual tournament.



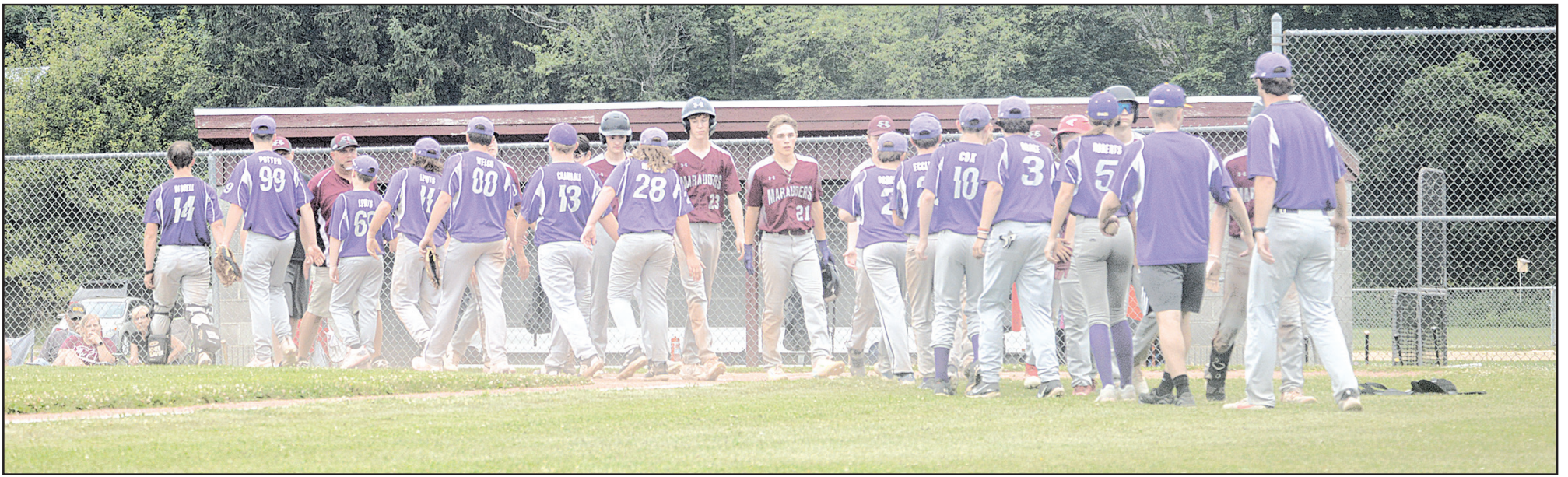
The Norwich Police and Fire Departments squared off at high noon on Saturday at the Dream Court. This was the first ever Preferred Mutual's Battle of the Badges game. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)



The 27th annual Norwich Gus Macker tournament welcomed 298 teams this year, including the Norwich Fire and Police Departments. 50.3 percent of the official 296 teams were under 14 years old and 72 percent were under 18. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)



Congratulations to Steve Benenati and Jeff Abbott on being inducted into the Gus Macker Hall of Fame and for being Norwich Macker Legends. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)



The Sherburne-Earlville and Unadilla Valley PONY League teams squared off for a local county match-up on Tuesday night. S-E won 13-3. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

PONY League Baseball: S-E defeats UV

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

SHERBURNE – After a break in the schedule, the Sherburne-Earlville PONY league team took the field against Unadilla Valley on Tuesday night. S-E won the local county match-up 13-3 through five innings. S-E now stands at 2-2 while UV drops to 2-4.

UV got on the board first as Zayne Dibbell drove in one of two runs

on the night with a RBI double. Dibbell would also drive in a run in the top of the fifth inning to finish 2-for-3 at the plate with two stolen bases and two RBIs. Teammate Nolan Lewis also stole two bases.

S-E went ahead 6-1 in the bottom of the first inning off two hits. Aside from some bases loaded walks, the highlight of the inning was Cooper Thorpe's two-run single. Thorpe also drove in runs with a bases loaded

walk, and another two-run single in the bottom of the third inning to make it 10-2 S-E. Lucas Newman, Haden Holcomb, Jason Daring, Jack Bohnert, and Deagan Knochenmus all drove in one run.

Thorpe finished with two hits, five RBIs, and along with Kaiden Briggs, he had two stolen bases of the team's total of seven. S-E also totaled 11 walks with three to Tomek Jusaniec.

Aside from Dibbell's

two RBIs, UV scored one run in the top of the second inning off a wild pitch. This came after Zack Welch stole third base and scored on the next pitch.

The Storm defense also turned a double play with help from Dibbell and third baseman Declan Potter. Dibbell tagged the runner out that was trying to score from third and threw the ball to Potter to get the runner coming to third. The rest of the infield

helped the team get out of tight jams with getting force outs.

Lucas Newman and Nolan Sigman split time on the mound for S-E. Newman got the start and allowed two runs, one earned, on one hit, a walk, and struck out seven batters through two innings. Nolan Sigman finished the game, allowing one run on two hits, three walks, and had five strikeouts.

UV used Zack Welch, Teagin Eccleston,

Paul Ruffles, and Nick Crandall on the mound, where Eccleston and Ruffles each struck out one batter.

S-E (2-2) heads to Oxford on Friday at 6 p.m. while UV (2-4) is right back in action this evening (Wednesday) at 6 p.m. against Cooperstown.

Box Score:	R	H	E
UV:	1	1	0
S-E:	13	7	5

Tri-County Horseshoe League: Octagon still going strong to start the second half

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

CHENANGO COUNTY – The Tri-County Horseshoe League began the second half of the season on Thursday, July 4 with Octagon still on top and ahead of once previous leader Betty's Boys II. Octagon holds a 22-game lead over Betty's Boys II after week 12.

Octagon is currently 151-25 while Betty's Boys II is in second with a record of 129-47. Pond Crew is slowly creeping up with 114 wins in third place as Riverside and

Betty's Boys round out the top five. The top four teams are all over 100 wins while Betty's Boys is catching up with 87.

After taking care of Betty's Boys II in week 11, Octagon defeated Bowlodrome 14-2 while Betty's Boys II got the win over Chuggers by a score of 12-4. Dam Team, who sits in seventh place, had a bye week as Ticknors, in sixth, earned the 13-3 win over Seebers, who hold the final spot in the standings.

Riverside held on to a tight 9-7 win over Betty's Boys while Pond Crew stayed hot with a 12-4

victory over Hilltop to close out the week.

The Tri-County Horseshoe League meets every Thursday night until the season concludes on September 12.

Full Standings as of July 4:

1. Octagon 151-25
2. Betty's Boys II 129-47
3. Pond Crew 114-62
4. Riverside 102-74
5. Betty's Boys 87-89
6. Ticknors 84-92
7. Dam Team 73-87
8. Hilltop 70-106
9. Bowlodrome 57-119
10. Chuggers 56-120
11. Seebers 37-139



Chenango County sheriffs send students to annual NYS Sheriff's Camp

Chenango County Sheriff's Deputies Winter and Neudel sent off students to New York State Sheriff's Camp on June 30. The county sheriff's office works with school counselors to select children ages 9 to 12 to attend the annual four-day camp. (Photo from the Chenango Sheriff Facebook page)

Chenango County mortgage tax waiting on governor's signature

BY SHAWN MAGRATH
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

NORWICH – Home buyers in Chenango County may soon see an additional fee to their closing cost allowed under home rule regulation, provided that the tax measure is signed by the state governor.

A home rule request

through the legislature in Albany had been submitted by the county board earlier this year with intent to add a quarter percent mortgage recording tax on real property.

The state already imposes a basic tax of 50 cents per \$100, but also gives counties choosing power to enact an added

tax of up to 50 cents per \$100. The county's quarter percent proposal would mean that someone buying a \$100,000 property can expect an additional \$250 in their closing fees.

County officials say the one-time expense for home buyers would bring in between \$150,000 and \$200,000

per year which would offset costs of digitizing public records and pay for one additional employee in the county clerk's office. Leftover revenue would be used to lower real property tax bills.

The Chenango County Board of Supervisors approved the same home rule measure in 2023;

and while it was passed by the state assembly, it stalled in the senate. This year it was passed by both houses in the legislature and is now awaiting the governor's signature.

"I highly doubt this won't be signed. I don't see this as being a very controversial issue," said Chenango County

Clerk Brian Wessels, citing Chenango County as one of only eight in New York State that doesn't currently impose an additional mortgage fee. "This only applies to people who are taking out a mortgage on a new purchase or if they're refinancing; it does not affect annual taxes."

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Dated this 1st day of July, 2024.
 Matthew S. Lippitt,
 Assessor
 (t1 GZ 07/18)

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Community Business Spotlight: Baden Powell Council of Scouting America

By Sophia Root
Commerce Chenango

CHENANGO COUNTY - Commerce Chenango is highlighting the achievements of the Baden Powell Council of Scouting America, located in Binghamton.

The council serves youth and families in six counties in the Southern Tier region of New York and Pennsylvania, engaging them with outdoor adventures, educational programs, and community service projects.

Matthew Bull, Scout Executive & CEO said, "The council is dedicated to preparing young people, both boys and girls, to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law."

The Baden-Powell Council is governed by an executive board consisting of stakeholders from across their service territory. Their offices are open Monday through Friday



Top left: Binghamton University Watson Combat Robotics League at Binghamton University for the STEM Merit Badge Fair. Top right: Pack 97 Springville, at the PA Blue & Gold Dinner. (Submitted photos)

from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and their retail store is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1 to 6 p.m.

Scouting and the Baden-Powell Council have been serving this area of New York as early as 1910, the same year scouting was founded in the United States.

Bull said, "Local Scouting is supported in large part by the generous donations and sponsorships for our Distinguished Citizen recognition dinners throughout the area." He added, "while scouting does employ staff, volunteers such as parents and lifelong scouters drive the program forward

and ensure that scouts are receiving the promise of scouting that was made to them when they joined."

Bull sees many benefits to being based in our area, "As everyone who lives in this area can tell you, the access to outdoor activity is second to none and our positioning along major highways as a corridor to the whole northeast allows easy access of scouts around the region to access our facilities, enjoy our business, and come back year after year to our camps.

"The Southern Tier enjoys one of the longest relationships with Scouting in the United

States. This area of NY presents limitless opportunities for outdoor recreation and the people within our communities are warm and welcoming," he said.

The council has seen recent developments and an increase in interest.

"We are excited to expand scouting into areas that have not seen scouting for a few years. It has been great to see a resurgence in families looking to the out-of-doors to get children off screens. We are excited that Camp Tusky (aka Tuscarora) is bursting at the seams with Scouts this summer. As we continue to grow

each year, we are looking at adding new facilities to our camp properties," said Bull. adding, "Our local Cub Packs and Scout Troops regularly host public events to showcase the best of Scouting and provide opportunities for families to join our program."

The group regularly updates their Facebook page, which can be found at BPCouncil. To find contact information for your local Scouts, visit <http://www.BeAscout.org> and visit <http://careers.Scouting.org> to learn more about job opportunities.

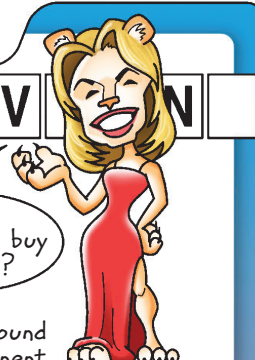
A savanna is a large area of grassland that is dotted with scattered trees and shrubs. Savannas are found in the tropical and subtropical areas of our planet that do not receive enough rain to support a forest, but do receive enough rain to keep the area from becoming a desert.

This cartoon is a little dry for my tastes.

Shortcuts[®] by jeff harris

Turning Up The Heat On The Savanna

This edition of Shortcuts is sponsored by Savanna White.



Grasses are the dominant plants of the savanna.

Would you like to buy a vowel?

Savannas account for about 20% of the Earth's land area.

Savannas are found on every continent except Antarctica.

Savanna Life

Termite mounds often are found throughout savannas because termites consume most of the fallen or decaying plant material in a savanna.

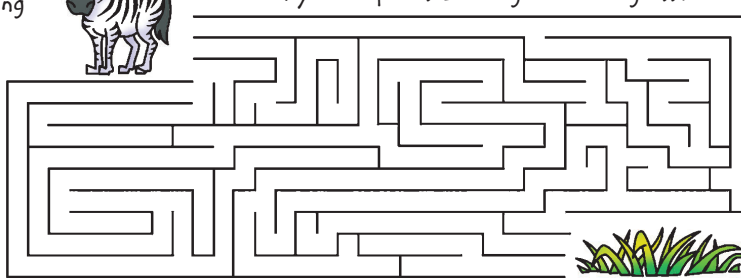
Savannas often are home to large herds of grazing animals and the predators that prey on them.

Going In Circles

The "Great Migration" is the largest land-based animal migration in the world. It occurs in the savannas of Tanzania and Kenya when more than 1.5 million wildebeest, zebras and antelope travel nearly 800 km (500 mi.) in a loop in search of food and water.

Grass Roots

Can you help this zebra get to the grass?



Word Search

Can you find the hidden words? Search carefully because some words are backward or diagonal.

SERENGETI	AFRICA	LION
SAVANNA	DESERT	RAIN
CHEETAH	HYENA	BOB
MIGRATE	ZEBRA	HOT
SEASON	SHRUB	WET
FOREST	TREE	DRY

LITTLE LEAGUES
VETOONONEBBEY
WONESHNAUSAME
BIBEGACRFSFSH
DODTVNHORRAY
BZEAPSENNOILE
YESRTEROFCCN
DBEGOATREEANA
RRRINIAROSEAT
YATMASHOREADS

Why shouldn't you trust a large predator in the savanna? He's a lion.

The Serengeti plains in Africa is the largest savanna in the world. It is home to many of the world's most iconic wildlife species, including antelope, cheetahs, elephants, gazelles, hyenas, lions, wildebeest and zebras.

Why did the grass leave the savanna baseball team? He was cut.

What kind of humor will you find in a savanna? Dry.

Temperatures in a savanna are generally warm to hot throughout the year.

The plants that live in the savanna need to be able to survive long dry periods combined with frequent wildfires and periodic flooding.

Nearly half of the continent of Africa is covered with savannas.

Savannas have two seasons: one very dry season and a second very wet season. Savannas get anywhere from 50-120 cm (20-50 in.) of annual rain, with nearly all of it falling during the wet season.

Why shouldn't you play games with the fastest predator in the savanna? She's a cheetah.

