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The Edinburg Newsletter

Distributed throughout Hamilton, Warren, Fulton, Montgomery and Saratoga Counties

JANUARY 2024 VOL 43 #5



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EDINBURG TOWN REPORT

www.edinburgny.com

Jean Raymond, Supervisor

BEST WISHES FOR A SAFE, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

SECOND REQUEST

Cable and Broad Band Survey and Potential Expansion

Saratoga County is seeking information about what areas of the northern towns, including Edinburg, lack broadband infrastructure. A consultant has been hired to take the broadband survey and they want to hear from you. Visit saratogacountybroadband.com to take the survey or visit the town hall for a paper copy. There is going to be funding available at the state and federal level to expand coverage and for "last mile" service as a result of the recently passed infrastructure bill. We do not yet know how the funds will be dispersed but want to have accurate and up to date information on what our needs are. Results of the needs expressed will be used to apply for grant funding for construction of cell and broadband service for under and unserved areas in the rural northern towns of the county.

Cemeteries Closed

The Edinburg cemeteries have closed for the winter. No vehicles are permitted in the cemeteries from December 1st - May 1st. People may walk in at any time.

2024 Town Budget

The town budget for 2024 has been adopted. The budget is under the 2% New York State tax cap, maintains existing programs and uses some fund balance to purchase several pieces of highway equipment and replacement of the town hall roof. The Saratoga County tax rate next year has been reduced also. Town and County tax bills come out the first week in January.

Town Updating and Reviewing Zoning

Edinburg will be hiring C.T. Male Associates

to work with the town on updating and revising the current zoning, land use and subdivision regulations which were first adopted in 1996 and reviewed last in 2010. The Town will hold a public hearing at 4:00 pm January 18th at the Town Hall on establishing a 6 month moratorium prohibiting the review and approval of applications for land use approvals in all districts within the town. This will include a hardship waiver process. Copies of the proposed moratorium are available for review at the Town Hall.

The Edinburg Town Hall will be closed for Christmas and New Years and will reopen on January 2nd. Officials may be reached at home or leave a voice mail message at the town hall.

RESIDENTS ARE REMINDED TO MOVE THEIR GARBAGE BINS (AND ANY OTHER OBJECTS) BACK FROM THE ROADSIDE TO AVOID DAMAGE FROM PLOWING DURING THE WINTER

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JANUARY 2024 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Here's a list of some notable dates and meetings. Please send your information to the Edinburg Newsletter at edinburgnews2023@gmail.com

- Mon 1 Happy New Years Day!**
- Thurs 4 7:00 pm Edinburg Zoning Board Meeting
- Tues 9 6:00 pm Edinburg School BOT Meeting
- Mon 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- Tues 16 4:00 pm Edinburg Historical Society Meeting
- Thurs 18 4:00 pm Edinburg Town Board Meeting
- Thurs 25 4:00 pm Edinburg Planning Board Meeting

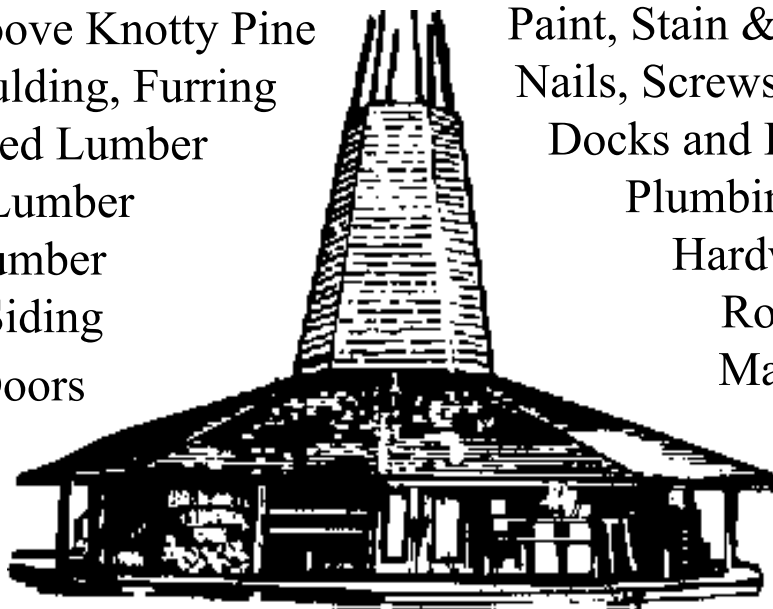


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 Sundays 7:30-12:00



DID YOU KNOW THAT---

By Town of Edinburg Historian,
Priscilla L. Edwards

Foundation and Building of the Edinburg Volunteer Fire Co. Part 2

In last month's article I mentioned that Ralph Seelow was the last living original member of the fire company. Sadly Ralph passed away on November 16, 2023. He was laid to rest in the Edinburg Cemetery.

Early summer of 1957 found the firemen making plans to have a house to house canvas to secure donations and to talk jointly with the auxiliary to take part in Northville's July 4th parade. They also made plans to have the first Field Day to be held at Vic Brownell's Plateau Sky Ranch Airport on July 28.

On July 15, 1957 Town Clerk, Ruth Ellithorp, placed a notice in the legal section of the Gloversville paper, "The Leader Herald", that a public hearing would be held on August 7, 1957 at the town hall (now our Nellie Tyrrell Museum) on the question if the Edinburg Volunteer Fire

Company should become incorporated. Members signing the certificate of incorporation would be: John M. Shufelt, Edwin Seelow, Harold Whitney, Elmer Kenyon, Harold Letts, Ashley Olmstead, Fred Walton Sr., Harry Dutcher and Albert Heck (the regular officers plus the board of directors).

The community approved; the necessary paperwork was gotten underway but incorporation did not come until April 17, 1958. The attorney for doing all the work, Morris J. Zweig, was given honorary lifetime membership and paid \$60 for his work.

By August 1957 the building was underway as evidenced by bills paid to Paul Bradt for 27 bags of cement and E.T. Carroll for cement blocks. A few members each evening-after their day job-started closing in the building. A work detail was set for August 28. The work being done by volunteers under the leadership of expert masons, brothers, George, Herbie, Carl and Cliff Jensen.

Basic training Fire Fighting courses provided by Saratoga County were also discussed at this time.

In September it was agreed-upon approval of the board of directors- that when the present story of the firehouse was completed they would continue on with the second story (this would become their meeting room).

January of 1958 saw the first story enclosed; ready for a heating system and pouring of the floor.

The suggestion was made that the outside of the second story be faced with brick.

A representative from the phone company visited the March '58 meeting to present information on phone and alarm systems for fire calls. Also at the meeting was a Mr. Bartlett from the Bean Fire Equipment Company, who presented information and showed pictures of fire fighting



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In April 1958 Ed Seelow was appointed fire chief. Herbie Jensen and Turk St. Onge were authorized to make plans for the second story of the firehouse with instructions that the second story be "roughed in" at once.

District Forest Ranger George Stewart attended that April meeting, presenting information on various angles of fires and fire-fighting. Burning permits were to be obtained from local ranger, Bill Partridge. Only the fire chief or whoever was in charge could request help through Mutual Aid or the Conservation Department. It was also determined that Ranger Partridge would notify Chief Jensen of any fire permits issued.

A public hearing was held at the town hall on April 16, 1958 for permission to form a Fire Protection District which would include the entire town. On May 22, of that same year another public meeting was held for consideration of the town board contracting with the fire company for fire protection. This contract has been renewed each year since 1958. This supplies the fire company with a major source of operating funds which are supplemented each year by various fund-raising projects.

In May progress was underway on the second story and Cdr. Clark suggested a Fire Alarm be installed under the red light on the fire house.

In June they again decided to take in the July 4th Parade in Northville. Ed Seelow was appointed chairman of that committee and Adam Serba was made chairman of the 2nd Field Day committee.

During the summer the members decided that the Chief and Asst. Chief should have badges. These were purchased from the Galway Fire Equipment Co. at a cost of \$10.85.

By September 1958 the membership moved that the Methodist Church next door be granted permission to hook into the fire company's water supply (this seemed fair since the parking lot between the church and fire company is shared jointly).

Late October found the second story not "buttoned up" for winter and a motion carried to hire two carpenters to install windows, doors, and frames. They would also seal up all holes in the blocks. 1000 tickets were to be printed, selling for 25 cents each to help pay for the firehouse cement blocks.

Four emergency phone numbers (of firemen) would be sent to town residents in their next phone bill.

Two days before Christmas Chief Jensen reported that the new (new to them) fire truck would be ready by the first of the year-1959. It was decided that a detail of men would take rotation in checking the firehouse, being sure everything was in order. The committee for the 1959 Major Raffle was Fred Walton Sr., Harry Dutcher and Herb Jensen.

Next month--conclusion

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EDINBURG VOL. FIRE CO.

by Brian DeFeo

For the period covering November 12th, through December 12th, the Fire Company responded to a total of fifteen calls for assistance. Our run sheet is as follows:

11/16 Mutual Aid, Northville (Benson)
 11/18 Mutual Aid, Providence
 11/23 Mutual Aid, Northville
 11/28 Mutual Aid, Northville
 11/29 Mutual Aid, Providence
 11/29 Mutual Aid, Providence
 12/1 Mutual Aid, Northville
 12/3 South Shore Road, Motor Vehicle Accident
 12/3 South Shore Road, Lines Down
 12/7 Turner Road (Day) Structure Fire
 12/7 Mutual Aid, Northville
 12/9 South Shore Road, Motor Vehicle Accident

12/11 Northville Road, Motor Vehicle Accident
 12/11 North Shore Road, Lines Down
 12/11 Sinclair Heights Road, CO2 detector

What if the unthinkable happened, your house caught on fire. If not you, then perhaps relatives, or close friends. It happens often enough. No one expects its going to be them. That only happens, to other people.

But that was yesterday, how do you face today, or the day after the fire?

This type of loss is tremendously stressful, and will have a profound effect on each individual differently. From the child who can not locate their favorite toy, to the grand parent who may have literally been born and raised in that house. These are understandably quite profound feelings of loss. Both for the physical aspect of the house and the emotional aspect of the home. These feelings should not be minimized, rather they should be addressed, perhaps through professional counseling.

There is an excellent guide for the homeowner's family, published by the American Red Cross. It is titled: "Picking up the pieces After a Fire".

This twelve page guide addresses several topics to include among others:

- recovering emotionally
- helping pets
- returning to your home
- checking structural damage
- cleaning up - removing smoke odors
- recovering financially
- rebuilding

This is a very well done guide, which I recommend to any family dealing with the devastating loss of their home. You can find it on their website.



If you have a birthday that you would like to put in the Edinburg Newsletter, please email it to: edinburgnews2023@gmail.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Wendy F.
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Edinburg Historical Society

PO Box 801, Northville, NY 12134
 EdinburgHistoricalSociety.org
 Claudette Koza - Secretary

EHS DUES ARE DUE

If you have not renewed your membership in the Edinburg Historical Society, please, do so now so you will not be removed from the membership list and no longer receive festival, speaker information and meeting notices. Dues are \$5 for one membership and \$10 for a family. Mail your check to Membership Chair, Linda Ege, to the above address.

The 2024 EHS Board and Trustees— President, George Blackwood; Vice-President, Valerie Kaye; Treasurer, Marge Ludwig; Secretary, Claudette Koza. The EHS Trustees - Andrea Blackwood, Priscilla Edwards, Maureen Raiola, Linda Ege and Linda Monacchio.

Joint Youth Director Position

The Village of Northville is hiring for the Position of Joint Youth Director. This is a Recreational Supervisor/working position directly responsible to the Village Board of Trustees/Mayor for the efficient and effective operation of the Northville/Northampton Summer Recreational 5-week Program. At the time of this posting, the program is being restructured and the anticipated salary is \$6,000, subject to approval of the Joint Youth Commission. A complete list of duties and responsibilities can be obtained from the Town Clerk's office at 412 S. Main St., Northville, NY.

Applications and/or resumes will be accepted in person at the above address or mailed to: Town Clerk, PO Box 479, Northville, NY 12134 on or before January 19, 2024 by 3 p.m.

Residents of the Saratoga Tax District in 1777 - Heritage Hunter Barbara Potter has spent years creating a database of individuals and families living in the Saratoga Tax District of Albany County at the time of the Battles of Saratoga in 1777. You can help by sharing information with anyone residing in this vast area. Who were they, where did they live, when were they born, who did they marry, who were their family members? You can reach Barbara at: potter16580@verizon.net.

Copeland Covered Bridge - A share in the Copeland Covered Bridge has been purchased by Maureen Sweet in honor of Bruce and Marge Hull. Donations help EHS maintain the bridge. Send your request for a bridge share to the address above.

PICKLE IN THE PARK



Pickle in the Park is a pickleball membership club in Sacandaga Park. There are 5 outdoor courts and 1 heated indoor court. Access to the courts and parking is off Rt30, on the East side, at the 45mph sign just North of McKinley Avenue. We have games and practices most days. Our indoor season officially started on October 15. Since many of our members go south during the Winter, we are looking for Winter indoor season players. The indoor membership fee per player for 2023/4 is \$175 each. Members sign up and play in the scheduled open sessions. Members and guests can also reserve playing sessions for private games, practices or organized coaching sessions - once, for a month or the whole season. Private session fees depend on membership status, time of day and group size. The indoor court is suitable for other activities such as TaiChi, Yoga and Badminton. For further info call Willem at 518 332 6896.



Roof Replacement Bids

Sealed bids for the roof replacement at the Day Town Hall located at 1650 No. Shore Road, and the Day Museum at 1652 No. Shore Rd. will be received by the Town of Day Town Clerk at 1650 No. Shore Road, Hadley, NY until 3:00 pm local time on February 8, 2024, and then publicly opened and read aloud. Bid Packet and Specifications are available on the towns website at “<http://www.townofday.com>” www.townofday.com or may be requested by e-mail at “<mailto:daytownclerk@townofday.com>” daytownclerk@townofday.com or picked up at the Day Town Hall Clerk’s office.

Tracy Ladd, Day Town Clerk

FRAXTURED FACTS

Brian DeFeo

This column is dedicated to absolutely nothing. It is without any redeeming social value, and in general, a complete waste of your time. However, if you have nothing but time to waste, read on.

Some random thoughts:

So what do two world tyrants, like Russia’s Putin and North Korea’s Kim, talk about during their just “regular guys” time? When carrying on a conversation about munitions and missiles, can only take one so far. Maybe it is something like this -

PUTIN: So, how is your Jenny Craig membership working out for you? You really look great in your recent photos. Loved you on that giant white horse. I’ve got to get one. Can I borrow him?

KIM: Thanks for noticing Vladi, and no. You know, I have been wearing a lot more white suits lately, and really starting to feel better about myself. I don’t shoot off half as many rockets as I used to.

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KIM: And what about you, seen any good American movies lately? I love that Jackie Chan s***. I wonder if he would want to be my Minister of Defense?

PUTIN: Probably not, they keep disappearing. Funny you should ask though. I just saw Anger Management last night. Didn't really get it. Why do you have to manage your anger, when you can just blow up a village?

But I got to tell you, I am a huge Jack Nicholson fan. If we ever make a movie about Rasputin, I hope we can get him over here to play the lead.

He'd be great.

PUTIN: So what is the deal with your Sister? She's kind of hot. I love that angry Goth look she has going. Is she single?

KIM: Well I don't really know if she is. That's a State secret and we never talk about that stuff. In fact, I'm not really sure if I'm single! But there is a woman who keeps getting photographed with me. She may be my Wife, but I don't want to ask. Besides, I thought you are married!

PUTIN: That's only a minor detail Kimster. I have a three story home and lots of windows.

KIM: Good point. I understand that many of your officials seem to lose their balance in front of windows. Quite a coincidence.

PUTIN: Yes, isn't it. My favorite American movie, "Vertigo".

KIM: I wanted to thank you profusely for the parting gifts you gave me when I left Russia recently. Those Kamikaze drones meant a lot to me, and that bullet proof vest, was such a nice personal touch.

PUTIN: Well I am so glad you liked them. It is so hard to find the right gifts for people in our line of work. I do most of my really important shopping at Dictators R us.com. So, how about your Sister's number?

KIM: She's number 2.

PUTIN: That's not what I meant!

KIM: I know.

It wasn't so long ago that I took a road trip to the State of Maine. If you are hugging the Coast, you can't help but notice when you enter into that little sliver of New Hampshire. The reason you can't help but notice, is that there is

a giant billboard proclaiming, "Welcome to New Hampshire- Live Free or Die."

The first time I saw that, I was stopped cold. I knew New Englanders could be rather direct, if not pointed in their views. Clipped in their speech, hard to make laugh and have no nonsense approach to life in general. Yet, telling the occasional traveler you either live free in our State or you're dead, well that seems a bit too much.

How about those of us who just wish to live frugally? Frugal is good, right?

Don't the frugal deserve to live too? Why can't we all just get along.

As I age I sometimes wonder, if the World just isn't passing me by. I used to be relevant. I had a good understanding of what was happening around me. Yet these days, all this technology, just leaves me all the more confused. I hear people talking about things, I probably should know something about, and yet don't.

Which brings me to "Robotic Surgery". I hear about this all the time.

Every Hospital seems to be offering it, as if it is some wonderful thing.

Frankly, I don't feel the excitement, nor even see the need.

Why should highly skilled surgeons, who have gone through years of specialized training, spend their valuable time repairing robots, when people are in such need?



The Edinburg Newsletter Now Has Color Pages!

The ads that appear on those pages were chosen randomly.

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As the price of magazine subscriptions

increases, the library is the most cost-effective way to get your magazines. Current ones are on display and back issues may be borrowed. Also, the library has access to digital magazines. Go to our website and click "eMagazines".

The Sacandaga Book Group will meet on Tuesday, Jan 9 at 10 am in the library's program room. JoAnne Niemeyer will lead a discussion of Sally Hepworth's "The Things We Keep". Anna

Forster is only thirty-eight years old, but her mind is slowly slipping away from her. Armed only with her keen wit and sharp-eyed determination, she knows that her family is doing what they believe to be best when they take her to Rosalind House, an assisted living facility. But Anna has a secret: she does not plan on staying. She also knows there's just one another resident who is her age, Luke. What she does not expect is the love that blossoms between her and Luke even as she resists her new life. As her disease steals more and more of her memory, Anna fights to hold on to what she knows, including her relationship with Luke.

A reduced amount of income tax forms will be available in paper form. Most forms can be located on-line and printed. Contact the library regarding if they have been delivered.

On display, find children's books about winter and the animals of the polar areas.

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The Property Owners Association of Day has a new Treasurer.

Susan Devlin is the association's new Treasurer, and in this role, she will be collecting dues and maintaining the membership database. Susan and her husband Matt, live in the Town of Day, at 2883 N. Shore Road. If you need to update your membership information, send in dues, or have questions, Susan's contact information is:

Susan Devlin
2883 North Shore Road
Hadley, NY 12835-2805
Phone number: (518) 928-3188
Email address: sjdevlin1224@gmail.com

At last summer's membership meeting, Nancy Jones, who had been Treasurer for eight years, stated that she was looking to give up her position. The association has been blessed to have leaders like Nancy who have supported us for years. Besides being the treasurer of the association, she and her husband, Bob, have worked tirelessly to raise money for the Sacandaga Protection Committee and her church. We hope the best for both Nancy and Bob.

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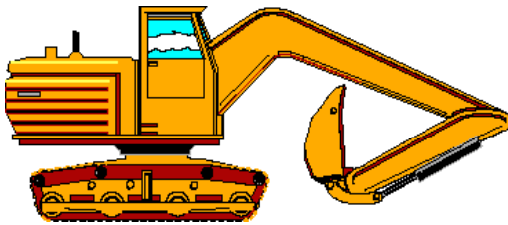
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Flower Talk

Sally Peck, of the Flower Barn

With the mid of winter here and a lot of people feeling down about life, it's good to know that under it all, the flowers are preparing to bloom for Spring- they don't give up hope and neither should we. This Flower Talk article is just that... flower talk from some very unexpected people. As author Shobha Agarwal says, 'Flowers always attract us towards their beauty and nature. They give us happiness and delight even if they are covered with thorns. They soften our hearts when we are sad and fatigued. They purify our surroundings and uplift our life when we are feeling blue.' Enjoy these quotes that I am sharing with you. Hopefully at least one will resonate.

"If we could see the miracle of a single flower, clearly our whole life would change." - Buddha

"Flowers are the music of the ground from earth's lips spoken without sound." - Edwin Curran

"A Flower cannot blossom without sunshine and man cannot live without love" - Max

"If I had a single flower for everytime I think about you, I could walk forever in my garden" - Claudia Adrienne Grandi

"If we could see the miracle of a single flower, clearly our whole life would change." -Buddha

"Minds are like flowers; they open when the time is right" -Stephen Richards

"A rose can never be a sunflower and a sunflower can never be a rose. All flowers are beautiful in their own way, and that's like women too" - Miranda Kerr

"Every flower is a soul blossoming in nature"
- Gerard De Nerval

"Happiness held is the seed; Happiness shared is the flower" -John Harrigan

"The Earth laughs in flowers" - Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Flowers don't worry about how they're going to bloom. They just open up and turn toward the light and that makes them beautiful." - Jim Carrey

"The flower that follows the sun does so even in cloudy days" - Rober Leighton

"Where flowers bloom so does hope." - Lady Bird Johnson

"Flowers always make people better, happier and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine for the soul." -Luther Burbank

"I must have flowers, always, and always."
-Claude Monet

"Butterflies are self propelled flowers." -Robert A Heinlein

"People from a planet without flowers would think we must be mad with joy the whole time to have such things about us." - Iris Murdoch

"The flowers of all the tomorrows are the seeds of today" - Indian Proverb

"If God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you." Luke 12:27-28

"Every flower must grow through dirt." -Laurie Jean Sennott

"God writes the gospel not in the Bible alone, but on trees and flowers and clouds and stars."
Martin Luther

"Love is like a beautiful flower which I may not touch, but whose fragrance makes the garden a place of delight just the same." -Helen Keller

"If you take a flower in your hand and really look at it, it's your world for a moment." -Georgia O'Keeffe

"Mama was my greatest teacher, a teacher of compassion, love and fearlessness. If love is sweet as a flower, then my mother is that sweet flower of love" -Stevie Wonder



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continued on next page



From Previous Page

“Just living isn’t enough,” said the butterfly, “one must have sunshine, freedom and a little flower.” -Hans Christian Anderson

“I am in awe of flowers. Not because of their colors, but because even though they have dirt in their roots, they still grow. They still bloom.” -D. Antoinette Foy

This year, make someone happy and let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the gardeners who make our souls blossom. Happy New Year!

NEW NPL DIRECTOR NAMED

The trustees of the Northville Public Library are pleased to announce the appointment of Alisha Rivera-Holmes as the new Library Director, effective January 01, 2024.

Alisha comes to Northville brimming with ideas to further enhance a library that has been lovingly built and developed by retiring director, Michael Burnett. She holds a BA in English and a Masters in Library Science.

Please join us for a welcoming reception January 16, 2024, 4-6 pm at the Northville Public Library. (Snow date Jan. 23)

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Sufficiency

Shellie Kovaleski

Just before the sun shows itself on the horizon that rosy glow is so glorious it can stop me in my tracks.

But if you were in Alaska, above the Arctic Circle in December, that rosy glow is all you'd get. That is noon in the Arctic. But after dealing with a winter sun that never rises, Alaskans get the summer sun that never sets. I've never checked this out but I wonder if all level spots on the globe, putting aside canyons and valleys, get the same number of daylight hours in a year - just distributed differently.

This season of scant sunbeams seems like a good month to consider the often overlooked topic of passive solar. It doesn't seem like a relevant topic perhaps in the north country, but I maintain that passive solar energy is a topic we can't afford not to think about as a nation. Passive solar is simply a design feature that causes a building to warm up or light up naturally as a result of good site orientation and careful design. (A house with windows only on 2 sides, front and back, probably wasn't designed to capture sunlight.)

The Adirondacks are pretty similar to the Pacific Northwest in terms of cloud cover according to a map in the Solar Sourcebook I checked. But one accidental instance of solar heat collecting has made me an avid disciple. One morning in March, I nestled a tray of celery seedlings into a 3" thick

Styrofoam box and laid a double glazed window over it. By 10:30 am on an overcast day, the box was filled with steamy hot vapor and a collection of cooked celery plants. I had inadvertently learned the potential of concentrated heat captured in a highly insulated container.

New York isn't Florida but this story also bears telling. My sister designed a solar-powered house to build in a remote part of Florida. The building inspector, however, was unfamiliar with solar design specs(!)

Getting him up to speed would add 6 months to the project, so she reluctantly agreed to go on the grid.

In the ultimate irony, heavy rains had made the unpaved roads impassable for the installation crew and their utility trucks, so by moving day, there still was no electrical service on the premises. Under wet, gray skies and some controversy about wasting time, they hooked up the solar panels, their back up plan, to the water pump. Hubby came home from work on day 2 to a civilization that featured running water!

Even as far north as Norway, a woman with a solar cook kit found she could boil water in under 15 minutes. Passive solar energy is not about producing electricity; it just makes direct use of the sun's great energy.

For state-of-the-art passive solar design, my favorite example is Solviva. This Martha's

continued on next page

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From Page 14

Vineyard greenhouse carried its tomato vines through four winters worth of blizzards and snow drifts, “plugged in” only to the sun’s energy with no fuel bills or electrical heat. By then the vines were 20’ long. That alone is something to write about!

The principles behind Solviva are simple. The main idea is effective thermal storage. I like to recall how it is to sit on a big rock in the sun in springtime. When clouds cover the sun, the air chills immediately but the boulder stays warm. We feel air temperatures change rapidly but the huge capacity of the boulder to absorb heat keeps its temperature more stable. In Solviva, heat is simply stored in great quantities of water. Triple-layered, contractors’ grade, black trash bags, set into cribs designed for them, became holding tanks for the bank of water.

While most greenhouses are prone to overheating in warm weather, Solviva’s massive, relatively cool water tanks kept absorbing heat and thus moderated the air temperatures. As long as the water is cooler than the air it will keep drawing heat out of the room. Later, when the air gets chilly and the water is warmer than it’s

surroundings, the water gives off its heat just like a giant radiator.

Another principle incorporated into Solviva is enclosing smaller greenhouses within the larger. If the main structure is 20 or 30 degrees warmer than the outdoors, then a smaller structure within it, buffered from the real weather can be warmer still. The staff had to walk through three doors to get to the “tropical” tomato zone.

It was also understood that the north side of the structure would never provide solar energy gains, only losses, so instead of being glazed it was insulated.

Okay, not everyone wants a greenhouse. But everyone does want a warm house and passive solar design is one way to get there.

Solviva, which generates over \$200,000 of produce on a single acre, is only roughly summarized here. It was the culmination of dozens of astute details, fine tuning and original thought. There is also a section devoted to retrofitting.

Someone you know wants this book. Or how ‘bout you?



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Northville Rotary Grows

"Service Above Self"

Rotary Holiday Activities

In our tradition of "Service Above Self", Northville Rotarians were busy over the holidays helping those in need. The club adopted 10 students in Edinburg and Northville schools for Christmas. Individually, members purchased gift for the children and the Club provided each family a \$50 gift card to Klippels. Rotarians Naomi Darling Parker and Cliff Parker delivered the gifts.

In addition, the Club also purchased 12 turkeys for families through the Northville Food Pantry at the Pink Chicken. Each month, hundreds of dollars of food is donated to the Food Pantry by individual Rotarians and friends for 12 students in the Backpack Program.

Rotarian Shirl Doherty developed a Senior Santa program in which gifts were delivered to 12 seniors with the names provided by the Saratoga and Fulton Counties Office for the Aging. Funds were provided by the Club.

Rotarians assisted with the Breakfast with Santa Program spearheaded by Rotarian Ken Adamczyk. The program fed over 120 people at the Northville School.

Of course, Rotarians are not the only people providing service to our community. In December, Tom Spencer was named "Community Member of the Year" for his work in and concern for the Northville community, especially with Sacandaga Helping Hands. He was given \$100 toward the charity of his choice and to no one's surprise, he asked to send the check to Sacandaga Helping Hands.

During the winter, Rotary meets the First and third Thursdays of the month at the Sport Island Pub. Sometimes the meeting

venue is changed, so if you would like to join us, text or call our secretary Cliff Parker at 518 331-6439 first. All are welcome at our meetings

Here's to a happy and healthy 2024!

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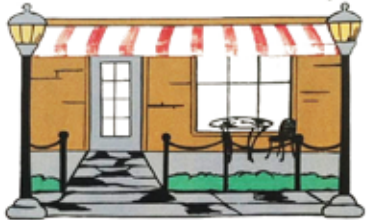
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Sun, Sand and Swaying in the Breeze!

by Janice Hawk-Baldwin

I am an idiot! That phrase has gone through my head a handful of times in the last four months. How many of you have ever thought or said those words? In August, I agreed to take a position for a volunteer group that Billy and I belong to. The goal of this, not for profit, group is to give back to the community, by volunteering. I thought I did all of my homework before I accepted this job. I learned quickly that I was wrong. Working at an event is the easy part of volunteering. Working with the software program and website that the group was currently using was extremely frustrating. I started having anxiety from the very first training meeting. I and the person I would be working with asked if we could look at other programs for event scheduling. We did our homework and received permission to try out a different program. While working with the trial program, my computer got infected by a virus and locked up. My screen was flashing and the audio was blaring virus alert. I could not shut the computer down and I was beside myself. Bill and I finally got it to shut down and I contacted a local computer store. I was able to bring it in right away and the tech staff got rid of the virus. It was returned to me in two hours. My anxiety level escalated after this occurred.

My grandkids are so much more adept at using a computer than I will ever be. They are fearless and never worry about making a mistake. I wish I had that kind of confidence. I let my anxiety and fear take over. I knew I had to learn to use this program on my own. I made myself walk away for a few days and threw myself into other things. As soon as I stopped focusing on my frustrations I relaxed. When I was doing my daily devotions and praying for people, on my prayer list, I came to a realization. The people who need prayers have real issues in their lives. My problems were not life and death. I needed to stop obsessing. A few days later while reading my devotions, I felt like they were written, personally, for me. The two Bible verses that stood out to me were: Romans 12:12 Be joyful



in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer and Philippians 4:6 Do not be anxious about everything but in any every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving present your requests to God. I realized that I had been so upset that I was not really listening to or practicing God's word . I felt a calming come into my heart.

After two months of anxiety and frustration I sat myself down and started to work on the schedule for the first five day concert series of 2024. Every time I made a mistake (there were many) I was determined to persevere and move ahead. It took me three days to finish the schedule but I did it!!!! I learned how to navigate the program . I did not do this by myself. I turned my fears over to God and I

opened up both my heart and mind.

In 2024, if you are not happy, try something new in your life. Don't let self doubts or the negative voices in your head determine your destiny. If you want to make some changes in your life, think about what it is you want to do. Don't dismiss any ideas even if they are outside of your comfort zone. Set some achievable goals for yourself. Remember there will be some failures. (Don't beat on yourself and call yourself names). That is how we learn and grow. Think positive, regroup and move on.

Dream big and reach for the stars! I hope 2024 is your best year yet! Enjoy the winter and be safe on the lake!



Edinburg Emergency Squad

The Edinburg Emergency Squad would like to thank the following for their generous donations to our Cookie Sale and Basket Raffle

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TOPS

A special thank you to Jackie Nichols and the Four Corners Diner staff for their assistance in selling the raffle tickets and use of the ovens to bake cookies.

We would also like to thank everyone who purchased Christmas Cash Raffle tickets and bakers who took the time to bake homemade cookies to be included in the cookie trays.

Christmas Cash raffle winners:

1st prize – Bambi Becker
2nd prize – George Hooton
3rd prize – Mike Eagan



Northville News

Wendy Reu, Village Clerk

It has been a busy year in the Village and it's hard to believe the time has come to usher in a new one! Wishing you all a Happy New Year full of good health, happiness, and prosperity!

Highway Superintendent Reidell reports that the crew will begin installing the skating rink in the Waterfront Park. Now, all we need is Mother Nature's cooperation and some cold temperatures and the rink will be open to the public. Please be respectful when using the rink.

Police Chief Richardson reports that the total calls handled by the Village Police Department for November 2023 was 90 (this does not include complaints handled by FCSO and NYSP when NPD Officers were not on duty). Chief Richardson reported that on November 28th, he responded to 691 Co. Hwy. 152 for a report of a chimney fire. Upon arrival there was smoke coming from the outside of the house, between the chimney and wall. He used the fire extinguisher located in his patrol vehicle and was able to contain the fire until Northville Fire Department arrived to completely extinguish the fire.

At their December meeting, the Village Board conducted a Public Hearing on Local Law #4 of 2023 – to Amend the Village Code in regard to Snow Removal as follows:

§ 143-7. Snow and ice removal

It shall be the duty of the owners or occupants of land fronting on a sidewalk in the Village of Northville to keep such sidewalks adjoining their respective lots clear of snow, ice, dirt and other

obstructions; and in case of the default of such owner or occupant to perform such duty within a reasonable time, the Board of Trustees of said village may cause such sidewalk to be cleared and assess the expense thereof upon the adjoining land as provided in and by § 4-414 of the Village Law.

§ 143-8. Standard of care

A. Snow shall be removed from any sidewalk or footway within 48 hours from the time of an accumulation of two or more inches. After snow is removed or in the case of an ice storm, a sidewalk or footway may be made safe by covering ice with sand or other suitable substances within a 48-hour period. In all cases, the sidewalk or footway shall be kept free of snow for a width of at least 24 inches.

B. Property owners at corners and at any marked crosswalks shall remove the snow deposited by Village snowplowing operators, and any additional sidewalk snow deposited as a result of plowing. Further, all property owners shall provide at least one opening in the snowplow bank between the sidewalk and street within his frontage to facilitate foot travel between the sidewalk and parked automobiles. A driveway opening cleared of snow shall meet the requirements of this section for properties without crosswalks.

§ 143.9. Administrative enforcement and abatement

A. The Director of Public Works Superintendent will serve written notice upon property owners/occupants who have not cleared and/or treated their sidewalks within 24 hours after an accumulation of two or more inches of snow. Owners/occupants will have an additional 24 hours to comply before the Village acts as directed aforesaid in Section 143-7.

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B. Whenever any owner, operator or occupant of any premises shall fail or neglect to remove such snow or ice as aforesaid, the Village may have the snow or ice removed therefrom without notice to such owner, operator or occupant, and a mobilization fee of \$200 and \$3 per linear foot for shoveling snow and/or ice removal/treatment, and any other additional costs for equipment and personnel in connection therewith, shall be certified by the Department of Public Works Superintendent to the Village Clerk and shall thereupon become and be a lien upon the property on which such snow or ice removal was located, and any unpaid bills for removal remaining unpaid after 30 days shall be added to the next Village tax bill of the property owner of record.

C. Any person who shall resist or obstruct the Director of Public Works Superintendent or his employees in removal of snow or ice shall, upon conviction thereof, be subject to a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200, and each day on which such violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

This law affects all properties in the Village that have a sidewalk that abuts their property. Please contact DPW Superintendent Dan Reidell at 518-321-6352 with any questions.

The Village Planning Board has issued a site plan approval for the Great Sacandaga Lake Fire District construction project on South Main Street at a recent Public Hearing. The Fire District hopes to go out to bid on the project in mid January. Their goal is to start construction on the project in late spring. During the time that the fireman's lot (old Stewart's property) has been vacant, they have allowed people to utilize the space for parking. As the firehouse project advances,

the option for parking in that lot will no longer exist. Residents and visitors are reminded and encouraged to start using the other municipal parking options in the Village, the lot next to Stewart's and the lot behind the Masonic Lodge and current firehouse, along with the area in front of the Waterfront Park.

We are continuing to work on a National Trails Day event, which will be held May 31, 2024 through June 2, 2024 in the Waterfront Park and various spots around the Village of Northville. This event will be advertised across NYS through the I Love NY program along with ADK mountain publication and we anticipate a large crowd.

continued on next page



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YAMAHA



from previous page

Please email clerk@villageofnorthville.com to add your special Trails Day event/promotion to our schedule of events. We have monthly meetings with County and ADK Mountain Club representatives and advertisement for this event will be starting to roll out in January, so now is the time to get your name on the list. It is a great opportunity to plan a fund raiser or host an activity station as outreach for your group or organization. We currently have over 30 vendors that plan on participating and our list keeps growing!

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be on January 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

BACKYARD WILDLIFE

Roberta MacIntyre Games

Now that winter is upon us my thoughts turn to hibernation. Think about it. Spend a month or two indulging in favorite foods, a gluttonous feast, and then go to sleep for the cold months only to awaken in the spring pounds lighter, the deep sleep causing all the fat stores to be depleted. Wait a minute! Am I thinking about the wildlife or me?

Back to reality. I do enjoy many aspects of the winter months though, the beauty of the newly "sugared" mountains after a snowfall, the fresh crisp air, the colorful winter skies and clear star filled nights, the full moons brightening the snow blanketed landscape. How easy it becomes to observe the winter activity of our wildlife, their tracks exposing them in the snow.

Many of our Adirondack animals are still quite active in the winter months while some have gone into hibernation and some have left through migration. In early December after a few snowfalls and some chilly nights I happened to spot a Great Blue Heron in a small pond in open water. Herons are partial migrants like many birds moving from the northern edges of their territories to areas that will sustain them not always the Deep South. I recently observed a band of female Snow Buntings from Northern Canada on Stewarts Dam, the small flock at the edge of the road circling into the air when disturbed. They may stay or continue

farther south.

If they don't migrate some wildlife go into true hibernation, a coma like state, like bats, mice, chipmunks, & groundhogs and some become inactive like frogs and snakes. Black Bears are not true hibernators but go into a state called torpor when their body temperature is reduced and metabolism changes but they can awaken if needed. Mild winters can affect these patterns by delayed torpor or hibernation and waking during mild periods. I recall finding bear tracks in the snow on the property during these mild spells and chipmunks at the feeders in January and February.

For wildlife food and protective shelter are paramount for cold weather survival. Moose favor shallow snow and open trails to avoid exertion and conserve energy. Deer may bed down together and stay inactive for days. Raccoons and porcupines can become inactive for days and den together for warmth. Porcupines have been observed to remain in the same tree for days and weeks. Beavers store fresh branches for food below the ice near their lodges where they survive the winter in a dry room they have built above the water line.

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Southern Flying Squirrel

Activity around the birdfeeders continues with winter birds and squirrels but one squirrel rarely seen, active at night, is the Southern Flying Squirrel. Flying squirrels don't actually fly. They are small white & grey chipmunk size squirrels with skin folds from their front to back legs which act as "wings". This allows them to soar from heights through the trees. As well as seeds these rodents supplement their diets with fungus, mushrooms, mice and eggs. When we would sit on the porch at night they would often appear several at a time. At night I spot them scurrying up the trees by the feeders, their huge brown eyes watching, sometimes sitting in the feeder trays allowing me to approach closely. In "Camp Country" these cuties can become problematic as they choose our homes (attics) as nesting zones often nesting together in the dozens. Many reports of ghostly hauntings turn out to be flying squirrels in the attic. (If any animal finds refuge in our homes it is best to contact a pest management professional for safe removal).

So whether hibernating, migrating or becoming inactive during the winter months, our Backyard Wildlife often survives best in the company of others and perhaps we could learn from them and follow suit when cabin fever overtakes us.

Roberta loves sharing about her many encounters with wildlife.



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Sacandaga Protection Committee

I have been involved with the Sacandaga Protection Committee (SPC) since its inception. This is a critically important nonprofit corporation designed to protect the environmental, economic and legal interests of the entire lake community. The SPC is the only advocate using legal representation to protect the rights of permit holders and the communities surrounding the Great Sacandaga Lake.

The SPC was formed in 2009 by local residents and community leaders to defend the rights of the lake users, permit holders and area property taxpayers against the threats posed by the State of New York and the Hudson River-Black River Regulating District (HRBRRD), the state agency that manages the lake. Back in 2007 and 2008 the HRBRRD was met with devastating financial news, and attempted to impose all their financial shortfalls on the lake permit holders.

When that poorly planned scheme failed, the HRBRRD attempted to penalize permit holders with draconian rules which would jeopardize the quality of life and the economic vitality of the region.

The SPC has successfully fought back against these attempts, through legal action, lobbying and public awareness campaigns. Some of

the SPC's accomplishments include:

Defeat of Proposed Permit System Rule Changes

Through the efforts of the SPC and GSLA Governor Patterson stopped the proposed rule changes that would have altered the way we enjoy the lake.

Restoration of Exclusive Use Permits



When the HRBRRD arbitrarily removed the words "exclusive use" from the permit applications and signs the SPC and its attorneys intervened and succeeded in restoring the language, preventing the 129 miles of GSL shoreline from becoming an unregulated public nuisance.

Niagara Mohawk (National Grid) Lawsuit

The SPC and its attorneys prevented Niagara Mohawk from getting the permit system declared illegal—for their own financial benefit.

The SPC advocates for Lake Wide Permit Issues

The SPC persuaded the HRBRRD to drop a proposal to allow adjustments to the current permit boundaries. In 2021 the HRBRRD proposed new rules changes without public input. After consultation with the SPC, GSLA and the Town of Day Association the proposal was removed from their agenda.

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Local Representation on the HRBRRD board

The SPC identifies, reviews and recommends qualified candidates to the HRBRRD board.

Legislative Effort to Abolish the HRBRRD

The SPC, its attorneys and lobbyists fight continuing legislative proposals that would abolish the HRBRRD. Efforts to move control of the HRBRRD to the NYS Power Authority or the DEC would not be in the best interests of permit holders and our communities. Local control of the district is vitally important to our community. The SPC relationship with the current Executive Director and the Board is cordial and respectful, and the HRBRRD leadership is responsive to our community.

Beneficiary Studies

The SPC has and continues to monitor who is to be classified as a beneficiary and to what extent to protect permit holders from unfair assessments.

The SPC is a vital organization today. They continue to work as a watchdog to protect the interests of our communities. They're truly a grassroots 100% volunteer organization that relies on the support of its members and donors to continue its mission. By supporting the SPC, you are helping to preserve the beauty, the history and the culture of the Great Sacandaga Lake. You are also helping to safeguard the rights and the interests of the lake community and the surrounding areas.

You can make a difference with your support of the SPC by making a donation and spreading the word about their work. Take a look at the SPC website <https://sacandagaprotectioncommittee.com/>, or follow them on Facebook <https://sacandagaprotectioncommittee.com/>.

Please consider mailing a donation to SPC, P.O. Box 86,

Mayfield NY 12117.

Thank you for your attention and your support. Together, we can make a difference for the Great Sacandaga Lake and our community.

Sincerely,

Joe Sullivan, Past President and Co-Chair
Sacandaga Protection Committee



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The Bells Are Back In Town

Have you heard the bells ringing again in Northville? This occurs four times a day, at 9 a.m., noon, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. An electronic carillon of chime bells perform beautifully orchestrated songs. This magical music comes from the bell tower of the Northville United Presbyterian Church. Historically, the church bells played for many years in the Northville community, however, several years ago, our church bells became silent due to mechanical issues, and were forgotten.

This past summer The Northville Presbyterian Church restored the entire bell tower. This included replacement of beams, roofing, painting and installation of new lighting. Following this

repair, it was discovered that the electronic carillon was not working. One of the church members was able to implement a repair, just in time, to play hymns and Christmas carols for the holiday season.

You may ask, "What is a carillon?"

A carillon is a musical instrument composed of bells typically made of cast bronze. Each bell produces a singular note and it needs to be composed of twenty-three or more bells, to be considered a "carillon".

Electronic carillons are a uniquely American musical device primarily installed after World War II in the United States to emulate tower bells. Some of these electronic carillons strove to replicate cast bronze bells using recordings, while others projected bell-like tones created through different techniques.

When you are in Northville please listen. Hopefully you will hear the bells, from the Northville Presbyterian Church, playing a perfectly orchestrated melody.

Services are held at 161 Reed Street, every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Please join us, all are welcome.

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EDINBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3 North Shore Rd, Edinburg
Sunday Worship 9:00 A.M.
Stephanie Schrom, Pastor
E-mail: edinburgumcpastor@yahoo.com

Happy New Year and God's Grace and Peace to all from all of us at the Edinburg United Methodist Church!

We would like to thank everyone who came out to our events and supported us in 2023. We are looking forward to 2024 being an even better year to reach out to our community and do God's work. Psalm 65:11 tells us "You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance." God always wants our future to be bright and overflowing with blessings. We have faith in that as we go into the new year.

Our New Year's Blessing for all is:

May God make your year a happy one! Not by shielding you from sorrow and pain, but by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes; Not by making your path easy, but by making you strong to travel any

path; Not by taking hardships from you, but by taking fear from your heart; Not by granting you unbroken sunshine, but by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows; Not by making your life always pleasant, but by showing when people and their causes need you most, and by making you anxious to be there to help. God's LOVE, PEACE, HOPE and JOY to you for the year ahead.
*Author unknown

If you are new to the area or do not have a home church please come and worship with us on Sunday mornings at 9 am. Our service is a traditional service with messages based on the Scriptures as written.

We welcome everyone! Our church motto is: Open Doors, Open Minds, Open Hearts.



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Baptist Church of Northville

111 North First Street, Northville
518-863-8001 bconny.org
Sr. Pastor: Pastor Andrew Larson

by *Barbara Klueg*

Looking Back . . . and Looking Forward

Another Christmas is past . . . the day we celebrate the King of Kings who humbled himself so low that He left His mighty, heavenly throne to come to our sin-filled earth to be born in a dirty barn as a helpless little baby. Why? Jesus came with a specific purpose. He came to die on a cross to save His people from their sins . . . because God so loved the world that He gave His only son!

And now celebrating Christmas is over for another year. Your decorated tree lays bare on the curb or (if you have a fake one it is tucked away till next year), the stockings are down, and you've added a few pounds . . . thanks to all those holiday goodies.

As you say good-bye to 2023 (with its ups and downs, and perhaps more challenges than you planned on) you also look forward to 2024 and to making a fresh start. I like starting with a clean slate, don't you?

In the Old Testament David took his eyes off God and made some very bad choices. He was a man who had loved and served God, but he forgot about putting God first in his life. He got bored, lusted after a woman, even committing adultery, and then devised a plan of how to have that woman's husband killed. Yup, he messed up BIG TIME. To put it bluntly, he sinned! But, then he pleaded for God's forgiveness and help. He bore his soul to God. (This gives all of us hope and encouragement!)

David wanted to start over again with a clean slate. David pleaded, "Take away all my sins. Wipe away all the evil things I've done. God, create a pure heart in me. Give me a new spirit that is faithful to you . . . Give me back the joy that comes from being saved by you. Give me a spirit that obeys you so that I keep going. Then I will teach your ways . . . and sinners will turn back to you." (Psalm 51: 9-13 New International Readers Version)

I love this! It's never too late to make things

right with God.

Be warned! Don't let Satan sit on your lap and keep condemning you. Don't wallow in pity or your regrets. Instead, ask God for His forgiveness through His Son, Jesus, who died on the cross to pay for sins! The Bible says that God will gladly accept a heart that is broken because of sadness over sin. (Psalm 51:17)

Don't constantly look back to your past. But instead, look forward to the Savior and live your life for Him this year! (Philippians 3:14) God is VERY forgiving and wants you to come to Him . . . repent and then live your life for Him. Hey, look what God did with David's life! He's called a man after God's own heart and was the Great-Great-Great-Grandpa of Jesus.

Check out our Sunday services on our church website: bconny.org. If you need spiritual advice and guidance, contact Pastor Larson at church (518.863.8001). He has a heart for God, will pray with you and share God's Word with you.

Our weekly schedule is:

- Sunday: Sunday School for all ages: 8:45 a.m. Worship: 10 a.m. Youth Choir Practice 11:30 a.m. Jr. & Sr. High Youth 7 p.m. @ BCON Corner
- 1st Sun. of the month: Family Night: 6 p.m. with refreshments & service following.
- Monday: Bible Club (K-5th) after school – 4 p.m. @ church. Sr. High Girls Bible Study @ 7 p.m. Man Up Bible Study @ BCON Corner 8 p.m.
- Wednesday: Northville Food Pantry: 10 a.m. BCON Corner. Moms & Tots: 2nd Wed. of the month @ 9:30 a.m. (Call church for location)
- Thursday: Prayer Meeting: 6 a.m. & 7 p.m. Jr. High Girls Bible Study: 7 p.m. Worship Choir Practice: 8 p.m.
- Home Small Groups: Sun. Tues. and Wed nights in homes. (Call the church for details)

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Northampton United Methodist Church at Fish House

PO Box 455
1604 Hwy 1010
Broadalbin, NY 12025

Rev David E Smith, Pastor
revdavid76@gmail.com 518-572-4051

Northampton United Methodist at Fish House invites you to join us as we seek to share God's love as revealed through Jesus Christ. We welcome all to join us for a time of hearing God's word, singing the hymns of faith, and having fellowship with one another. We are a historic congregation located on the shore of Great Sacandaga Lake.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday Worship at 9:00 AM
Sunday Coffee Hour and Fellowship at 10:00 AM
Study Group Wednesday at 10:00 AM & Monday
at 7:00 PM

UPCOMING SERMONS

1/7 Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12
A Message from Outsiders
1/14 1 Samuel 3:1-10; Mark 1:14-20
Unlikely Heroes
1/21 Jonah 3:1-5; Mark 1:14-20; 1 Corinthians
7:29-31
Time to Believe
1/28 Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Mark 1:21-28
God's Messengers

A Fresh Start

January, the beginning of a New Year, a new calendar, a fresh start. It is in a very real sense the core of what Christianity is all about. At Christmas we celebrated good news, God had entered the world in flesh and blood form to offer a fresh start for the human race and for our world. A chance to let go of all that is wrong in our life. An opportunity to be forgiven for all our misdeeds and receive the amazing God's amazing love and power.

It is an offer that isn't restricted to a particular



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place or ethnic group. On January 6, we celebrate the coming of the wise men. Powerful, influential people, who possessed enormous wealth, who came to pay homage to a baby born in a stable in a distant nation. They knew and understood that this was God reaching out not just to the people of Israel but to the world.

Other though would see the birth of Jesus and this talk of him as the King of the Jews as a threat. He was disturbing the status quo. He was threatening the power of the religious establishment and the accommodations that had been made with the powerful Roman empire.

The question for each of this day is whether we dare to believe the Good News that love is stronger than hate, that forgiveness can overcome the desire for revenge, that those who are on the fringes of society have value.

As we enter this time of New Year's resolutions, are you willing to resolve to be all in for Jesus? If you are ready to say yes to God's way of love embodied in Jesus, your local Faith Community stands ready to support you in living out that promise.

If you don't currently belong to a Faith Community Northampton at Fish House welcome you to be part of our community. We gather on Sunday morning at 9:00 AM, meet on Monday evening at 6:00 PM to discuss life issues and ways our faith can address them, and Wednesday morning at 10:00 AM for Bible study. The pastor also offers a Daily Photo Devotion to all who are interested by email, revdavid76@gmail.com or on the pastor's blog at www.adirondacksights.wordpress.com/blog-posts/.

For more information contact: David E. Smith, revdavid76@gmail.com , 518-572-4051

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Sacandaga Valley Arts Network

Dianne Knapp, Board Member

It is the middle of December when I am writing this article. I have noticed the typical review of the year past in several media venues. In similar fashion, we on the SVAN Board are looking back to review what worked, and looking forward in hopes of growing and improving.

What worked? Concerts, artist receptions, art exhibitions, hands-on workshops, Art Trails, fund raisers, community parades and activities, and our annual meeting! We hope you were with us at the Sacandaga River Sculpture Park to enjoy the wonderful hospitality of local artists John Van Alstine and Caroline Ramersdorfer.

What's ahead? We are starting the year off with a series of classes designed for all levels of skill in the fiber art better known as crochet. On Friday, January 12 & 26, (and possibly a 3rd date)

6-8pm, at the Northville Gallery and Gift Shop, 303 South Main Street, two instructors will guide the beginner and encourage the experienced. In February a new workshop is designed to be a relaxing creative experience using a printed template, your creative elaborations and provided materials and guidance. If you join us on Friday, February 16 at 6 pm you'll go home with a beautiful paper orb.



Art Club continues through the winter into the spring. In person meetings are, 1/9 & 2/13 at 2:30-4pm, at the Northville Public Library, 341 South Third Street, Virtual meetings are at 7 pm, 1/23 &

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SVAN Dates to Remember

- January 9, Art Club at the Northville Library, 2:30-4pm
- Jan. 12, Crochet Workshop part 1, Northville Gallery 6-8pm
- January 21, concert at the Local Dine and Spirits, 3pm
- January 23, Virtual Art Club, 7pm
- January 26, Crochet Workshop part 2, 6-8pm
- February 2&3, Hot Night, Sport Island Pub time TBD
- February 11, concert, 3pm Methodist Church, Northville
- February 13, Art Club Northville Library, 2:30-4pm
- February 16, Paper Orb Workshop, Northville Gallery 6pm
- February 27, Virtual Art Club, 7pm
- April Concert TBD



2/27. It's a fun time to socialize while you work on your projects.

Save these dates for the following festive entertainment opportunities: January 21, 3pm, Mark & Jill Sing the Blues, at The Local Dine and Spirits, Northville. Hot Night returns to the Sport Island Pub on February 2nd & 3rd! On February 11, 3pm Michael Jerling, singer/songwriter will perform at The United Methodist Church, Northville. There is an April concert in the works. Information for that and any other upcoming events can be found on our website, svanarts.org, our Facebook page, the electronic news, SVAN Grapevine, or by contacting any of our board members.

The Sacandaga Valley Arts Network, SVAN, promotes the arts throughout the Sacandaga Region. By supporting cultural arts we improve the quality of life in our area, instill greater community pride and spirit, and help strengthen the local economy.

Community Church of Conklingville

2943 N. Shore Rd., Hadley

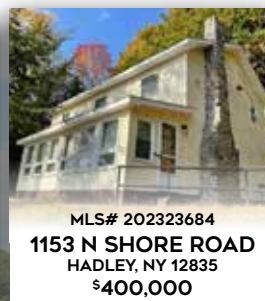
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518-796-8269 Linda Bunzey

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Lunches and programs are held Thurs at the Northville Meal Site which is located in the Fellowship Hall in the basement of the Presbyterian Church, 161 Reed St. Northville. The site is accessible by stairs and by elevator.

January 4th, OFA Congregate Meal 11:30-12:30.

Pork Chop, Sweet Potatoes, Beets, Cake. We will also celebrate all January birthdays with a cake provided by Marylyn Corey. STFSL Program at 12:30:Crystal Davis, from Cornell Cooperative Extension will hold a food demo using whole grains.

January 11th, OFA Congregate Meal 11:30-12:30.

Ziti with Meatballs, Italian Blend Vegetables, Mandarin Oranges, There will be no program this date.

January 18th, OFA Congregate Meal 11:30-12:30 .Chicken and Biscuits, Mashed Potatoes, Squash, Cookie. There will be no program this date

January 25th, OFA Congregate Meal 11:30-12:30.

Chicken and Broccoli Alfredo, Green Beans, Pears. STFSL Program at 12:30:Steve Santa Maria, Fulton County Director of Emergency Management will discuss the functions of the Emergency Management Department. There will be a Blood Pressure Clinic this date.

Call Fulton County OFA at 736-5650 to make lunch reservations. If you are unable to attend the lunch, please call OFA by 9 am to cancel your meal! If the OFA meal site is closed, there will be no program that day. . For closure information check channels 6, 10 or 13 and WENT 1340 radio. Additional information about STFSL can be found online at STFSL.org For information about trips or to request volunteer medical transportation, call STFSL at 752-8737 and leave a message.

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Edinburg School Happenings

Michelle Ellis, Superintendent

On Monday, December 11, 2023, the Edinburg Common School students, teachers, and staff participated in the annual holiday concert. Led by Ms. Pat Zullo, students sang traditional and new age holiday music. We are so proud of our students and the musical talents they have. A special thank you to Ms. Zullo for her hard work and dedication to the ECS music program. We would also like to thank our teachers and staff for their help in making this holiday concert such a success!



A BIG ECS thank you to the PTO for the amazing field trip on the Candy Cane Express on Wednesday, December 13, 2023! Not only did we get to see Santa, but we loved the train ride complete with cookies, hot cocoa, candy cane pops,

an indoor snowball fight, and a jingle bell and ticket for all! We can't thank you enough for all the wonderful things you do for us!

"This was the BEST day ever!" - numerous students, teachers, and staff!





“An Eagle Eye on . . . ”

The Edinburg Common School District would like to congratulate the following students for being Student of the Month for January 2024:

- PK - Olen
- K - Zayleigh
- 1 - Ellie
- 2 - Natalie

Students in grades PK through 2nd grade are honored monthly for their great character, being a good friend to their peers, making great choices, and displaying great work ethic in class. The teachers and staff at ECS think you are doing a fantastic job! Keep up the hard work!

We would also like to congratulate the following students that have been identified for being named on Honor Roll/High Honor Roll in grades 3rd through 6th for the 1st marking quarter. We are so proud of you all!

Honor Roll 89.5-94.4

- Gabriella
- Koupas
- Clay
- Amelia
- Sadie
- Amelia

High Honor Roll 94.5-100

- Iris
- Jeanette
- Mackenzie





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“Nuggets and News” from the Town of Lake Luzerne

Historian, Pam Morin 518-696-7184

For the good will and benefit of all, let me tell you more about the Dude Ranch Trail, a designated NYS 40-mile highway loop. Head east 5 miles on 9N after passing the Lake Vanare Hitching Post, Bennett’s Riding Stable, Rocky Ridge, Hidden Valley, the Stagecoach Inn and you’ll find the sprawling Roaring Brook Dude Ranch. It was, purchased in 1939 by Joseph Garry, Sr. and was run continuously by the Garry Family until 2019. Pre this purchase the land was known as the Worden Hotel’s “South Farm”.

Due to WW II conditions affecting the economy, the shortage of building materials and construction, the opening was delayed. However, Joe Sr. took this opportunity to redesign a 2-story standing barn to become a meticulously crafted first Main Lodge.

In 1946 the ranch opened. His sons, Jack and Joseph Jr. attended college and also served during the war. Jack and family loved the ranch but preferred to settle in Albany with his law career. Joe met his beautiful wife, Juanita Brooks aka his “Yellow Rose of Texas” while stationed at the

Vernon, Texas Air Force Base. They married and moved back to the ranch and raised 3 children. Juanita, Joanne and Jeff. Everyone had very active roles and duties of ranch life.

In 1953, “Best ever cousin”, George Greene, a US Marine, a St. Michael’s graduate and a PRCA Rodeo Cowboy was pulled into the fold and from 1964 remained General Manager until 2018. George’s daughters grew up as summertime ranch hands. Great granddaughter, Andrea joined in as an event coordinator and summer poolside cabana girl. Jeff at the age of 7 started mowing lawns and got to ride his Shelton pony “Rowdy” often. He went on to become the General Manager following George’s death and served a total of 42 years at the ranch until the sale closing in May of 2019. Both Jeff’s children, Alex and Gavin worked various positions.

Entertainment such as “Hub & Eunice Hubbell”, the Stony Creek Band, the Lake George Arts “Bands & Beans”, “Black Velvet Party” and Dutcher’s “Americade” all found the perfect home here.

Much attraction can also be attributed to a wonderful Glen Dive, Montana cowboy and State Brand Inspector named Cal Wyse. He met the

continued on page 46





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from page 44

love of his life Carol Lee at the ranch and for the next 27 years returned as corral boss bringing a few Montana wranglers with him like Tim Sonnberg and friends. Another guest, Bruce Mesh, would return annually to be a wrangler and then went on to become a helicopter pilot for 30 years for the NYS Governor’s Office.

Now, new ownership continues with upgrades and revitalizations at this still stunning and pristine property.

Cheers to change and the next chapter “along the trail.” Your comments are always welcome.

PSSSSST.....

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ANNUAL ICE FISHING CONTEST

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Frank's Bait Shop - Vail Mills, Fuel & Food - Mayfield

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FOR MORE INFORMATION: Brian Kedik 518-469-8124 / Randy Gardinier - 518-848-7248

Forms online at www.gslff.com / Email - chairman@gslff.com

2024 ANNUAL ICE FISHING CONTEST APPLICATION

Please Print Legibly

Name _____

Full Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Name of participating Child(ren) _____

Please check all that apply:

- Enclosed is my entry fee of \$20.00 (only current 2024 members are eligible for tagged fish prizes)
- I would like to become a 2024 GSLFF member for \$10.00 and be eligible for tagged fish prizes.
- I have enclosed a donation of \$_____ to help stock and protect the fisheries of the GSL.

Mail completed form and entry fee to: GSLFF P.O. Box 991 Northville, NY 12134

****We must receive mailed entries by Friday, February 16th****

If the contest is canceled, 80% of the proceeds will be raffled off to the entries received by February 16, 2024



Broadalbin-Perth Lions Club

Nov. 26, 2023, GALWAY, N.Y. -- The Broadalbin-Perth Lions Club joined forces with students of the Broadalbin-Perth High School Key Club and National Honor Society, Boy Scout Troop 5051B, and National Honor Society students from Mayfield High School in a day-long Christmas tree wrapping and fund raising project at Bob's Trees. The Lions and their young community partners staffed four locations around the sprawling tree farm and provided tree wrapping and tie down services to customers at the popular location. Students' time spent assisting the B-P Lions was credited to their community service graduation requirement and Scout merit badges.



Student volunteers assist Broadalbin-Perth Lions in their annual Christmas tree wrapping fund raiser at Bob's Trees. Under Lion supervision, the young volunteers were shown how to safely wrap and prepare trees for transport, earning community service credit for their efforts. (Photo courtesy B-P Lions/Lion Ed Balaban).



Broadalbin-Perth Lions and some of their student volunteers from Troop 5051 take a break in front of the Club's and Bob's Trees signs. Students and scouts earned community service credit for their participation in this annual project. (Photo courtesy B-P Lions/Lion Ed Balaban).



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All funds donated to the Broadalbin-Perth Lions Foundation will be used exclusively to support the needs of the greater Broadalbin-Perth-Mayfield community.

Broadalbin-Perth Lions Hold Vision Screening at Local School

Perth, NY, Dec. 7, 2023 -- Lions are known throughout the world for their work to improve the lives of the visually impaired and prevent avoidable blindness. The Broadalbin-Perth Lions have embraced this global cause and have taken action locally by reaching out to the Broadalbin-Perth Elementary School to provide a day of vision screening for 122 pre-kindergarten through first grade students, coordinating efforts with the



Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany (NABA).

Tzigane Lajeunesse, LPN, and Lions' KidSight Coordinator at NABA, was thrilled at the number of students participating and the support of the school and Broadalbin-Perth Lions. "This is one of the largest groups we have handled and we are so pleased that the school and the Lions are working with us to ensure that these youngsters have the opportunity to have their vision screened so early in their lives."

KidSight is NABA's vision-screening program designed specifically for children ages eighteen months to five years. A specialized camera is used to detect potential vision impairments in the individuals screened. Each year, an average of twelve percent of the children screened for vision impairments are "flagged" as having a potential vision problem.

These children are then referred to a doctor for a follow-up visit and treatment if necessary. NABA collects data on the outcomes of those that were recommended for a follow-up visit. Statistics have indicated that low-income families are less likely to follow up and schedule a visit with their doctor. Families also reported that transportation and available time as barriers. NABA works with these families in various ways to ensure that the children are seen by a doctor.

Broadalbin-Perth Elementary School Nurse, Christine Yatzor, also was a member of the



As students were screened by Tzigane Lajeunesse, LPN, Lions' KidSight Coordinator at NABA, background left, they were sent to Broadalbin-Perth Elementary School Nurse, Christine Yatzor, right and Broadalbin-Perth Lion Linda Swietlicki, front left, both of whom kept track of students and their respective screening results. More than 120 pre-kindergarten through first grade students were screened. (Photo courtesy Broadalbin-Perth Lions/ Lion Ed Balaban).

screening team. "This event helps us identify those students who may be in need of glasses or some other form of vision assistance which will ultimately help them in school."

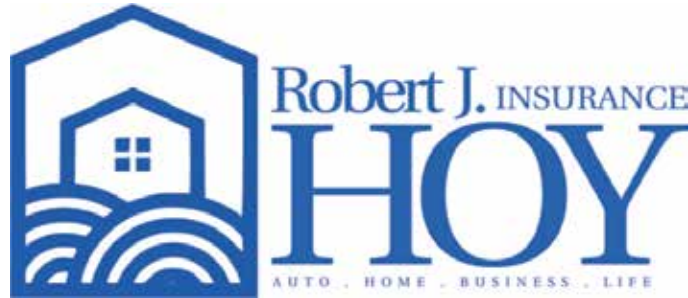
BPES Principal Kerri Barker said, "We are excited to partner with the Lions and bring this program to our students". She explained that when students can see clearly, their success in school improves tremendously.

Broadalbin-Perth Lions Club President Bob Townsend was quite pleased with the day's event. "It was well organized and ran like clock work," said Townsend. This was the first time the club undertook this endeavor, and Townsend believes that this activity will become a regularly scheduled event with schools in his club's area.

According to Lions Clubs International, eighty percent of all visual impairment can be prevented or cured. The first step to prevention is awareness. The second is early detection through vision screening. Around the world, Lions partner with medical professionals and community leaders to screen young children, primary school students, and adults to identify those at risk for vision loss. The venue for Lions' vision screenings varies from schools, to workplaces, to community health fairs, and the screening methods depend upon the age group. But the results are always the same. Early identification leads to timely referral, professional treatment, and improved or restored sight.



Lions Past District Governor Dick Ralston, seated left, presented a stuffed lion and a Lions coloring book to all students who were vision screened at Broadalbin-Perth Elementary School on Dec. 7. The screening was performed by a staff member of the Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany (NABA) and sponsored by the Broadalbin-Perth Lions Club. (Photo courtesy Broadalbin-Perth Lions/ Lion Ed Balaban).



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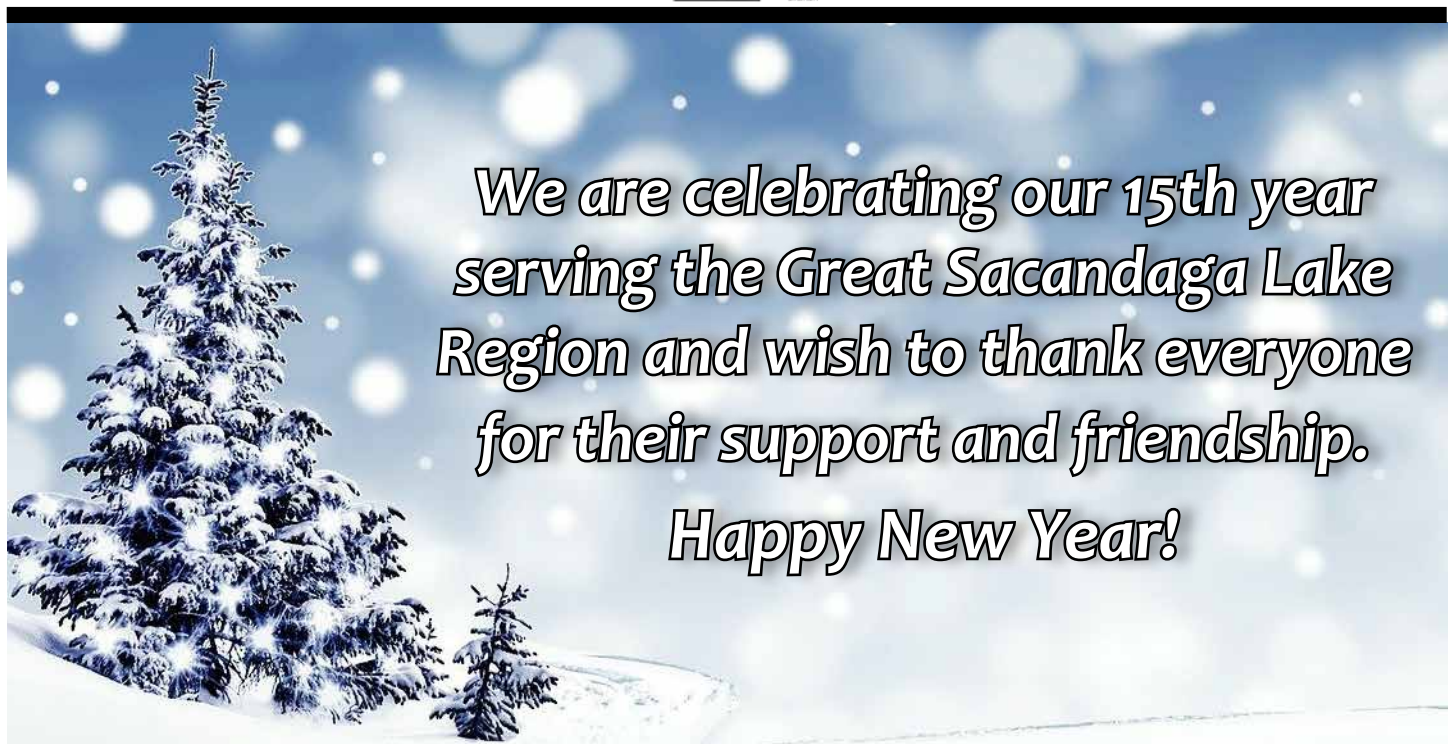
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Happy New Year greetings from the members and friends of First UMC!

As the new year begins and we put away the Christmas decorations, let us pause for a moment and reflect on the year that has passed. What was good? What was bad? What should we change? What should we keep? What lies heavy upon our hearts? Through all of this contemplation, God is with us. It may not seem like it when things are upsetting, but He is there to help us carry the burden and to help us let go of whatever that burden is that keeps us from feeling real joy in our lives. A new year is a very good time to embrace the love of God, to let His peace and grace surround us. It's a good time to commit to church attendance where you will find others just like you. At First UMC, we open our hearts and arms to welcome you to be in worship with us. It's a great time to take an hour to just rest, clear your mind, and open up your heart to God's presence. Join us on Sunday mornings for music, prayer, and interesting sermons, including a children's time with the pastor; and, if you are really lucky, there will be refreshments after the service!

January 7 – Epiphany Sunday, the day we move the wise men into the creche: January 6 marks the official day of Epiphany, when the wise men (who were Gentiles) came to worship Jesus and bring him gifts. During the church-year season of Epiphany, we remember that God's Son is the Light of the whole world.

January 14 – We will be moving into our fellowship hall (dining room) for winter worship, returning to the sanctuary for Easter.

Our Thrift Store ministry is open and thriving. Hours are: Tuesdays, 2-5 pm; Fridays and Saturdays, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. Shoppers are asked to bring their own bags if possible. All purchases are by donation. Gently worn, good, clean, used clothing only is accepted and welcomed. PLEASE DO NOT DONATE HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, TOYS, BEDDING, ETC. We cannot emphasize this enough! We have added a jewelry room on the second floor across from the church office. It will be open during regular Thrift Shop hours on Tuesdays only.

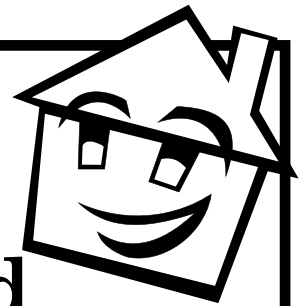
We ask God's blessing on you and your families as the new year dawns.

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from back page

from the zombie infestation. More than once, I turned around to “see” a zombie hurling itself at me. I jumped/squealed so many times. I can’t wait to do it again.

The trade show was fun with lots to check out. I am being critical, but I was disappointed that they did not have much as far as freebies. We have loved bringing home cool stickers, hats, pins, etc. for the kids. There was nothing. Is that a new trend? Is it passé to hand out things at events now? I love giving out freebies at events – we have sunglasses and nail files, seeds, hats, chocolate rocks, etc. I guess I am behind the times; like wearing a fanny pack – I’m not ready to have that back.

Speaking of trade shows – we are signed up for the Saratoga Rotary Show in April and will finally be displaying our new edition: (drumroll, please) Well Connect! This is a retrofit geothermal system that uses either an existing or new well and existing ductwork to heat and cool your home – FOR A FRACTION OF THE COST OF TRADITIONAL GEOTHERMAL. Also major plus – it qualifies for the federal and state tax

credits. I came across the makers of the unit at a Geothermal Convention and knew instantly that this was a game-changing product. We have been to training in Michigan and are raring up to finally start installing these. I can’t wait to share more about it in the next edition.

In the meantime, we hope that you enjoyed the holidays and cheers to a healthy 2024!



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Last week was the National Ground Water Association convention in Vegas. Only a couple of us went this year, and only because the tickets were covered by one of our vendors. I technically had enough credits, but who is going to say no to a basically paid for trip, am I right? We got to meet up with Janice and Bill (they still keep up their accreditation) and even my brother came – he is an environmental engineer. It goes without saying that we had an awesome time. I have never seen so many people at the show; I just read that it was the highest attendance ever! The weather was perfect (60-70 degrees), so we walked everywhere. Food I ate: A thanksgiving sandwich from Earl of Sandwich at 4am – awesome, burger from Gordon Ramsay’s place – overrated and overpriced, rabbit from Ferraro’s – WOW, and LOTS of Starbucks. I can only guess how many Starbucks they have in Vegas.

I like to play cards and despite getting my nails done to look like playing cards, I had zero luck and lost nearly up to my limit. Rule to gambling – know that you are probably going to lose and have an amount that you are willing to lose – don’t go over. Historically I have broken even, but not this year. Jeremy does not gamble at all – he says

he is my arm candy and his only job is to call the cocktail server over for me.

Spencer and his wife, Lindsay, joined us on the trip, but they had a lot more drama than we did. Jeremy and I say that we have “Baldwin” luck when travelling – something ridiculous always happens. Well, it seems that our bad luck has transferred to Spencer – sorry buddy. We had no troubles travelling, but he and Lindsay missed the flight out (by seconds). They got to the airport only a few minutes behind Jeremy and I, but apparently one of the scanners (of 2) broke down. Spencer said it was like something out of an end-of-times movie with people freaking out. 30-something people missed the flight to Vegas from Albany. Spencer says that they came running up just as the attendants closed the door and they were not allowed to re-open it. They did make it – but 12 hours after we did. They missed the vendor dinner (at Ferraro’s) and zombie-killing VR with my brother.

Zombie VR, btw, is amazing!!!! 8 of us were in an open room with VR goggles/head phones, and a large gun. The “purpose” was to save the world

continued inside back cover