



Owl Light News

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Preserving our boating heritage
~ Back page!

May 2019

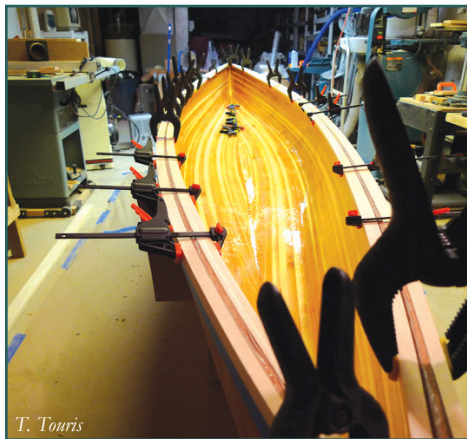
News



by D.E. Bentley

The oar cut silently into the water and the canoe glided gracefully forward on the clear, still surface as dragonflies fluttered on nearby lily pads. I had just launched a friend's custom-made cedar strip canoe on Canadice Lake – the smallest and, in my biased opinion, most beautiful of the Finger Lakes. It was a picture perfect day, and there was something about being out there, in that boat, that made it all the more special.

Having grown up outside of Ithaca, my boating memories are of times spent with my grandparents on Cayuga Lake. Many of our outings involved anchoring in a pleasant cove for an afternoon of swimming and relaxing. One of the most memorable experiences was traveling with them through the lock system into Canada.



T. Touris

My earliest experience with watercraft took the form of tractor-trailer tire inner tubes, purchased – patched and inflated – from a garage five-minutes walk from 6-Mile Creek in Tompkins County, NY. Those early times floating on tubes were a world away from the experience of floating effortlessly in that cedar strip canoe, built by a woodworker friend evenings and weekends, lovingly, with the kind of care that goes into quality craft.

As I looked out at the blue skies I marveled at how delightfully the single person sit-on-the-bottom canoe moved across the water and was reminded of the age-old adage of form follows function. Boatbuilding in

North America began with birch bark canoes crafted by the earliest inhabitants of the region and continued with French Canadian trappers, the earliest colonists. Canoes and wooden boats later offered leisurely pastime for all. A visit to the Finger Lakes Boating Museum in Hammondsport, NY offers an enlightening glimpse into our rich watercraft past.*

That history continues today. Although newer, more durable materials have replaced earlier bark and wood canoes, the process for building a canoe, or any wooden boat has changed little. Many of the same steps are required for building any watercraft. The actually building begins with the construction of a strong back. The strong back supports the forms that the cedar strips (or other type of planking or sheathing that forms the body of the boat) are attached to. These forms are made from what my friend referred to as the “DNA” of the boat, which consists of a chart signifying plot points. These points are plotted onto paper to create a full sized rendering of the forms – a process called lofting. This process is what allows today's boat builders to resurrect historically significant boat designs – designs that they ultimately make their own.

As with anything carefully crafted by the hands of the maker, no two boats are the same. Each has personal touches that distinguish it from other similarly designed boats. Regardless of what draws people to the water, the draw is undeniable. Thanks to a growing number of people across the Finger Lakes who design and build small – or in some cases larger – watercraft, as well as those who restore historic boats, vibrant reminders of the past that has so defined our present remains.

For many people, the circle that leads back to the water is driven, as mine was, by enchanting childhood lake, or creekside, experiences. For others, developing a love of the lake is secondary to a related interest, such as bird watching or fishing. For my woodworking friend Todd, it was an interest in creating beautiful things out of trees that led him to build a boat and settle in the Finger Lakes. To learn more about Todd's boat building muse, and to see an illustrated story about the building of his cedar strip canoe, visit www.owllightnews.com/canoe-craft/.

*See related Owl Light Outings feature (back page or www.owllightnews.com/outings-fl-boating-museum/).



T. Touris

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Owl Light Contributors

Monthly Columns



T. Touris ~ The Light Lens
T. Touris is a wanna-be-retired-computer-programmer. He spends his free time designing and working in wood, while dreaming up the next Light Lens.

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Doug Garnar

Doug Garnar works with the Kettering Foundation and NIFI (National Issues Forums Institute) to help citizens find "pathways to democracy." He has taught since 1971 at SUNY Broome Community College. He lives in Binghamton, New York. garnardc@sunybroome.edu



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Dee Sharples ~The Night Sky

Dee Sharples is an amateur astronomer who enjoys observing planets, star clusters and the Moon through her telescope. She is a member of ASRAS (Astronomy Section of the Rochester Academy of Science) and records "Dee's Sky This Month," describing what can be seen in the sky, on the ASRAS website, rochesterastronomy.org. Watch for her monthly *Owl Light* feature to learn more about the night sky.



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Derrick Gentry ~ Homestead Gardener

Derrick Gentry lives in Canadice with his wife and son, and numerous furred and feathered friends. He teaches in the Humanities Department at Finger Lakes Community College. Derrick.Gentry@flcc.edu



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Steve Melcher ~ Dragonfly Tales

Steve Melcher is the primary caretaker, hoof trimmer & poop scooper at Odonata Sanctuary in Mendon. His studies at Harvard and University of Delaware included using members of the Order "Odonata," as bioindicators of freshwater ecosystems. He has written/coauthored in journals, magazines, and books re: environmental literacy and ecological issues. Steve now works with environmental and educational organizations whose goal is to have "no child left inside". *Learn more at fb.OdonataSanctuary.org.*

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Mary Drake ~ The Monthly Review

Mary Drake is a novelist and freelance writer living in western New York. Visit her online at marydrake.org to learn more about her books.

Kade Bentley ~ Kade in the Kitchen

Kade Bentley has collected experience from commercial kitchens, vegetarian and vegan collective living, organic farming, and a general love of food. They can cook for one or 100. As a "kitchen witch," they believe that how and with what we sustain ourselves has a spiritual significance, and sees eating and cooking as agricultural acts. They support small farms, the right to whole nutritious food, generous use of butter and coconut oil, and the creation of a more just food system.



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Sky Trombly ~ Simple Sustainability

Sky has been something of a sustainability nerd for most of her life, Sky Trombly's goal is to empower herself and others to live in a way that is congruent with personal values - and intimately linked to the Earth. You can join her in her wanderings through the quagmire of sustainable living in every issue of *Owl Light News*, and on her blog - talkwalking.org.



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Sam Hall ~Bee Lines

Sam Hall is a Western NY beekeeper who first worked bees as a child growing up on a "dirt farm" in Allegany County, NY. He has kept bees for most of his adult life and believes that his mistakes "far outnumber his successes."

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The Conscious Crow ~Reminding you to grow!



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Joy Lewis ~ Richmond History

Joy Lewis has served as Town of Richmond, Historian since 2013.

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Every other issue

Guest Contributors

"Pathways to Democracy" and "The Light Lens" are taking a break for May. Ben Haravitch will be a periodic contributor - offering his musical muse when time and circumstance allow.

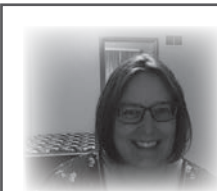
Len Geller ~ Gun laws in NYS(non-fiction) ~ Page 4

Len Geller is a free-lance writer who has a keen interest in New York politics. He has contributed in the past on articles related to the Safe Act and the proposed Romulus, NY trash incineration He lives in Seneca County.



Gary Catt ~ The Alchemy of life, death and beer (creative non-fiction), Page 14

Gary Catt is a retired journalist and corporate communications counselor who lives in Honeoye. He can be found wandering the trails in the area with his canine companions - most recently Patches.



Wendy Schreiner ~Joy of Spring (poetry) Page14

Wendy Schreiner resides in Warsaw with husband Dave and their two shih tzus Daisy Mae and Paisley Rae. She studied English at Daemen College and loves writing when not at her day job at Wyoming County Dept. of Social Services. She also facilitates "Write Connection" at the Warsaw Public Library.

Merton E. Bartels ~ Last Big Storm (poetry) Page 14

Mert Bartels, a retired technical writer and editor with a half century experience, is a member of Macedon's Wayne Writers Guild. He specializes in 600 word essays, people characterization poems and observations of NYS. He also enjoys creating duologues.



New Owl Light deadline!
The submission deadline for
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for the following month's issue.
Sooner is better!



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Industrious innovators

~ Notes from the editor

Everything we've learned we have learned from other "inferior" animals. Case in point, this canoe-building woodpecker. Canoe building, you ask, how can I possibly make that inference?

Let's start with the geography of things. Throughout human history, we have evolved, used and used up our environmental resources. We adapt and create what we need to live.

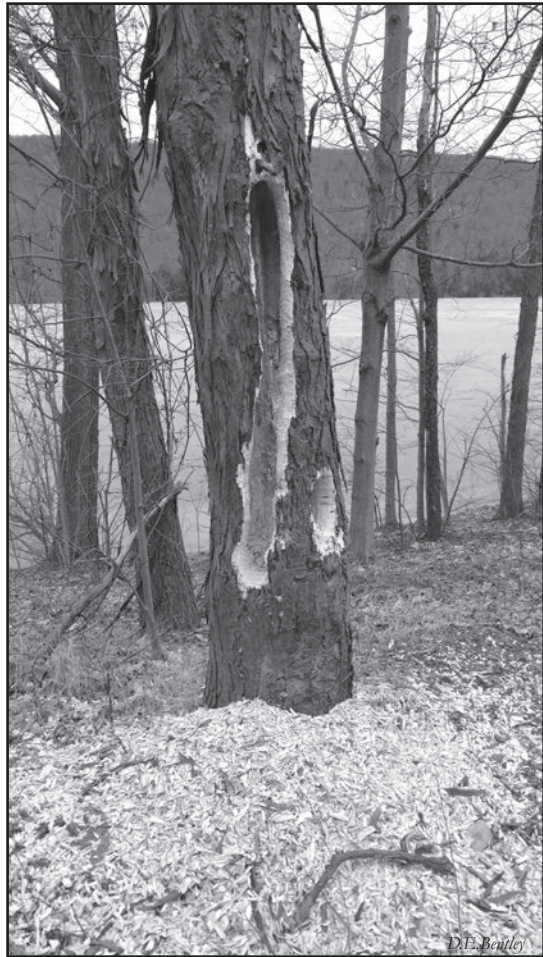
Sure, birds can fly so why would they need a canoe. Well, humans can walk and we need canoes (at least we once needed canoes) and flying machines too. That is why the earliest people to live along our shores – or perhaps any shores – looked for ways to stay afloat. Dug out canoes were just one of the many ways that early people did this.

These canoes are still being made today in many parts of the world. I suspect these same canoe designs were made eons ago in similar ways, with a strong back of a different nature.

This is not an easy building project for human or bird. The canoes are logs, which have had the bark removed and the insides hollowed out using tools, and often controlled fires. I do understand that the pileated will have some obstacles to overcome. Cutting it to length, for example. That will easily be taken care of when a New York State or Town of Canadice work crew eventually realizes the extend of the Pileated's project and graciously cuts the log to length. This will make it easier for the woodpecker to finish it off and drag it down hill – with the help of spring rains, mud and friends, to the water.

Next, there is the question of a controlled fire to finish off the hollowing out process. This is a bit tricky given that there is currently a burn ban in effect in our region. No worries, it is also thunderstorm season and woodpeckers, especially Pileated woodpeckers have some pull with the weather gods.

In the mean time, the woodpecker is demonstrating how to accumulate an abundance of fresh mulch, just in time for spring gardening season. They have also shown us how to swim, float, fly, use simple tools, settle disputes and adapt to change. There is much to learn for those willing to listen. Thus, I have no doubt that the earliest dug out canoe builders got their inspiration from the innovative and industrious woodpeckers.



D.E. Bentley

D.E. Bentley
Editor, Owl Light News

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Letters from Owl Light Readers

~Little Lakes Community Center thrives thanks to continued community support

The Board and volunteers of the Little Lakes Community Association (LLCA) in Hemlock, NY wish to sincerely thank its friends and neighbors who have so strongly supported its efforts over the past several years. From a small group of people who simply wanted to offer programs at the then Jack Evans Community Center (the old Hemlock School) three years ago, to a now thriving organization which was able to purchase the building from the Town of Livonia this past year, LLCA is a story of success! Without the enthusiastic participation of its dedicated volunteers and many attendees at events, this transformation would never have been possible.

The Mission of LLCA is to "Restore and preserve the Hemlock School, to build community and welcome visitors to the treasures of the Finger Lakes." In its efforts toward fulfillment of its mission, the organization would like to share its accomplishments with current supporters and others who have not yet been a part of its efforts.

- LLCA became incorporated and opened the Little Lakes Community Center, as an official not-for-profit organization under the IRS. Their aim is to rehabilitate the historic, solid building of iconic school design built in 1929, in order to become a vibrant gathering place for community members and visitors, and to provide a stimulus for the renewal of the surrounding area.

- The organization has greatly increased its operating budget with the help of contributions, grants, tenant rentals and numerous fund-raising events, though it is still far short of the necessary funds to complete its mission.

- Many individuals from all of the "Little Lakes communities" in both Livingston and Ontario counties have given regularly of their time and talents as volunteers. In addition, its work has been supported by many local business owners, Town and County Supervisors, and the Livonia Rotary.

- Hundreds of hours of voluntary work have begun the rehabilitation of the building. The organization has been guided by InSite Architecture, Inc. with both Feasibility Studies and Building Condition Reports to prioritize phases of sustainability improvements. Grants have been sought to continue the work for the necessary updates.

- Hard work has already resulted in repair of the leaky roof, replacement of broken windows, stabilization of the building from deterioration, and painting of most of the rooms.

- Eight local businesses currently rent space in the building as regular tenants.

- The Jack Evans "gymnasium" and the Jane Barnard community room have also been made available as short term rentals for special events. The gymnasium is a unique space for groups of up to 300, where LLCA has held dances, performances, roller skating parties, sporting events, local craft vendor sales, and rallies. The community room is appropriate for groups up to 40, for events such as parties, classes, lectures, and meetings.

- LLCA has provided three years of community events and programming. The hard-working Events Committee of LLCA has organized over 50 events, including performances by the Dady Brothers, the Honeoye Jazz Ensemble, and the Brothers Blue. Square dances with Howie Lester and Jim Kimball, and a swing dance with Hanna and the Blue Hearts have been very popular. The annual Barn Fest in September has featured music, family activities, and vendors throughout the day, that have been enjoyed by many of our neighbors.

- A website (LittleLakesNY.org) was created, and LLCA activities have been promoted on numerous on-line platforms and in print throughout the region.

- LLCA, in partnership with the Honeoye Community Players, was awarded a grant by the Genesee Valley Council on the Arts to produce a three-part series this year, under the title of "Voices of Vets."

- A monthly Ecological Sustainability Series has been held during the past two years.

- A room dedicated to local history is open whenever the building is being used, and features monthly rotating exhibits.

- The immediate aim of the organization is now to hire an Executive Director to support the Board and volunteers' energy, leading into the Capital Campaign process.

- LLCA provides the opportunity for the creation of regularly scheduled classes on a variety of topics, with teachers being sought. Part of LLCA's vision is to create an inviting and energetic place where people throughout the area can come together to learn and share knowledge, while promoting activities to enhance the quality of life of our neighbors.

For further information, to volunteer your time, or to make a donation, check LittleLakesNY.org, or call 585-367-1046 and leave a message for a volunteer to return your call. You may also send donations to LLCA, P.O. Box 82, Hemlock, NY 14466. Thank-you.

~ Mitrano supports Internet Neutrality bill

PENN YAN -- Democratic congressional candidate Tracy Mitrano says the internet neutrality bill currently before Congress would help meet a critical need in New York's 23rd Congressional District.

"It says government should have the funds to bring broadband internet out to rural areas like ours," Mitrano said.

The 23rd Congressional District spans the southern tier of New York from Chautauqua County on the west to Tioga County on the east.

Mitrano, an expert in cybersecurity policy, says the bill would prohibit telecommunications companies from interfering with information that goes through their systems, "either by doing something with the content itself or the speeds at which the information goes out. That would mean they can't take the information that goes through their pipelines or personally identify us."

The alternative measure favored by Republicans would give telecommunications companies license to favor certain customers, to slow down transmission speeds for others, to use information transmitted through their systems.

"They advertise it as being about freedom, but freedom for whom? For the companies, not for us! They could do whatever they want. That's exactly what net neutrality would keep them from doing," says Mitrano.

"All we're asking is to apply the same rules to the internet that we've had for telephone communication and text for decades."

Mitrano invites questions, comments and debates about net neutrality on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2249631628433327>

Gun laws in NYS - New, tougher regulations: Part 2

by Len Geller

In part one of this article, we examined three of the seven new gun control bills passed by the New York State Legislature in early 2019. In this part we will examine the four remaining bills, including a controversial Safe Storage Bill passed in March 2019.

School Safety

Under previous law, firearms were prohibited in K-12 schools and on school grounds in New York state unless authorized by a school administrator. This meant that a school administrator had the authority and discretion to arm teachers or other school employees. Under the new law this will be prohibited. A school administrator will still have authority to allow school resource officers, law enforcement, or security guards to carry guns in school and on school grounds but not teachers or other school employees.

The arguments in support of this new law are compelling. Disallowing teachers and other school employees from possessing guns in school reduces the risk of accidental death or injury, eliminates the risk of a student gaining access to such guns, and reduces the level of fear and stress in the classroom. While the law would seem to be a no-brainer, there are critics who argue against it on the grounds that arming teachers and school employees could prevent or stop another horrific mass shooting. According to supporters of the new law, there are several major problems with this rebuttal. If a school policy allows school employees to be armed, most of whom will lack the training and experience of using a gun in a real-life situation, it will be ineffective and possibly disastrous, and even if the employee does have some training, he or she would stand little chance in a face-to-face confrontation with a heavily armed shooter. For those in favor of the new law, protecting the schools from gun violence should be done by trained professionals not amateurs.

Banning Bump Stocks and Gun Buyback Program

In October 2017 in one of the deadliest mass shootings in U.S. history, a sole gunman using semi-automatic rifles modified with a bump stock opened fire on a huge crowd of outdoor concert-goers from the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Desert and Casino in Las Vegas, killing 58 people and injuring nearly 500 more. A semi-automatic firearm releases one bullet per trigger pull, but when modified with a bump stock device, it will produce automatic fire with a single pull of the trigger. A bump stock device converts a semi-automatic weapon into an automatic weapon or machine gun that can release many more rounds per second than a semi-automatic weapon and produce more carnage in the same amount of time. While a machine gun has more potential killing power than a semi-automatic weapon, it is notoriously less accurate; however, in certain contexts like an outdoor music concert or crowded movie theater where pinpoint accuracy doesn't matter, a semi-automatic converted into an automatic weapon will produce more lethal results.

Under New York law, the attachment of bump stock devices is illegal, and in December 2018, the Federal government followed suit by classifying guns modified with such devices as "machine guns" and therefore illegal under federal law. While New York law had previously banned the attachment of bump stock devices to a firearm, it did not prohibit the manufacture, sale, possession, or transport of these devices. The new law closes this loophole by extending the ban to these other areas.

Another piece of gun control legislation creates a "municipal gun buyback program" administered by the state police that will allow individuals to turn in illegal guns anonymously for a monetary reward without fear of prosecution. Since gun buyback programs elsewhere have been very successful in removing large quantities of illegal guns from the streets and making communities safer, this uncontroversial piece of legislation had strong bipartisan support.

Safe Storage of Guns

Both federal law and the SAFE Act of 2013 require the safe storage of all firearms in households where any member is legally prohibited from owning and possessing a gun, but neither law requires safe storage in households with children who may gain access to such firearms. The Safe Storage Bill closes this loophole by requiring all gun owners or caretakers with children under 16 residing in the home to lock all guns in a safe storage depository or with a gun-locking device when the gun is out of their immediate possession and control. It also requires that the gun be stored or locked unloaded in a location separate from ammunition, even when children not living in the residence are on the premises. Failure to comply may lead to a charge of a first-degree class A misdemeanor that can carry a jail term of one year or probation of three years, plus a fine up to \$1,000.

A majority of states (27 by my count) have Child Access Prevention (CAP) Laws, but they vary greatly in scope and application. Some states impose criminal sanctions only when a minor gains access to an improperly secured firearm, while others impose sanctions only when a minor not only gains access to an unsecured firearm in the home but also uses it to cause or threaten to cause death or serious injury. The scope of the New York bill is even wider, imposing criminal sanctions for simply allowing a minor to gain access, regardless of whether the minor actually gains access or uses the firearm against anyone. In many states criminal liability depends on whether the gun owner or caretaker intentionally and knowingly provides a firearm to minors. In New York, on the other hand, intention is irrelevant to criminal liability. What matters is the negligent storage of a firearm, regardless of intent. These conditions make the New York CAP law, along with those of Massachusetts and Minnesota, the strongest in the nation.

The policy issue of safe gun storage with children in the home raises two central questions: (1) Are children under 18 at risk in households with loaded and unlocked guns? (2) Would safe storage and child access protection measures substantially reduce the risk of death and injury to children in these households? The answer to both questions is yes. In a major study of gun storage rates in gun-owning households with children in 2015 (published by Journal of Urban Health in June 2018), researchers found that approximately one in three households with children under 18 had at least one gun, and of these, 21% stored at least one gun loaded and unlocked, 29% stored all guns unloaded and locked, and 50%, though storing no guns loaded and unlocked, had at least one gun loaded and locked or unloaded and unlocked. Extrapolating from the available data, the study concluded that approximately 4.6 million children lived in a household with at least one loaded and unlocked gun in 2015.

This research also produced some surprising results not noticed before in gun policy studies. In gun-owning households with children under 18, female gun owners were nearly twice as likely than male gun owners to store at least one gun loaded and unlocked, those who owned guns primarily for protection were nearly seven times more likely to store at least one gun loaded and unlocked than those who owned guns for non-protective reasons (like hunting, target shooting, etc.), and those who owned handguns were four times more likely to leave at least one gun loaded and unlocked than those who owned only long guns like rifles and shotguns.

The Children's Firearm Safety Alliance (CFSA) is an organization that tracks unintentional shootings by children under the age of 18 who gain access to loaded guns in the home and shoot themselves or others. Relying on confirmed news reports, the CFSA database shows that in 2017 children unintentionally shot and killed 138 people, only five of whom were adults, and shot and injured 226 more, only 11 of whom were adults. Of the 133 children that were killed, 67 deaths were self-inflicted, and of the 215 children that were injured, 105 of the injuries were self-inflicted. The data from 2018, though not completely broken down by category, shows a slight decline in these figures (87 children killed, 177 children injured, and 11 adults shot). What the CFSA database shows is that a significant number of children who gain access to a loaded and unlocked gun in the home will unintentionally shoot themselves, a sibling, a friend, a parent, or other family member.

There is no question that CAP laws would reduce unintentional deaths and injuries to children if there was a high rate of gun-owner compliance, but do they work in real-life situations where compliance rates may be lower? In the largest meta-study of its kind, the non-partisan Rand Corporation concluded that, while more studies are needed in this area, there is strong supporting evidence that CAP laws do reduce unintentional gun injuries and deaths among children, and this reduction increases as the CAP law gets tougher.

What about intentional shootings by children with guns found in the home? Common sense leads us to expect that CAP laws will prevent many of the suicides and homicides (including school shootings) committed by children and adolescents who obtain a firearm in the home. But do they in fact? Again, while the research in this area is limited, several studies do show that CAP laws reduce firearm suicide rates among young people under 20 and may increase school safety because students are less likely to carry guns, be threatened or injured by a firearm, or miss school because of safety concerns.

Supporters of the New York CAP law also argue that it will reduce the number of firearms stolen from homes. According to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) of the FBI, 238,000 firearms were stolen in 2016, many of which were used in other crimes. Between 2005 and 2016, two million guns were reported stolen in the U.S., which is probably an underestimate since some gun thefts go unreported. Since there is no reliable data on the relationship (if any) between CAP laws and home-firearm thefts, common sense tells us that there will be a reduction in the number of stolen guns, but how significant this reduction will be is impossible to say.

A common argument against CAP laws and the safe storage of guns in the home is that they leave the gun owner and other members of the household unprotected in the case of an emergency, like a burglary or home invasion. Since fast reaction time is essential, the safe storage of a firearm makes that impossible and puts both the gun owner and other residents of the household in harm's way. Several replies can be made to this argument. For one thing, despite the beliefs of many gun owners, especially those who have guns in the home for protection, the scenario presented above bears little resemblance to reality, except perhaps in high-crime neighborhoods in urban and suburban areas. In relatively low-crime areas, whether in urban/suburban areas or upstate rural New York, the odds of a home break-in or invasion requiring immediate access to a loaded gun are almost nil. Many studies show that while a majority of gun owners who own guns for protection believe a loaded and unlocked gun makes them and their loved ones safer in the home, in fact they are less safe with a gun in the home, regardless of safe storage practices. In a 2014 meta-study of available research by the Annals of Internal Medicine, gun ownership was associated with a doubled risk for homicide and a tripled risk for suicide compared to non-gun ownership. From 1993 to 2017, these studies show that a gun in the home greatly increases the odds that someone living in the home would kill themselves or be killed with a gun by a family member, friend, or acquaintance.

Even if the self-defense scenario presented above does apply in some rare situations, the time it takes a gun-owner to unlock an electronic gun safe or lock box and slap a loaded clip or magazine into a semi-automatic handgun or rifle will not be much greater than the time it takes to access an unlocked and loaded gun. To be sure, if the gun in question is a revolver, shotgun, or non-semiautomatic rifle, it will take longer to load but not by much. After all, how many seconds does it take to load 5 or 6 bullets in the chamber of a revolver? Unless an assailant leaves you with no time to access even a free-standing loaded gun, it will take only a few extra seconds to access and load a secured firearm.

The major weakness of any CAP law, including New York's, is not the sacrifice of home protection, as alleged by critics, but citizen compliance and enforcement. While in theory safe storage will prevent hundreds of gun deaths and injuries at the hands of children, in practice you need widespread compliance from gun owners for the law to have a significant effect. It would not be surprising to see some gun owners with children adopt a position of partial compliance (as did the majority of gun owners in the JUH article on gun storage rates) either by locking at least one loaded firearm or unloading at least one unlocked firearm. Nor would it be surprising if those strongly opposed to the law did not comply at all. There is another important factor working against voluntary compliance. Since the early 2000s, there has been a steady rise in the number and percentage of gun owners who purchase and own a gun primarily for protection rather than for hunting and sport, and an accompanying increase in the number and percentage of handguns that are legally purchased. To expect widespread voluntary compliance from gun owners (with children) who own or possess one or more handguns for protection is unrealistic, since in their mind the whole point of having a gun in the home is defeated by a safe storage law. While there are strong arguments in support of New York's CAP law, it will take a well-argued and persuasive education program to change minds and achieve widespread compliance.

Continued on page 5

RICHMOND REPUBLICAN PRIMARY VOTERS

VOTE

STEVE BARNHOORN

on June 25th!

Your Hometown Choice
for Richmond Town Board.



During his tenure as a member of the Richmond Town Board, Steve Barnhoorn has worked tirelessly to protect citizens' interests. A lifelong resident of Honeoye, Steve's local leadership is inspired by his love and knowledge of the community and passion for public service.

"Working together at the grass-roots level with fellow residents, I have seen first-hand the strength of ideas when they are made real."



VOTE Republican Primary Election Day
Tuesday, June 25, 2019 - Richmond Town Hall
Polls Open (12 Noon - 9:00 pm)

Barnhoorn's vision for Richmond includes: Maintaining a fiscally responsible Town Budget; attracting new residents, small businesses and companies, promoting and protecting Honeoye's small town charm; continued improvement in the quality of Honeoye Lake; increased tourism presence in our region of the Finger Lakes; improved infrastructure (water, sidewalks, park and trail systems, access to highspeed internet); and updating Richmond Town Code that empowers and encourages economic growth, supports agriculture and fosters community pride.

To learn more about Steve Barnhoorn's experience and vision for Richmond, please visit - www.barnhoornforrichmond.com.



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Community Center

Geneva
North Street Pharmacy
Police Station

Canandaigua
FLCC (Keuka Wing)
The Medicine Shop
Ontario County DMV Office
Thompson Hospital (lobby)
Mental Health Clinic
Police Station (lobby)

Shortsville/Manchester
Red Jacket Pharmacy

Rushville
Village Hall

Farmington
State Troopers

Victor
Mead Square Pharmacy

Clifton Springs
Hospital (lobby)

Richmond
Town Hall
CVS Pharmacy



Questions, please call us at
585-396-4554

Gun laws from page 4

In conclusion

In conclusion, these new gun control bills coupled with the SAFE Act of 2013 now make New York's gun laws among the strongest in the nation. As long as the federal government remains politically deadlocked and unable to pass sensible gun control measures, New York has no choice but to do so on its own. The major legislative challenge is to balance public safety with personal liberty, and where this line should be drawn will always be a matter of controversy and debate. But what is not a matter of debate is that our nation is awash in an epidemic of gun violence, and we are fortunate to live in a state whose legislators are committed to making us safer without destroying our Second Amendment right to bear arms.

Gun Laws: Part 1 can be found at: <https://www.owllightnews.com/gun-laws-in-nys-part-1/>

Resources:

https://www.thetrace.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Firearm-Storage-in-Households-with-Children_JUH.pdf
<http://childrensfirearmsafetyalliance.com/>
<https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/analysis/child-access-prevention.html>
<https://www.rand.org/research/gun-policy/analysis/child-access-prevention.html>
<http://ftp.iza.org/dp9830.pdf>
<https://www.thetrace.org/features/stolen-guns-violent-crime-america/>
<https://annals.org/aim/fullarticle/1814426/accessibility-firearms-risk-suicide-homicide-victimization-among-household-members-systematic>
<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/3/23/17155596/gun-ownership-polls-safety-violence>

Read *Owl Light News* online at OwlLightNews.com



Bee Lines by Sam Hall

Queen Rearing 101

Fields, Flowers & Sky

At this time of year as a beekeeper, it is hard to contain my excitement that after our long winter spring is arriving and with it those temperatures that are going to allow the bees to be out and about. They already have been out off and on as the temperatures rise to above 45 degrees, which seems to be the temp that my bees require to get out of the hive and start looking around.

This is the time to also start thinking about what you might want to accomplish in the apiary in addition to keeping your bees simply alive, though that will always be at the foremost concern. If you have more than one colony you should consider raising a few of your own queens. The queens you produce will be better than any that you can buy. They will be born in the mini-ecosystem that is your bee yard.

The Miller method

The easiest way to raise a few queens is the old Miller method. Take a frame of undrawn foundation and cut the foundation so there is three points facing downward like saw teeth, without the points of the teeth touching the bottom of the frame. Put this frame into the center of the colony that you have your best queen in, which usually will be your strongest colony. The bees will fairly quickly draw out the comb and the queen will lay eggs in the newly drawn comb. Take a look every few days to see how things are going.

At this point select another one of your other colonies to be made queenless or set up a queenless nuc. As soon as you see fresh eggs in the saw shaped comb, make either the colony or the nuc queenless for 24 hours and then put in the saw-toothed frame with the fresh eggs on it. The bees very quickly realize they are queenless and will welcome the frame with fresh eggs. In about a week or less the bees will have built 3 or more queen cells along the edges of the saw like teeth comb.

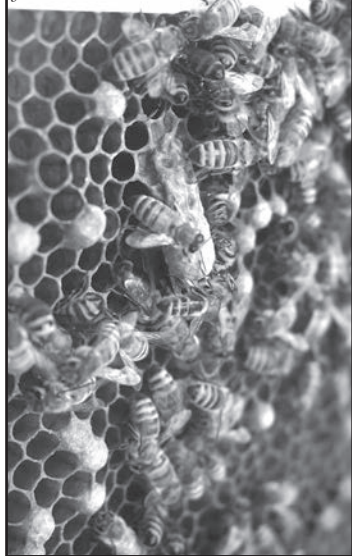
Make up queenless nucs or splits for as many queens that you want to have. This method can produce easily three to five queens. The queen cells will be sealed about 8 days after the eggs have been laid. Wait until day 11 or 12 and very carefully cut the queen cells off of the comb. To me this is the part of this process that is the most difficult using the Miller method.

It is very easy to damage a queen cell removing it from the surrounding comb. I have tried using an Exacto knife, a surgeon's scalpel and fishing line. None really are perfect. Once a cell is even slightly damaged it is useless. If possible have a friend help because having someone hold the frame while you remove the cells can be the difference between success and failure. Because of this part of the procedure, I no longer use this method.

Put the cells into your queenless colonies or nucs and wait for nature to complete the process of producing a mated laying queen. The queen will emerge on or about the 16th day after the egg was laid. The mating of the virgin queen occurs when she flies to a drone congregation area, which will happen a few days after she has emerged. Remember she is an insect with an ecto-skeleton, which must dry before she can fly. In a later note I will talk more extensively about the mating process, which is nature at it's best to insure the survival of a species.

The beauty of the Miller method is that no special equipment is required and you don't need numerous colonies. If you have never raised queens it is a good place to start.

A natural elongated queen cell on a frame with bees.



The Nicot box method

The Nicot box method is my preferred queen rearing system. The picture of my Nicot box shows the box surrounded on each side by primarily drawn comb. You can get the box from any bee supply house. You then adapt your own frame for the box as shown. Plastic queen cell cups are placed on the back of the box so they are held in place by the back piece.

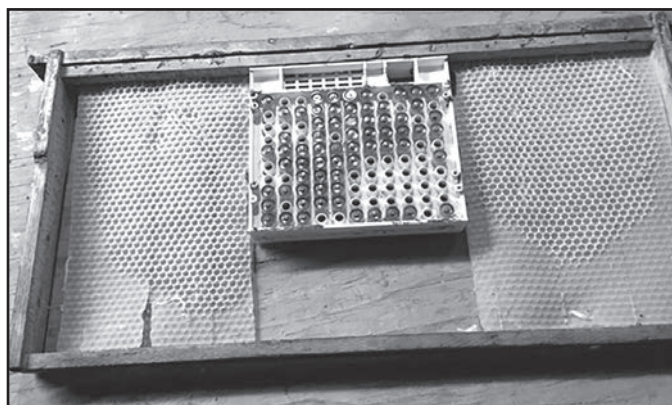
After you have placed all of the queen cups in the box then leaving the front of the box off, place it in the colony for 24 hours so the bees can really clean it, which they will. Then place the front of the box on. It has a hole at the top so you can put the queen into the box. After you have placed the queen in the box return it to the colony and wait 24 hours then check to see if she has laid enough eggs into the queen cups for your purposes. If not, wait another 24 hours. I have never had to wait more than 48 hours to have as many eggs as I want. I would never leave the queen so contained for more than 48 hours, as it will slow down the production of brood for the colony.

Now simply transfer the egg filled queen cups into the cell holders on

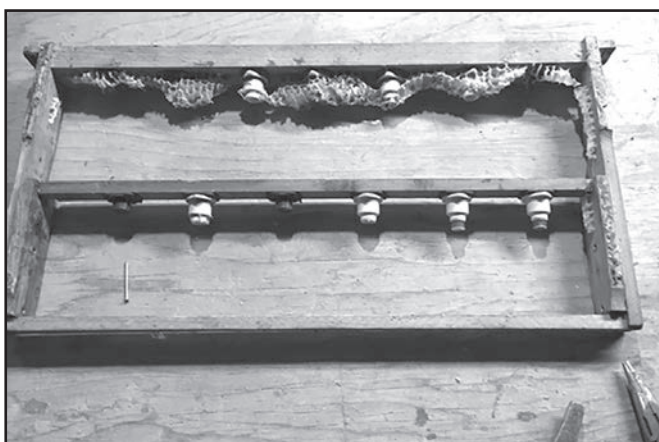
the holder frame as shown and place in a nuc or colony that has been queenless for at least 24 hours. The bees will draw out the elongated queen cells allowing for the lengthy abdomen of the queen as she develops. As in the Miller method, on or about the 11th or 12th day put the capped queen cells into the queenless colony or into mating nucs. If you have to leave them after the cells are capped put cell guards over them as if one of the queens should emerge a little early, she will sting the other queens to death in their cells.

The Nicot method has never failed to produce the queens I need. I time the emerging of the queens so it is after the summer solstice because for reasons I do not know it appears to be true that queens emerging after the summer solstice have a better chance of making it through western New York winters.

There are numerous videos online that you can look at to ascertain which method you want to use. To me raising my own queens is one of the real moments in beekeeping. As I now am entering my 85th year



Above: The back of the Nicot box (with the cover panel removed) showing the newly inserted cups. After the bees have cleaned the cups, both the front and back panels are put on. The queen is placed into the box through a hole in the front panel. Below: Once the queen has laid eggs in the cups, they are removed and are placed into a holder frame that is placed into a queenless colony. Photos courtesy Sam Hall.



I do not understand why I am still in awe when I pull a frame of brood covered with bees out of the hive and hold it up to the sun. I think it is perhaps that at that moment I am in touch with the Universe.

Hopefully you can feel the same.

Interested in beeing involved with bees? Looking to learn more?

Consider attending a meeting at one of the area beekeeping clubs. Ontario Finger Lakes Beekeepers meets the second Monday of each month (except August) at 7 pm in the Auditorium, Building 5, Canandaigua VA Medical Center. More information <http://www.ontariobeekeepers.org>

Save the Date ~ 2019 Garden Tour
Saturday, June 29, 2019 ~ Canandaigua & Vicinity
Self guided tour - 11 am to 4 pm ~ Tour gardens in the Canandaigua area on a beautiful June Saturday.
Proceeds will benefit The Ontario County Historical Society.
Details soon at <https://www.ochs.org/>

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Love your Park Day is May 4th so join us at the 2nd Levi Corser 5k fun run/walk Challenge

Bristol Parks Challenge
Run or Walk
Non-Certified 5k Trail Run
May 4, 2019

Levi Corser Park
6740 County Road 32
Canandaigua, New York

Registration 9:00 a.m.
Race begins at 10:00 a.m.
Entry fee is \$15.00 per person ahead/online/
\$20.00 the day of the race
Children 12-16 \$10.00

Sign up is available online at <https://raceroster.com/events/2019/22342/levi-corser-park-challenge-run-or-walk> or the day of the event at the check-in. Check in and finish time posting located in Barend Pavilion. Timing clock will be available to verify your finish time. Light Refreshments will be provided by the Bristol Republican Committee. Proceeds will be shared with the Park refurbishing fund. It will be both a wet and dry course with obstacles so be sure and wear appropriate running shoes and clothing.

Questions: Contact Sandra Riker, Bristol Republican Chair at slriker@twc.com



2018 Racers at the finish line!!

The Night Sky ~ May

On black holes - and finding our special spot on earth



by Dee Sharples

When I saw the picture of the first ever direct image of a Black Hole on the front page of the newspaper on April 11th, I was awestruck. Eight ground-based radio telescopes in different locations around the globe, with over 200 researchers working in coordination, had created what was virtually equivalent to an extremely sensitive Earth-sized telescope called the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT). It was aimed at a Black Hole in the center of Messier 87, a galaxy 55 million light years from Earth and had captured this image. A light year is a measurement of distance through space and one light year equals approximately six trillion miles!

I felt the same way 50 years ago when Apollo 11 landed on the Moon. On July 20, 1969, as I watched that fuzzy TV image being transmitted to Earth, I was amazed that I was witnessing mankind's first step onto the surface of another celestial body.

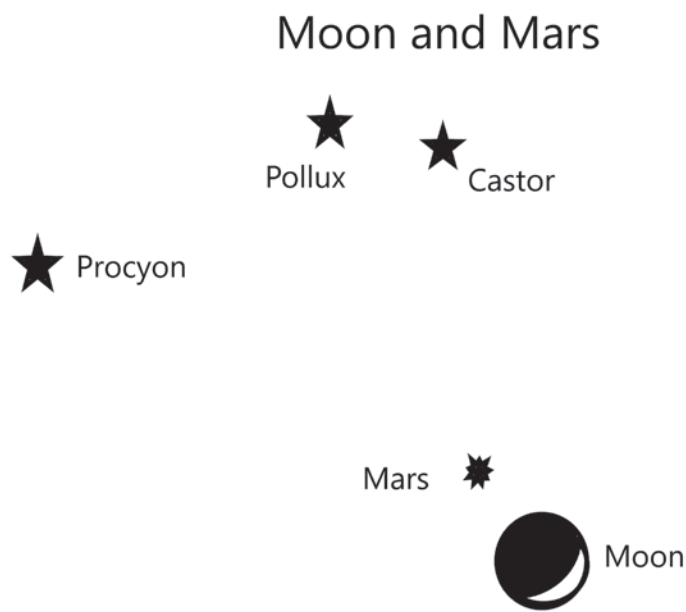
Science and astronomy have seen giant accomplishments in those 50 years. Several spacecraft have orbited and landed on Mars, providing a treasure-trove of scientific data about a planet that in some ways seemed similar to Earth. The Huygens space probe landed on Titan, one of the moons of Saturn, and transmitted data from the surface for almost 30 minutes while its mothership, Cassini, orbited the planet for 13 years. Space agencies have launched other spacecraft such as Voyagers 1 and 2, Messenger, and New Horizons to visit all the planets in our solar system. The twin Voyager spacecrafts continue today to travel into interstellar space, still transmitting data after more than 40 years of operation! Scientists using various methods have confirmed almost 4,000 Exoplanets orbiting distant stars in our own Milky Way galaxy.

“And I still feel awestruck when I look up at the night sky and absorb the beauty, contemplating the unfathomable mysteries it still hides.”

And I still feel awestruck when I look up at the night sky and absorb the beauty, contemplating the unfathomable mysteries it still hides.

In May, you can look up at the sky from your own special spot on Earth and find the planet Mars with your naked eye. No special equipment needed. Mars will appear about 30 degrees high in the western sky after the Sun sets looking like an orange star at magnitude 1.6. On May 6, a slender crescent Moon sits below Mars. On May 7, a slightly larger crescent will be 3 degrees toward the south.

At the beginning of the month, the giant planet Jupiter is extremely bright, shining like a magnitude -2.5 star when it rises in the southeastern sky shortly after 11:00 p.m. Jupiter continues to brighten throughout the month and by the end of May can be seen much earlier, low in the southeast as twilight ends and the sky darkens.



Looking west - 1 hour after sunset - May 6

Illus. Dee Sharples

Magnitude:

Magnitude measures the apparent brightness of a celestial object and is expressed by a decimal. An object with a negative number like our Sun is brighter.

Sun: -26.7

Full Moon: -12.6

Jupiter: -2.5

Bright star: 0.0

Mars: 1.6

Dimmest star visible with the unaided eye: 6.0

How to measure degrees in the sky:

A simple “ruler” is to hold your arm straight out and make a fist. The area of the sky covered by your fist measures about 10°. Start at the horizon and by moving your fist up and counting how many “fist widths” it takes to reach an object in the sky, you’ll have an approximation of its height. To measure 1°, hold your little finger out at arm’s length. The area of the sky covered by your finger is approximately 1°.

Eta Aquariid meteor shower

This month the Eta Aquariid meteor shower arrives under a dark Moon-free sky so if it’s clear, we should see a great display. Up to 40 meteors per hour may shoot across the sky in the early morning hours on the peak date of May 6. The best time to look for them is around 4:00 a.m. when Aquarius, the constellation from which the meteors will appear to originate, lies about 25 degrees high in the eastern sky before day break.

Meteors are caused by bits of debris left behind by a comet which has previously swung around our Sun on one of its many long orbits into and out of the solar system. With the Eta Aquariid shower, this debris was left behind by Comet 1P/Halley. Each year when Earth travels through this debris stream, the particles burn up in our atmosphere and produce the “shooting stars” we see streaking across the sky. If the sky is predicted to be clear, set your alarm, relax outside in a comfortable lawn chair, and enjoy the show.

Send comments and questions Re:
The Night Sky to:
Editor@canadicepress.com.

Strasenburgh Planetarium

Every clear Saturday night, Strasenburgh Planetarium offers the public an opportunity to observe the night sky through two large telescopes. Volunteers from the Astronomy Section of the Rochester Academy of Science will operate the telescopes from dark to about 10:00 p.m. You will need to climb 60 stairs to the telescope observation deck at the back of the planetarium. Call the planetarium after 7:30 p.m. at 585-697-1945, or coordinator Jim Seidewand at 585-703-9876, to confirm this event will take place. If it’s cloudy, it will be canceled. Observing and parking are free.

“Beyond our Comfort Zone” Presented by Paige Dedrick,
Citizen Climate Lobby, Buffalo-Niagara Region – May 16, 2019, 6:30-8:30 pm
Little Lakes Community Center, 4705 S. Main Street, Hemlock, NY.

At home with the Owl Light

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The Homestead Gardener

by Derrick Gentry

A springtime ode to clover

"This morning, I noticed that the _____ were beginning to come up!"

Something new is coming up almost every day at this time of year; and what luck, what a top of the morning blessing, to feel chosen as the first to notice the newly arrived guest. The renaissance fair continues well into May. First, there were the isolated patches of color: the subtle snowdrops, the iconic crocuses. And then, the dazzling show of the daffodils as they raise up their heads and proclaim in unison that the season is ready to commence. My heart truly leaps up, however, when I see coming up through the blanched and disheveled grass, with a bright green that is unmistakably this year's, the quieter but longer-lasting display of common clover.

Its commonness should not lessen our appreciation of the role it plays in our lives. We are truly lucky to have clover -- Dutch white and medium-red, with however many leaves. Clover just "happens," or so it seems. But if you want more of it in your pasture or in your lawn, the task really involves no more than a casual stroll outdoors on a cool morning. You can broadcast clover seeds on the surface and wait for the heavy rains to tamp it down and give it firm contact with the soil; or you can scatter it into thick turf or even into a thatched over spot, and it will still somehow find a way to germinate; or, even earlier than that, you can frost seed clover before the ground has thawed and let it work its way into place with the cycles of frost heave. On a very quiet morning in March or April, the solitary broadcaster can even hear, between the heartbeats of the squirrels, the faintest pitter-patter of the tiny seeds as they strike and scatter upon the cold ground.

Once established, clover gives so much more than it takes. It certainly demands little from us. The three-leaf clover ought to be the symbol on the flag for the cause of resilience and sustainability. Like other legumes, clover performs the crucial function of fixing nitrogen from the air and putting into the soil in plant-available form. (It's actually a symbiotic collaboration between clover and rhizobium bacteria in the soil.) Nitrogen fixing is almost as fundamental a life process as photosynthesis. When I contemplate both processes going on around me, I feel like a truly lazy (though grateful) beneficiary of the real work that plants do. I currently take far more than I give, though I strive to do better.

Farmers around the world have long known that sowing clover in a field after harvest is an excellent way to restore nitrogen to the soil. In America, George Washington Carver was one of the first agricultural scientists who fully appreciated the role of clover in sustainable agriculture. In a classic article from the early 1900s, Carver observed that "deficiency in nitrogen can be met almost wholly by the proper rotation of crops, keeping the legumes, or pod-bearing plants, growing upon the soil as much as possible." Carver's advice is as relevant today as it was a century ago, living as we do in our age of synthetic nitrogen with an advanced case of soil degradation. (By the way, why is it that we so rarely see Carver up there anymore in the pantheon of names during Black History Month? I suppose our culture does not take agrarian thinkers as seriously as we once did...)

Clover is also a staple food crop for people, though of course we cannot consume it directly. As much as we depend on plants, our digestive systems are not built to digest the range of biomass that other animals are able to process. That is where grazing animals step in and provide the missing link in the food chain. Our goats convert clover to edible protein, which we can then consume in the form of milk and cheese. (Why is it that we do not think of pasture-raised milk in the category of a "plant-based diet"? I see no reason why it should not be so considered, although it would also, I suppose, qualify as a "processed" food...)

The Pasture Garden

Can we even speak of "pasture gardens"? The tiny pasture where our milk goats graze certainly occupies more land on our little property than the food garden. If farmers can call themselves "grass farmers," then I feel partly justified in calling my subdivided quarter-acre of mixed grasses and legumes a "pasture garden." My only reservation is a semantic one; for many, a quarter-acre is a paddock rather than a pasture (as a hill is to a mountain, I suppose). Fair enough: I am content to call it a "mini-pasture." As the cookie monster says, that's good enough for me.

Milk goats are perfect for the homestead-scale operation. You can easily raise a small herd of goats or sheep on a mini-pasture of well under one acre. Not only do goats require less space and have less impact than a cow, goat's milk is also significantly higher in nutrients than cow milk. (And all milk, perhaps not surprisingly, is among the most nutrient-rich foods in existence.) We do not rely on pasture throughout the year, of course, but it is an important supplement for a good part of the year. One other reason for having a pasture, however small, is that goats -- like many animals -- love being outside and grazing or foraging for their own food. Goats are by nature foragers, not grazers, but they will never walk away from a patch of land covered with clover and grasses. We want them to be happy. And except for summer days when the flies are bad, they always look happy to be out and about in that fenced in but wide open space.

What is the ideal mix for a pasture? Everyone has their own ideas, but the choice and the ratios depend on the type of grazing animals as well as a number of factors. Clovers are always welcome in the mix. On the whole, though, it must be admitted that alfalfa is the queen of the pasture legumes. It is hard to beat alfalfa's nutrient density, which is particularly important for milk production. Unlike clover, however, alfalfa can be



a bit more challenging to get established. It demands soil of a certain quality and fertility, and it much fussier regarding pH. (It does not do well in acidic soil). Another challenge with alfalfa is that it is difficult to re-seed or over-seed in later seasons because the alfalfa is essentially "allergic" to itself (the peculiar property of autotoxicity) and the new seeds will not germinate in the company of alfalfa that is already growing there. Setting up a stand of alfalfa is therefore a one-shot deal, and the conditions need to be just right in order for it to take.

But once it does take, you have something close to a permanent pasture. Clover will begin to peter out after a few years and need to be reseeded. Alfalfa, if grazed and managed well, will last a decade and beyond. Another nice feature of alfalfa is its relative drought resistance; in dry months, alfalfa will continue to grow while other things in the pasture stall out. Your yield of milk will not suffer too much so long as you have a hardy stand of alfalfa.

It is unfortunate that recent calls for cutting or eliminating meat and dairy consumption in order to reduce environmental impact, fundamentally right-minded as they are, often fail to distinguish between the wholly unsustainable industrial feed-lot and the fundamentally different pasture-raising methods. We all tend to think more like consumers, not like producers or cultivators, and that limited mentality carries over into our grand schemes for policy making.

So long as they are managed properly and not over-grazed, a strong case could be made for the pasture as the very model of a sustainable food system. There are a number of other side benefits, what we might call "ecosystem services." Pastures and hay fields are also models of biodiverse and ecologically vibrant habitats (though they work quite differently than other habitats, such as marsh lands or woodlands). Pastures produce large and steady quantities of biomass, whether consumed by grazing animals or harvested by vegan farmers as organic matter for composting. Pastures provide stable root systems the vast "micro-herds" of microbial life underground. Above ground, pastures are like super-functional meadows, providing sustenance not only for hoofed animals but also for insects and other creatures with wings. Pastures and hay fields need to be cut periodically and/or grazed, but the soil never or rarely needs plowing up the way fields with annual food crops need plowing. The carbon is sequestered in the soil along with the nitrogen that is fixed -- for free -- by the clovers and alfalfa. If there is a significant drawback to this win-all-around set up, then I am not aware of it.

The Imagination of Disaster

The sheep did a backflip and landed on its back. That is what happened when the woman tried to check under the sheep's eyelid for symptoms of internal parasites. The sheep landed on its back; the woman landed on her ass.

That was the story related to me by my wife after she returned from a day-long workshop on goat and sheep parasites. The woman who took the fall was the owner of the farm and host of the event. My wife was actually preparing to check the resistant sheep, when the owner interceded. "This one's not in a good mood today," she told my wife. A moment later, she was down on the ground and the sheep had its hooves planted a few paces behind where it once was.

The event was presided over by trained scientists, explaining with the aid of high-powered microscopes how parasites worked from a scientific point of view, which did not always align with the practical interests and concerns of animal husbandry. The visiting scientists could barely disguise their child-like -- bordering on Dr. Strangelove -- fascination with the meningeal worm, also known as the "deer worm" (*Paralaphostrongylus tenuis*). All parasites are cause for worry, but this one sounds like something straight out of science fiction. Among scientists, there seems to be a consensus that the evolved behavior of the deer worm is really, really cool. Here is an account of the life cycle of the deer worm posted on sheepandgoat.com, one of the many online Mayo Clinics for goat husbandry:

"The life cycle of the meningeal worm requires terrestrial snails or slugs to serve as intermediate hosts. White-tailed deer become infected with *P. tenuis* by eating snails or slugs that contain the infective stage of the larvae. The larvae migrate through the deer's gut and eventually move into the central nervous system where they mature into adults, produce eggs, and the life cycle begins again when they excrete the eggs in their feces. However, when *P. tenuis*-infected snails and slugs are ingested by aberrant hosts, such as small ruminants, the larvae migrate into the brain and/or spinal cord and cause various neurological problems."

Continued page 12

Tinker Nature Park

May 11 Rock Gardening - 10am
with Master Gardener Gerald Kral

June 1 Bonsai - 10 am
with Mark Arpag of the Bonsai Society
of Western New York

May 18 Coyotes - 1 pm - Presented by Scott Smith, a Biologist with the NYS DEC - Informational talk on the habitat, range, impact, and life of the coyote in New York State.



Tinker Nature Park - 1525 Calkins Rd,
Pittsford, NY 14534
[https://www.facebook.com/
TinkerNatureParkHenrietta/](https://www.facebook.com/TinkerNatureParkHenrietta/)

Finger Lakes Forest Church

May 11, 10 am: Giving Back to Nature.

Our May gathering will be a planting party, working to restore the ecosystem in Sandy Bottom Park, following the necessary removal of dying Ash Trees. Opening and closing ceremonies will commit our efforts to the healing of the land and invite our habitat to flourish. Plant material provided. Bring shovels, gloves, water bottles. Location: Meet at the Richmond Town Hall parking lot, 8690 Main Street, Honeoye, NY. We will walk to area to be planted.

See Finger Lakes Forest Church on FB for more information
or contact flforestchurch@gmail.com.



Dragonfly Tales by Steve Melcher

It's a bird, It's a plane!

No, it's the Magnificent Mystical Marvelous Migrating Monarch Butterfly!

In this age of Marvel comic book heroes like Spider-Man and Thor, a real life critter with amazing superpowers is the Monarch Butterfly - *Danaus plexippus*. The generation that we see in the North, goes through a transformation that rivals that of the Hulk. This last generation, actually referred to as the 'Super Generation', will fly from as far North as Maine and Manitoba and return to its winter woodland retreat in the mountains of Mexico. That same butterfly will rest for a bit, and when the weather conditions are right, fly across the border into Texas, lay eggs to begin a new generation that starts the mystical migration cycle again. Scientists still are unsure how the 'Super Generation' knows how to make its way back to the same small area of oyamel fir trees in the state of Michoacan in Mexico. In one experiment, monarchs were captured in Kansas, shipped to Washington D.C. and released. They immediately flew due south, many ending up in Florida. Those that were held in captivity for just a few days headed back to Mexico when released. The navigation mechanism might be related to sunrise and sunset observations allowing the monarchs to 'reset' their compasses.

I remember when we didn't know where the monarchs ended up after their epic migration. The locals knew of the magnificent gathering of monarchs in the remote areas of Michoacan mountains, but associated the event with the Día de Muertos (Day of the Dead) and thought these must be the souls of ancestors. It wasn't until the early 1970's that a scientist, Dr. Fred Urquhart, after pursuing migrating monarchs for nearly 40 years, proposed that these were the same monarchs found up north. He told the world in the August, 1976 issue of National Geographic magazine. However, he did not reveal the actual location of the butterfly colonies, even to other scientists, until he was assured of their protection. The hypothesis was that these might be the same butterflies seen in the US and Canada that had flown south. While working on the Delmarva Peninsula with the Army Corp of Engineers in the 70's, I worked with several colleges across the country tagging monarchs. The year 1975 was a 'peak year' for monarchs on the barrier islands, with dozens of orange butterfly beauties coating every goldenrod on the beach. Imagine the disbelief of finding your tag number from a butterfly caught and tagged on Wallops Island, Virginia, on a fir tree thousands of miles away in the mountains of Mexico. That small area, west of the heavily populated Mexico City, is still under pressure for development. The Mexican government has done a Herculean job of saving the areas where the monarchs overwinter despite the ongoing illegal logging and other development pressures. Thirty years ago the population was estimated to be over a billion. Today, it is less than 50 million. There have been ups and downs over the years. A cold spell decimated a portion of the population a few years ago. Storms along the migration route and climate change related temperature fluctuations have all contributed to population fluxes. The greatest impact has been due to habitat loss.

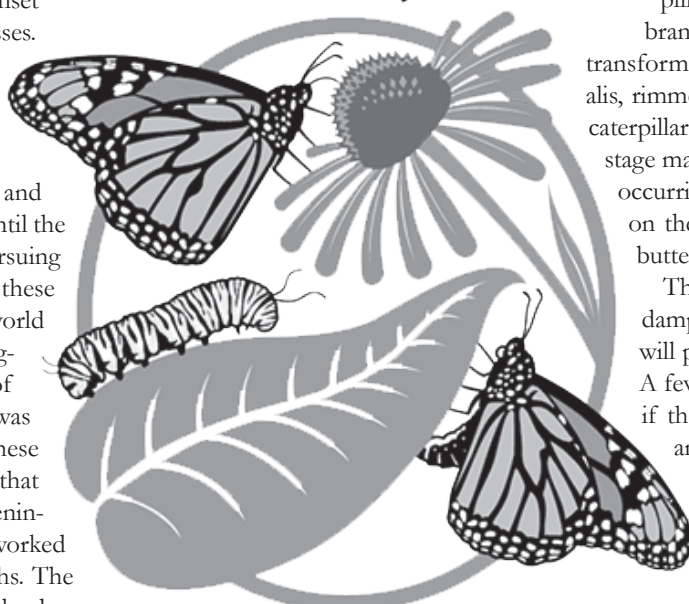
The monarchs we see in the Finger Lakes of New York in the spring and summer might be the great-great-great-great-grandkids of the monarch we saw leave for Mexico last fall. When the monarchs of the 'Super Generation' leave Mexico in the spring, they lay their eggs across the border in Texas. This first generation will fly further north, repeat the protocol of mating and then finding the proper plant to lay her eggs. The eggs of this first generation will hatch, eat, pupate and the adults will fly even further north, around 50 to 100 miles per day, searching for milkweed to lay their eggs. Along the way they are searching for nectar plants, for food and energy, and milkweed, to lay the next generation of eggs. Unfortunately, milkweed is considered a noxious weed by farmers and homeowners and is heavily sprayed with glyphosates and other herbicides. The spray not only kills the food sources and nurseries of Monarchs but affects many other species of pollinators as well. Farmers of everything from apples to almonds are now using a large portion of their budget to bring in bees and other pollinators to ensure a healthy crop. We can help the monarchs and the farmers by providing 'Way Stations' for monarchs and other pollinators by planting native milkweed and nectar plants. I want to stress the use of 'native plants'. Native plants are adapted to local environmental conditions and migrating pollinators have adapted to these native plants. I also want to stress planting food and nursery plants. The infamous 'Butterfly Bush' (*Buddleia* sp.) has become an invasive species in many parts of the US and provides only food and not a place for the monarch to lay her eggs.

Life Cycle

"Butterflies...flowers that fly and all but sing." ~ Robert Frost

Females lay tiny white eggs usually on the underside of a milkweed leaf. The outer covering of the egg is hard and hydrophobic (sheds water) which keeps the larva from drying out or from being eaten by beetles, ants and other insects. The newly hatched caterpillar's first meal is its egg case! After finishing that easy meal it feeds on its host plant and will eat only milkweed leaves for its entire caterpillar stage of about 10 days. Milkweed contains glycosides that are poisonous to predators. Another protective feature of the caterpillar is a pair of long filaments on each end of its body. One pair are actual antennae and the other pair are false antennae confusing a potential predator as to which end is which.

Monarch Waystations



The black, yellow and white caterpillar molts several times as it grows, eating its shed skin after every molt. The caterpillar will eventually attach itself to the underside of a leaf or branch in an upside down J shape. This is the final molt which transforms the caterpillar into a luscious lime green jewel-like chrysalis, rimmed with shining gold jewels. During the next 2 weeks, the caterpillar becomes completely reorganized. The pupal or chrysalis stage may look sedentary but there is a magnificent transformation occurring. Near the end of this stage the chrysalis becomes dark on the inside with a clear shell, revealing the formation of the butterfly within.

The butterfly splits open the chrysalis shell and emerges with damp, crumpled and limp wings. Still hanging upside down, it will pump fluid through the veins of its ever expanding wings. A few hours later, the wings have fully expanded and dried, and if the conditions are right, the monarch will take its first flight and become a 'flower that flies and all but sings'.

Monarch Waystations

Santuario de la Mariposa de Mendon:

Monarch Waystation #10223

Part of our mission at Odonata Sanctuary is to create and maintain a Monarch Waystation to contribute to monarch conservation and help assure the continuation of the monarch migration in North America. We not only have several areas dedicated to nectar plants but also encourage the propagation of native milkweeds. We currently mow 30 acres every other year to encourage ground nesting birds like Meadowlarks and Dickcissels. While I mow I keep an eye out for patches of milkweed and purposely mow around them encouraging the patch to expand. You don't need 30 acres to create a sanctuary or waystation for monarchs. Most Monarch Waystations

in project Monarch Watch are home gardeners like you. The Xerces Society, in partnership with the Monarch Joint Venture and National Wildlife Federation, has developed a list of native plants appropriate for our particular region.

For more information: Santuario de la Mariposa de Mendon on FaceBook

CREATE, CONSERVE, & PROTECT MONARCH HABITATS

"There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature - the assurance that dawn comes after night and spring after winter."

~Rachel Carson

"We humans think we are smart, but an orchid, for example, knows how to produce noble, symmetrical flowers, and a snail knows how to make a beautiful, well-proportioned shell. Compared with their knowledge, ours is not worth much at all. We should bow deeply before the orchid and the snail and join our palms reverently before the monarch butterfly and the magnolia tree. The feeling of respect for all species will help us recognize the noblest nature in ourselves."

~ Nhat Hanh

Odonata Sanctuary:

Odonata Sanctuary is a nature preserve, active farm and sanctuary where abandoned farm animals find a home to spend the rest of their days and Eastern Bluebirds, Meadowlarks, Bobolinks and Monarch Butterflies find suitable habitat to thrive. <http://odonatafarmsanctuary.blogspot.com/>

14th Annual Mendon Foundation Bird Walks

May 4th: Taylor Marsh, Honeoye
- A unique opportunity to explore the wetlands of Taylor Marsh and possibly see Sandhill Cranes. Rugged conditions, waterproof boots recommended. Join the Bergen Swamp Preservation Society (the owners of the property) on their annual pilgrimage.

May 11th: Odonata Sanctuary, 20 Parrish Road, Honeoye Falls
<http://odonatafarmsanctuary.blogspot.com/>

May 18th : Great Bend Park -Meet at the parking lot off Clover Street.
http://www.townofmendon.org/images/Great_Bend_Park_1.pdf

May 25th: Sibleyville Nature Reserve - Mendon Foundation Property. Take 15A to Plains Road. The parking lot will be about 2/10 of a mile on the right off Plains Road.

Meet at 7:45am sharp. All bird walks begin @ 8:00 am. This is the best time of day to see the birds feeding. Be sure to wear appropriate weather gear and hiking shoes. Do not forget your binoculars and camera. Grammar school children and older are invited to come. Light breakfast refreshments will be served following our first walk. Please e-mail Jaye Knight at jaye81k@gmail.com if you need directions or additional information. We look forward to meeting all of you and hope you will attend this annual educational and enjoyable event.

This is a great opportunity to add to your life list of birds.

Live on Stage



Hannah Farley (Upright Bassist/Singer) Timothy Braley (Guitarist/Singer) & Scott Calpin (Lead Mandolin/Guitar) of Old World Warblers come together to produce a unique sound that has elements of folk, blues, bluegrass, Celtic, and swing. From dramatic original songs that have been known to inspire table-top dancing, to old-time standards, Irish drinking songs, and covers of American music spanning many decades, Old World Warblers know how to keep an audience entertained.

GALLERY OPENING & GUILD OPEN STUDIOS

MAY 11 & 12 • MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND!



SATURDAY 11:00-5:00 • SUNDAY 1:00-5:00

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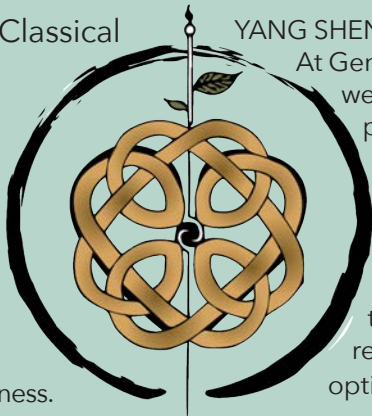


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Timber Frame Raising Tue, May 21st, 8 am - 1 pm

Finger Lakes Museum & Aquarium
3369 Guyanoga Rd, Branchport, NY 14418,
Join us on this exciting day as we raise our Timber Frame Pavilion in the Townsend Grady Wildlife Preserve.
The timbers for this pavilion were tooled to perfection by a great team taught by Rob Hughes in a 2018 workshop.

Happy Mothers' Day
Mom!



Love,
Darlene

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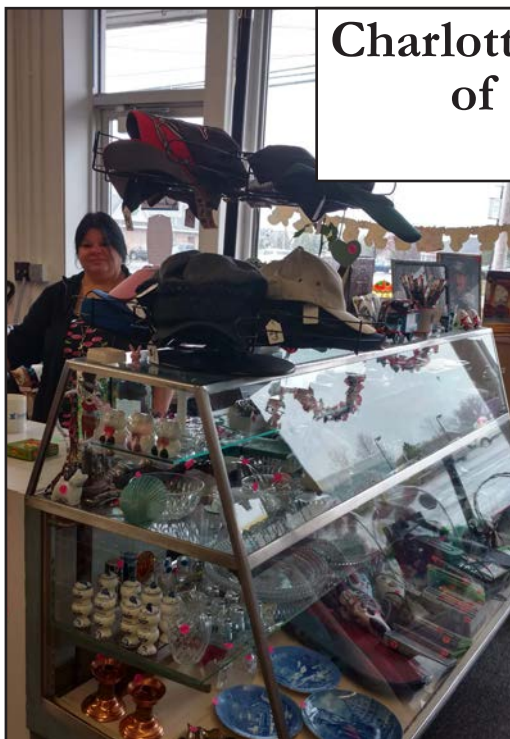
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Charlotte's Webb of Odds and Ends Opens in Lima, NY



Charlotte's Webb of Odds and Ends opened March 1st. They carry pretty much everything, from clothes to furniture and so much more. The store is owned and operated by Charlotte "Char" and her Husband George. According to Char, their goal with the store is to "make a difference in people's lives by keeping nice things affordable..and to offer our FRIENDLINESS."

Stop in and say hello today!

Charlotte's Webb of Odds and Ends
259 East Main St. Suite B
East Avon, New York 14414
(585) 298-4273 - Like them on fb



New Owl Light deadline!
The submission deadline for Owl Light News is The Third Thursday Each Month, for the following month's issue. Sooner is better!

Live on Stage

"The Green New Deal:
Art During a Time of Environmental Emergency"
Opening reception May 2nd 5-7 pm ~ New Deal Gallery

A collaboration between ASUNY Geneseo and the New Deal Gallery at the Genesee Valley Council on the Arts (GVCA) is updating information on their WPA collection of more than 200 paintings from the 1930's, and seeking relevance for the ecological challenges of our own times. The project, called "The Green New Deal: Art During a Time of Environmental Emergency", is taking the form of a gallery show, along with a digital exhibit hosted by Geneseo's OpenValley.org. An opening reception will be held on May 2nd from 5 - 7 pm at GVCA, located at 4 Murray Hill Drive in Mount Morris. The exhibit will run through June 2nd and is open to the public free of charge.



The North Pond by William Waltemath, from the New Deal Gallery's collection of WPA paintings.

The exhibit will run through June 2nd and is open to the public free of charge.

The Beverly Hillbillies ...



...an evening of hillbilly hilarity live on stage at Honeoye Central School!

The lovable Clampett Family is riding onto the Honeoye Central School stage for an evening of hillbilly hilarity. Join them in their improbable invasion of hi-falutin' Beverly Hills society and the absurd adventures and ridiculous romances they encounter there.

Come and see all your favorite characters!

May 3 & 4 at 7:00 PM and May 5th at 3:00 PM.

Prices are adults \$8.00 and \$6.00 for seniors and students, and tickets will be available at the door.

Photo: Granny (Tori Armstrong) and Jed Clampett (Aaron Brzezinski) break up a tussle between Jethro (Troa Vimabi) and Elly May (Nevaeh Battistella) in Honeoye Central School's rehearsal for the upcoming spring play "The Beverly Hillbillies". Photo courtesy HCS.

Honeoye Concert Band Alumni Performance
Saturday, June 8, 7 pm - HCS auditorium

All alumni band members are welcome to come play as many or as few tunes as you like. Contact Grace Wood for more information: Gwood@honeoye.org. Honeoye Central School, 8528 Main St, Honeoye, NY.

Owl Vision 2019: Flights of Fancy
Owl Light News will be accepting submissions to Owl Vision 2019: Flights of Fancy from April 1, 2019 thru June 1, 2019 (midnight).

Guidelines for Submission:

- Anyone, anywhere, may submit entries.
- We are looking for creative interpretations of the theme that challenge accepted meanings and norms.

*Without "unrealistic" dreams where would we be?
Without flight most certainly!*

- All written and creative (still) formats are acceptable (fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, lyrics, graphics, hybrid).
- Submitted fiction and nonfiction works should be 1000 words or less, and can be sent in doc. or docx.
- Poets may submit up to three poems (less than 1000 words total) send in doc, docx and pdf if needed to ensure accuracy.
- Text should be in Times or a similar font. (1") margins on all sides. Images / hybrid entries in jpeg/PNG/pdf.
- Pages should be numbered and the title should be included in the heading on all pages.
- The last page of all entries should include ONLY the title(s) name, e-mail and phone number of the writer.

Please omit all personal information from the entry pages (i.e. no name, address, e-mail address, phone number), as all entries are read blindly. All decisions re: placement are final.

Submissions should be e-mailed to: editor@canadicepress.com no later than midnight EDT on June 1, 2019.

Inquiries via e-mail or voice msg. 585-358-1065 (no text msg.).

To see past Owl Vision themes and published entries, go to: www.owllightnews and search "Owl Vision."

Selected entries will be published in Owl Light News - in print and online - July 2019.

The featured entry will receive \$75 and a one year mailed subscription to Owl Light News (\$100 value).

All other selected entries will receive a mailed 1 year subscription.

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Show is at 7 pm.

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opening with:
Mike Brown

Saturday, May 11
Guitar virtuoso
Stanley Jordan



Doors open at 6 pm.

Show is at 7 pm.

Tickets:

General admission-
\$30 in advance,
\$34 at the door.

@ the Geneseo Riviera

- Sponsored by HERON HILL WINERY

Tickets at: geneseoriviera.com/music/

At the Pub!

Sunday, May 5,

5 pm

Bruce Katz Band

\$20



Laura Rain and the Caesars

\$20

Tuesday, May 14, 7pm

Todd Wolfe and Carla Olson

\$15

Saturday, May 18, 8 pm

Plus free music in the pub with...

- Owen Eichensehr
Friday, May 10, 7 pm

- Country Rain
Saturday, May 11, 7 pm

- Sam Nitsch
Friday, May 17, 7 pm

- Mike Pappert
Friday, May 24, 7pm

- Todd Bradley
Friday, May 31, 7 pm

Free Comic Book Day

Free Comic Book Day
is May 4, 2019.

It's an International Event that celebrates comic books and the local comic shops that provide them to their communities.

Visit a participating comic shop on FCBD for FREE COMICS and fun!

<http://www.freecomicbookday.com>



Geva hosts regional writers showcase

Geva Theatre Center's second exciting evenings of new work by area playwrights - The 25th annual Regional Writers Showcase - will take place at 7pm on May 6. The script-in-hand performances will take place in the Fielding Stage at Geva Theatre Center. After each reading, there will be a discussion with the playwrights, director and audience.

The Regional Writers Showcase, a collaboration between Geva and Writers & Books, gives area playwrights the opportunity to bring their works to local audiences, showcased by professional actors, directors and dramaturgs. The featured scripts were selected from 45 plays that were submitted after a call for work. Tickets are free but must be reserved in advance.

Visit GevaTheatre.org or call 232-Geva (4382) to reserve tickets.

This program is made possible with support from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and the Mary S. Mulligan Charitable Trust.

Town of Richmond hosts
National Trails Day event
June 1, 2019, 11 am - 2 pm
The Town will host a celebration with guided trail
tours from Town Hall to Sandy Bottom Beach.



The tours will cover the area's history and educate people about our local environment, including wildlife, plants and the larger ecosystem. The park will host a family fair full of activities for all ages, plus information from local organizations, businesses and the town recreation program.





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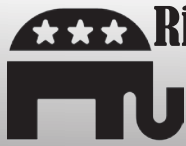
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**Richmond Republican Primary
Tuesday June 25th
Re-Elect Caroline Sauers
Town of Richmond Supervisor**



Partnering and Planning for the Community's Future

- Partnered with Ontario County Soil & Water District and US Fish & Wildlife to help control erosion along Mill Creek with a grant.
- Partnered with Ontario County Planning to secure grant funding for the Honeoye Hamlet Transportation Study.

Keeping the momentum going - together!

Caroline's leadership has engaged the town board, supporting committees and countless volunteers to *move Richmond forward*, by focusing on a myriad of community-based initiatives.

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Focused academic tutoring for students of all ages, abilities, aptitudes *and* attitudes provided by a NYS Multi-Certified Teacher. (MS in Education - 20 years teaching experience in grades P-12).



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* Please leave msg. or text Darlene at 585-313-7590 or e-mail editor@canadicepress.com to request an initial meeting and/or additional information.

Ode to clover from page 8

A pasture full of parasite-hosting slugs and snails can be a dangerous place. It is frightening, moreover, to reflect upon all of the many possibilities for casual, rapid, and sudden illness and death on the homestead: various types of parasites, toxic fungal spores, listeria, and the list goes on. And then there are crises and diseases caused by nutrient deficiency. I have had to make a split-second decision to give an emergency copper-selenium injection to a newly born kid who was showing signs of the rapidly fatal white muscle disease (and if you inject too much of the deficient mineral, that can also be fatal.) Nature's laid-back solution to these situations is to let the weak and the unlucky die their rapid deaths and simply let nature take its course. Life goes on.

Raising goats or other animals for the first time is in many respects like being a first-time parent. Failure is not an option for a new parent but a constant and terrifying hypothetical vision; we prepare for the worst, hope things are not what we think they are, and go online to google everything else. Is this normal? Is it time to go to the emergency room? We ask these questions as if we were the first to face these situations; we can't help ourselves. With the second child, having survived the trials of the first, we become much more laid back on the job.

If you google "plants that are poisonous to goats," you will come up with a number of lists that often overlap but sometimes conflict with one another. Every list mentions milkweed as a fast ticket to goat heaven. And then there is the danger of overindulgence: too much alfalfa in the first days of the season out on pasture, leading to bloat and possible death.

Over time, though, you begin to trust your goat's own judgment. It is both fascinating and instructive to watch what goats choose to eat and what they reject, and at what moments. Goats have evolved an intuitive wisdom with regard to their food intake, a sense of judgment that can be observed in action but remains mysterious (like many forms of wisdom). I remember, for example, when I first noticed that our goats were not eating the leaves of our comfrey plants as eagerly as I had hoped on every occasion when they were harvested and presented to them. Why were they not interested at all on some days? Why did they stop eating after a certain point on other days? It was not until later that I discovered the likely reason for their limited taste and occasional aversion.

Comfrey is staple on the permaculture homestead and has many uses. It is remarkably dense in protein and other nutrients, and it regrows quickly and abundantly. When comfrey was first introduced in the West in the 19th-century, it was touted as a breakthrough discovery for feeding cattle and other grazing animals. These properties led to early claims that one could feed several head of cattle rotated on a tiny plot of intensively planted comfrey. It was later discovered that comfrey contains alkaloid compounds, which in certain quantities are toxic to goats and other animals and can lead to liver damage in humans as well. For a time, many people who were swept away by the comfrey fad had

taken to drinking comfrey tea for its alleged medicinal properties without being aware of the health risks.

Raising milk goats is a constant reminder of the general connection between the health of the food we eat and the health of the soil in which it grows, the quality and quantity of nutrients in the food and the nutrients available in the soil whence it comes. We depend on hay throughout the year, and obviously throughout the winter, and we can usually notice the difference in milk production when our goats are fed first-cutting versus second-cutting hay. But beyond that observation it is difficult to generalize, because the quality of both cuttings depends on that particular year and on a bewildering variety of factors. We accept the fluctuations, both surplus and scarcity, with the same humble attitude we adopt toward growing food in the garden. "Animals are a part of the soil," declared Andre Voisin, author of the classic *Soil, Grass, and Cancer: The Link Between Human and Animals Health and the Mineral Balance of the Soil*. Even parasite scientists agree that the best defense against parasites is a healthy animal, and that means high quality forage grown from healthy soil. We still know little about how it works, but it all comes down to soil health: As in the garden, so in the pasture.

There is a good-luck horseshoe that hangs above our barn door, and it always reminds me of the well-known anecdote about the physicist Niels Bohr. When a visitor to Bohr's house saw a horseshoe hanging above his front door and asked how a great scientist could believe in such a superstition, Bohr is said to have replied: "Yes, but I am told that it works even if you don't believe in it."

I am not a scientist by temperament or by training, and I confess that I do not have much confidence in scientific cleverness or curiosity for their own sake. I do take great comfort, though, in the basic ideas of ecology. As an exercise in "mindfulness," ecological thinking contains within it some important social and political implications as well. For one thing, ecology has a solid track record of making you and me and everyone we know look stupid – which is a great leveler as well as a great ice-breaker in social situations. Ecology is the study of complex systems. Our brains are not evolved to handle it, though contemplating complexity has both a humbling and a centering effect. If knowing our own limits qualifies as knowledge, then how do we base our decisions upon such knowledge? Well, it may be as simple as this: Sometimes things go our way mostly or partly by luck, and sometimes we are knocked flat on our asses. One of the nice features of a healthy pasture, by the way, is that a soil full of organic matter and dense with growth acts like cushion and can absorb some of the impact of our fall when it happens. One thing we can count on is the likelihood of falling down again. About the best we can do under the circumstances is to enjoy this year's harvest and hope for something as good or better next year.

That works, even if you don't believe in it.

Out & about in the Owl Light

Get into the Owl Light
Add your event today at -
owllightnews.com/events/
community/add

Shining light on arts and innovation in the less traveled byways of the Finger Lakes

Opening for "Space," exhibit at Dansville ArtWorks Friday, May 3 at 5 - 7 pm

Opening reception for the Space Exhibit during First Friday Dansville: theme-Fun and Games. Star Wars characters help us launch our Space Exhibit. Free and open to the public. Purchase a ticket to our annual fundraiser (co-hosted with the Dansville Foundation for Education) and be entered into our Space Giveaway. More details about the fundraiser on our website. Dansville ArtWorks, 153 Main Street, Dansville NY

"The Show Must Go On: A Tribute to Queen," Friday, May 3 at 7 pm

Spring Arts Festival: FLCC student musicians will pay tribute to iconic rockers Queen with its annual Spring Arts Festival. Student Center Auditorium at the main campus (3325 Marvin Sands Drive, Canandaigua, NY 14424). Free and open to all. It will be followed by the Student Honors Art Exhibition and awards presentation in the nearby Williams-Insalaco Gallery 34. For more on the festival, call (585) 785-1623.

Line Dance for Literacy - May 4 at 5 - 8 pm

Music by Eva and the Dog Boys, Food by Meat the Press, Line Dance instruction, silent auction and prize raffle- all proceeds go to Budding Readers- a nonprofit organization that provides books and all the materials needed to make reading a natural part of a child's day. South Bristol Grange Hall, 6457 St Route 64, Bristol Springs, NY, \$30 - \$35

Remembered in song: Dr. A. John Walker May 4 at 7:30 pm and May 5 at 3 pm

The Finger Lakes Chorale will perform two concerts in memory of the late Dr. A. John Walker, professor emeritus, who died in August 2018. First Congregational Church, 10 South Ave., Bloomfield. They are free; donations will be accepted for student scholarships. Dr. Walker led the Lincoln Hill Singers and directed the Finger Lakes Chorale for 30 years and was instrumental in developing CCFL's music program.

Warren Paul at Savor Vineyards ~ May 9, 6 - 9 pm

Live acoustic originals, oldies and comedy by singer/songwriter Warren Paul at one Western New York's newest premiere wineries. Savor Vineyards, 8437 Oak Hill Rd. Arkport, NY

The East Hill Gallery at the Rochester Folk Art Guild opens for the 2019 season on Mother's Day weekend.

Saturday, May 11, 11 am - 5 pm / Sunday, May 12, 1 - 5 pm
The gallery and studios will be open. Tour the studios and visit with Guild craftspeople. 1445 Upper Hill Road, Middlesex, NY - www.rfag.org
See display ad page 10!

Dogwood Festival Fun! Saturday, May 18

Fairy crafts (12-2:30pm) with our own Fairy Queen Jeanne Gridley and visits with Mr. Scribbles (10am-3pm, thanks to the support of a private donor and the Dogwood Festival Committee). Free and open to the public.

After Hours at the Museum

May 15, 7:30 - 9 pm ~ \$10
After Hours at the Museum - A series of entertaining and informative bimonthly presentations at the Antique Wireless Museum. On May 15, 2019 enjoy the Irish music of the popular local band Almost Irish beginning at 7:30 pm. Tickets are available in advance at the Museum or at the door. Admission for adults is \$10 or \$5 for Museum members. 6925 Route 5 in Bloomfield just east of the corner of Route 444.

Warren Paul at The Brewery Pub & Grill

May 18, 7 - 10 pm
Live acoustic music at the falls featuring originals, oldies and comedy by singer/songwriter Warren Paul. Brewery Pub and Grill, West Main St. Honeoye Falls, NY

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Auditions for "A Piece of My Heart"

by Shirley Lauro
May 22, 6:30 - 9 pm

You are invited to audition for a part in our play or to volunteer as a member of the stage crew! Performance Dates: July 12, 13, 14, 2019.

The Little Lakes Community Association has partnered with the Honeoye Community Players to produce this play for which they were awarded a grant by the Genesee Valley Council on the Arts. For information about the play, call the director, Bonnie Sykes, at (585)703-7536.

Open Mic Performing Arts Series

~ The Wray Boys

The Wray Boys!



Friday, May 24, 6:30pm

You'll love their passion for traditional country music. Audience members welcome to participate in the open mic portion with family friendly performances; please arrive early and sign up to perform. Free and open to the public; donations welcome. Light refreshments. Dansville ArtWorks, 153 Main Street, Dansville NY

Fundraiser for Timothy Moore

Saturday, May 25th, 2019, 3-10 pm

Timothy Moore, owner and winemaker at Inspire Moore Winery in Naples, NY is currently battling Stage IV Brain Cancer. This celebratory day will be filled with music, food, messages of love, a silent auction and opportunities to raise funds in order to help support Tim's battle. Tickets are \$20 ~ Parish Hill Barn, 5325, NY-245, Naples, NY

OPEN MIC Performing Arts Series

The Wray Boys. in Concert

You'll love their passion for
traditional country music.
Friday, May 24 - 6:30 pm

This project was made possible with funds from the Decentralization Program, a re-grant program of the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the NYS Legislature and administered by the Genesee Valley Council on the Arts.

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www.cbcraftbrewers.com - Honeoye Falls

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~ Check web site for dates and times.

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Last Big Storm

by Merton E Bartels

No mudslides on my mind or raging ice-flowed rivers
I ask you, doesn't 15 inches new snow have to go

By melting not too fast but melting wintry slow
Cold is the air as Carolina blue skies makes us shiver

Even with the coming of winter's rare blue moon
Perhaps native black bears have it naturally right

As Rochester received over 115 inches before June
So, stay hidden and warm in a cave out of sight

Or by the fire have ice cream with a big spoon
Oh, how I dream of a warm firefly June night

Although Spring had arrived but not at noon
When pleasantly eventually warm, all will be right

Joy of spring

by Wendy Schreiner

Lawns get cut
for their first
trim
green grass
glistens
with morning dew
birdies chirp
songs of
sunshine delight
daffodils and tulips
dance in the breeze
dogs go for
longer walks
everyone and everything loves
the joy of spring

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The Alchemy of Life, Death and Beer

Non-fiction by Gary Catt

I haven't made a springtime visit to the Alleghenyville (PA) graveyard for some time now. I don't even recall the church attached to it. What's more, I don't have a clue to who is buried there.

But every spring my thoughts turn back to visits made to the rural graveyard with a close friend who lived across the road from the church.

The route to the graveyard took us between the churchyard and a property with an outdoor pen housing a pair of very large pigs apparently raised for butchering. It was a late spring day when we first made the walk up the hill. Sprays of untended forsythia ranged across the hillside - a perennial bouquet making it look like someone remembered the dead entombed in the hillside so very long ago.

We'd each carried with us a cold beer. We sat, our backs against a couple of long-neglected monuments to people long dead, and shared a blunt as we watched a distant hillside swallow the spring sun.

She spoke. "So silent here."

I nodded.

So we sat, quiet, saying nothing just watching the disappearing light. The onset of evening was majestic but cold and soon we were driven down the hill toward the welcoming lights of her home.

As we passed the pigpen, the animals snorted at us, unsure if we presented a threat coming out of the darkness. We made peace by offering the pigs the dregs of our beer, which they heartily enjoyed, drinking from upturned bottles.

We decided to make the pigs part of our ritual route to meditation in the graveyard's highlands. We'd bring extra beers for them. Clever beasts the pigs. They soon recognized us from a distance and would kick up one helluva fuss until we poked a bottle of beer for each of them through the fence webbing. We were extortion victims. If we didn't bring beer for the pigs, they'd thrash around in their pen and make a ruckus. Because we didn't necessarily want to explain our relationship with the pigs to their owner, we surrendered.

The pigs — to their credit — exhibited no desire to overdo it. One beer each left them docile — satisfied. We experimented with light beer, dark beer, imports, domestics. It didn't matter to the pigs. They chugged down one, 12 ounce bottle of beer each. We howled.

One day in early fall they were gone. The pen was gone. The area was raked clean.

My friend and I exchanged glances.

"I miss the pigs," she said.

"Me too," I replied.

We continued the trek to the hilltop, parked ourselves in the usual spot to watch the setting sun, and drank a toast to the pigs and transience.



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Free Spirit Book Club Wednesday, May 15th, 6:30 - 8 pm Honeoye UCC - 8758 Main Street, Honeoye, NY.

This book club, with a broadly spiritual focus, meets the third Wednesday of each month. It is an open-hearted, open-minded group, focused on reading & discussing texts from spiritual disciplines around the world.
All are welcome-even if you haven't read the text.
For more info., including the title of the reading for our next meeting, contact emily.pecora@gmail.com.

Pen Prose

Area Writing Groups

Warsaw's Write Connection
2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:45 PM ~ Warsaw Public Library
(no meetings June, July or August)
For more information, contact Wendy at (585) 786-5290

Canadice Lake Writers' Group
2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 6-7:30 pm. ~ Honeoye Public Library
Info Darlene at 585-313-7590

Lakeville, NY ~ Poets' & Writers' Group
1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 10:30- noon ~ Chip Holt Ctr., Vitale Park.

The Canandaigua Writers' Group
First Friday of the month from 10 am to 12:30 pm.
~ Ewing Family Community Room, Wood Library ~

Writing Group in Naples
Meets 2nd Friday of each month, 10:30-noon. ~ Naples Library
Bring a short piece to read aloud. Info. at 585-374-2757

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The Monthly Read by Mary Drake

The inner life of men

A review of *A Lucky Man* by Jamel Brinkley

A Lucky Man
by Jamel Brinkley
Graywolf Press (2019) 264pp

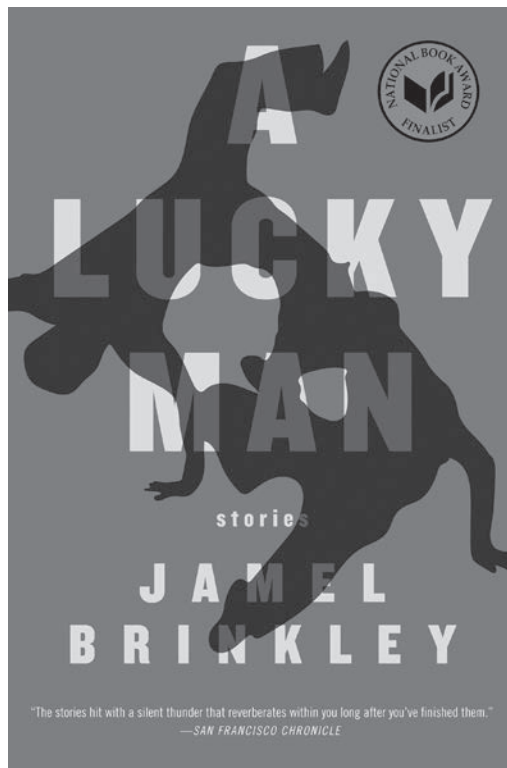
Some say the literary novel is dead. If this is true, perhaps the short story has taken its place. More and more anthologies of quality short stories seem to be turning up. I reviewed one such anthology last month, and here I am writing about another, although I didn't come to this anthology on my own. I discovered it when I accompanied my daughter one evening to hear an author speak at her college. That author was Jamel Brinkley and the title of his book is *A Lucky Man*.

Brinkley could be the subject of his own book because he is indeed lucky. This, his first book, has been called a "stunning debut" and has garnered him much attention and critical acclaim. He is a soft spoken man, but as soon as he began reading some excerpts from the stories, I recognized his sensitive insight into human nature and his quiet control of language. He is a black man whose stories concern the lives, hopes, and challenges of black males, from those as young as eight through middle age. It says something about these stories that, although I am neither black nor male, they held my attention and left me turning them over in my thoughts afterwards. The collection is not only thought provoking but also educational.

I learned about capoeira, a type of martial art that combines acrobatics, dance and music that originated among sixteenth-century African slaves in Brazil. Brinkley uses it in the story "Everything the Mouth Eats" as a metaphor for what is going on between two estranged brothers who are fighting and dancing around their relationship and their troubled past. The narrator Eric says in the beginning, "I hadn't had a talk—a real talk—with my brother in many years. Maybe we'd never had one. In any case, I wasn't sure either of us even knew how."

The story alternates between the two brothers' road trip to a capoeira convention and remembrances of their childhood together. They are half-brothers and their father, Carlos's biological father and Eric's stepfather, has sexually abused both of them. They are five years apart in age, and as children were often left alone. One day while roughhousing, the narrator holds Carlos in a head lock and unintentionally causes him to lose consciousness. Eric fears the worst, but when Carlos regains consciousness, the little boy is convinced in the irrational way of children that his older brother has somehow saved him.

After that, Eric tells us that Carlos "built a little religion and installed me as its godhead." But because as children they were initiated too soon into the world of sex and violence, it is no wonder that as adults they are confused about how to relate to one another. Their mother has told Eric, who is older, to look out for his younger brother, but at his first opportunity, Eric left home and lost track of what happened to Carlos. Now, as adults, they are trying to reconnect but are having trouble overcoming their past and who was responsible for what. Carlos, we're told, had sunk so far as to become homeless, and has only rebounded because of his "blessings, which he said had saved his life." They are his wife, his baby daughter, and capoeira. It's more than a sport, it's a way of developing a family, of expressing anger within strict bounds. It provides relief as well as bonding, and capoeira feeds you all you could want; it is everything the mouth eats.



While reading Brinkley's short stories I also learned about J'ouvert, a type of parade/street party that originated in Caribbean countries like Trinidad and the Dominican Republic. The celebration also takes place in areas with large Caribbean immigrant populations, such as Brooklyn. I was reminded of Mardi Gras, but J'ouvert takes place on what in America is Labor Day, and it involves calypso music and dancing in the streets. In his story by that title, Brinkley tells about a poor seventeen-year-old boy, Ty, turned out of his home for the day while his mother entertains a boyfriend and he babysits his differently-abled younger brother. All Ty wants to do is alleviate his boredom and prove he's a man by going to the West Indian Day Parade by himself. It reminds him of when he went with his father who has disappeared. But Ty soon discovers that there is even more fun to be had at J'ouvert, which roughly translates from French to mean

"when day opens." The street party begins before dawn and Ty gets swept up into it. Someone shouts at him, "Dance or go home!" And so he does. "I was grabbed by it, pulled into it, twisted up in the songs and yells and laughter." Ty is having such a good time that he forgets about his family's poverty, his father's abandonment, and his challenges coming into manhood, but he also forgets about his little brother until he sees him being carried off in the crowd. Everything becomes less important at that moment than recovering his little brother. Ty realizes what it means for someone to depend on you.

The title story of the book *A Lucky Man* is about the middle-aged Lincoln Murray, a security guard for the last sixteen years at Tilden School, which the reader is told is "the 'second oldest private school in the entire country.'" However, "the security and maintenance staffs, 'the invisible folks,' ... seemed to be the only black and brown people in the school." But Lincoln is married to the beautiful Alexis who has a professional job in a museum; his security guard co-worker James tells him, "You're a lucky man. I wish I could get me a high-quality woman like that. A good woman." Only Alexis has left Lincoln. He wonders what has become of his life. When he met and married Alexis, twenty-two years earlier, "they were equals. He was as handsome as she was beautiful and bright, and despite their age difference he had as much to expect from the coming years as she did." Only life hasn't turned out as he had expected. Now he wonders if his wife's friends ever

tell her that she is lucky to have him. Unlikely, since he has failed in his ambition to become a professional boxer and has failed in his marriage. Then his boss sends him home for some R and R, telling him "We'll be fine without you." But Lincoln's work is the only thing he's got going for him. Well. . .not the only thing. Lincoln has developed the habit of secretly taking pictures of attractive women he comes in contact with during the day—on the bus or in the subway station. In private moments he looks at the pictures and fantasizes. Only, Alexis has discovered the pictures. Then, on his way home from work, a random woman on the sidewalk accuses Lincoln of taking pictures of young girls coming out of a local school. It doesn't matter that he vigorously denies it, that he was actually texting; she calls him a "creep" and a "pervert." He may not have done what she accused him of, but he knows that he is guilty. With reluctance, he deletes the pictures he has taken. After they are all gone, "he realized with some surprise that he hadn't taken any other pictures, not even a single one of his wife." How could he have missed such luck?

Brinkley's stories about boys, teenagers, and men all have a ring of truth. They don't shy away from feelings and problems that are difficult to express and which perhaps have no resolution. Like life, his stories have no real endings. When I heard him speak, Brinkley said he doesn't want to spoon feed readers and make his stories too easy. They're not. But like the best stories, they draw you in yet provide no facile answers, just leave you thinking.



www.graywolfpress.org/books/lucky-man

Honeoye Public Library

Basic Computer Class
Monday, May 13, 3:30 - 5:00 pm
Class size is limited to 7 adults
Call to register.

"We're Books... and More"

Book Talk Group
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"Origin" by Dan Brown

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Reminding you to grow!

The Conscious Crow

Acceptance

Autism - A different perspective

As we glide past April coasting into May, we reflect upon April, also known as “Autism Awareness Month,” and what treasures it brought to our life. No individual experiences the world from our exact perspective. It looks different for everyone. And for those experiencing life with Autism Spectrum Disorder, or Asperger Syndrome, socially acceptable “norms” and things that may come so easily and naturally, are a daily struggle and entirely foreign concept.

A handful of social cues generally allow us to comfortably engage with one another. There are an invisible set of social rules that define how we are to behave and communicate with one another, and when someone does not align with conventional standards like: look us in the eye, offer a common gesture we are accustomed to, or present themselves in a familiar way, we make the mistake of identifying and applying an unfair label. If someone does not mirror a response that is “socially acceptable,” fits the conventional approach, and instead responds in a manner we least expect - or even find inappropriate for a situation- we revert to obsolete, inaccurate definitions.


In reality, there is absolutely no “normal.” Not one way particular way to be or interact with each other. There are as many ways to communicate as there are types of individuals in the world. Since there are an infinite number of ways to express our human nature and we each experience the world in such a radically different manner, so too the behavior following our communication approach need be just as unique. An entire realm of creative expression and wholesome connection is overlooked if we blindly conform to societal constraints, with the pressure of fitting into an outdated, illusory “social norm” that no longer applies to such a rote description of acceptance. Instead of yielding the ever-expanding expression of ourselves into a model that hinders natural growth, creates barriers and tailors to how we once were, let’s alter our style and approach of communication to fit what we are now becoming.

If we lack attention and education towards a topic then we cannot expect appropriate action to follow. In other words: we cannot know what to look for if we do not know what we are looking for. Only when we are exposed and given awareness are we able to act with conscious intent and a higher level of recognition to a more positive, inclusive relationship with our incredibly diverse world. This seed of awareness grows every time we turn our attention in any given direction. The more compassionate, accepting and understanding we are, the more effectively we are able to engage, communicate, and shine light upon each and every variety of truth in the spectrum of our existence, uniting every walk of life and relating with the intrinsic humanness we all exude.

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Time for Spring Clean Up!
 Scrap Metal Fundraiser



Boy Scout Troop 521
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**Saturday, May 18, noon to 3:
 Mending Cafe at the Fuzzy Bunny.**

Have a shirt that needs buttons, a pair of pants that need hemming, or a sweater with a pull or hole? Bring it down to the Fuzzy Bunny Studio in Honeoye on the third Saturday of each month, from noon to 3 pm, for some free TLC.



Volunteer menders and darners will do their best to mend what is marred and, if desired, provide free mini-classes on fixing similar issues in the future. There is no charge for the service, but donations will be accepted for a local non-profit. Please limit your mending to no more than two items. The Fuzzy Bunny Studio is located at 6 Honeoye Commons, in the shopping plaza across from the school, in Honeoye.

“Loving Touch Healing”
 hosts grand opening at LLCC

“Loving Touch Healing” joins the Little Lakes Community Center! The public is invited to its grand opening on May 3, between 6:00 and 9:00 p. m. and on May 4, from 12 to 4 p. m., where Reiki practitioners Jodie and Bob Kiss will be offering complementary five minute Reiki hands-on healing and information about their offerings. The center is located at 4705 South Main Street in Hemlock, the former school.

Kade in the Kitchen

by Kade Bentley

with special occasion gift baskets



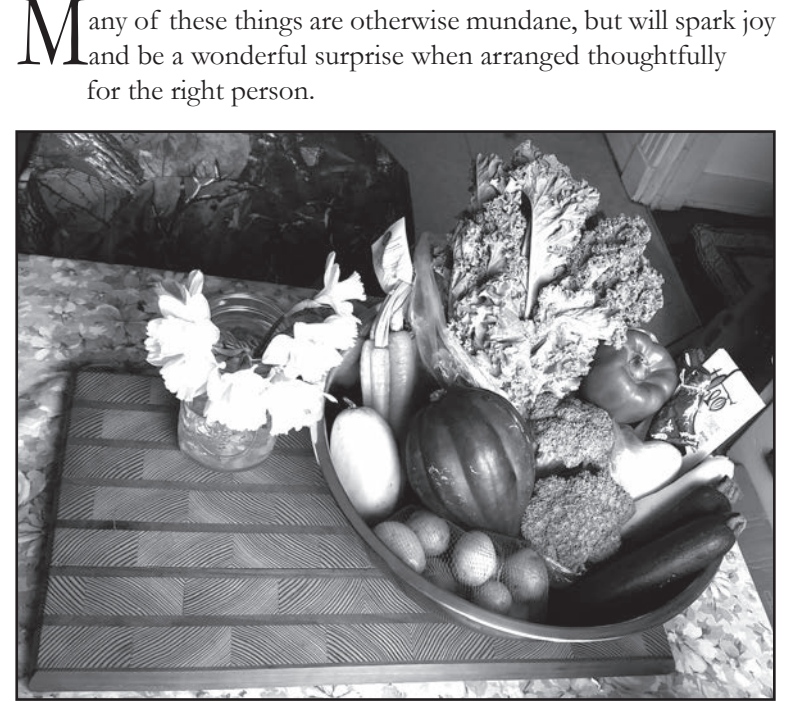
If your loved one has everything and loves to putter in the kitchen, consider a fruit and veggie gift bowl!

I was the recent recipient of a lovely birthday arrangement. This is a perfect gift for someone like myself, just moving into a new small apartment, busy, and a little low on cash.

I got some of my favorite veggies in a beautiful stainless bowl but consider catering to your loved ones preferences.



- Their favorite fruits and veggies and:
- a useful kitchen item
 - a newly released cookbook
 - cut flowers
 - nice chocolate
 - coffee and tea
 - holiday favorites
 - specialty snacks or crackers
 - home made jerky
 - home made snack bars or cookies
 - dried fruit and nuts
 - wild rice or other yummy grains
 - special items for the baker:
 fancy extracts, chocolate chips, etc
 - gift cards to local shops.
- Have fun with it!





Simple Sustainability by Sky Trombly

The Zen and Art of Cleaning Less

I like cleaning as much as the next person, which is to say, I don't. That said, most of us appreciate the outcome of cleaning. Clean spaces are refreshing and peaceful... and more hygienic.

One of the most compelling promises of minimalism was the prospect of having to clean less. Cleaning less doesn't happen automatically when you subscribe to minimalism, it is an art form that I've had to learn. Now, I hope to share the secrets with you.

Step 1: Tidying

Sustainability

The first step to cleaning less is to tidy and the first step of tidying is to purge those things from your house that you no longer want or need.

This is probably not a surprise. We are most familiar with the minimalist tendency to purge unwanted stuff. It stands to reason that the fewer things we own, the fewer things we'll need to clean.

Practically speaking, decluttering is both an event and an ongoing practice. After the initial pare down (the event), it is necessary to keep checking in with ourselves about how we now feel about our stuff and to keep the newcomers in check (an ongoing practice).

The second element of tidying is organization. Organization is not cramming large quantities of stuff into pretty little boxes and putting those boxes on the shelf. At its root, organization is all about giving our (wanted) stuff assigned seating, a home within our homes.

When we pick something up, we should know to where it needs to be returned. This makes things more automatic (quicker) and requires less thought (less decision fatigue). It also means we're less likely to lose our car keys.

I find the easiest way to stay on top of this is to do regular tidying sessions. By "tidying", I mean tracking down toys and shoes and jackets and returning them to their homes. If I pick something up and it doesn't have a home it gives me pause. Maybe it isn't worth keeping. In fact, this is when I do that ongoing purge practice I wrote about above.

Since most things are just automatically returned, I have saved myself the decision-making time and energy to use on any newcomers to my domain. I ask myself if these new arrivals really deserve to stay. If they do, I give them a home. If they don't, out they go.

I can afford to make executive decisions on most stuff coming in, but when it comes to what my housemates drag in, I put the new items in their own personal spaces (unless the new things are obviously garbage). This keeps communal spaces decluttered.

Step 2: Cleaning

It's hard to wash a counter when it's covered in dishes, garbage, and your child's homework. That is why tidying is the logical first step. That said, if we never get to actually cleaning our home, the accumulated filth will make us sick. It is the sad, inescapable truth.

I knew I didn't want my cleaning process to be toxic or complicated, so I've put some thought into the kinds of cleaning products and tools that I like. In order to keep my cleaning routine simple, I rent (instead of buying) specialized and rarely used tools such as carpet and steam cleaners.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| My Tools: | •vacuum cleaner (with canister to avoid bags) |
| •broom and dustpan | •dishwasher |
| •mop and mop bucket | •washing machine |
| •rags & towels | •clothes dryer. |

This isn't earth-shattering, but every item is durable and, of course, reusable. I skip out on the paper towels and Swiffer pads and that sort of thing.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| My Cleaners: | •distilled white vinegar |
| •dishwasher fluid | •baking Soda |
| •dish soap | •Tea Tree essential oil |
| •laundry detergent | •Arm & Hammer Pet Fresh |
| •Arm & Hammer Super Washing Soda | •bleach (used as a last ditch effort, typically when faced with the stomach bug). |
| •hydrogen peroxide | |
| •castile soap | |

I have chosen these cleaners over several years based on their low safety concerns. (The exception is the bleach.) I evaluated safety concerns based off of the Environmental Working Group's Database, an online public service resource worthy of checking out.

I like cleaning as much as the next person, which is to say, I don't.

Step 3: Tackling the cleaning schedule

I tried working through complicated cleaning schedules and just as soon as I had invested the time and energy developing them, I would forget them. I also would get off track easily due to caring for a sick child one day and then vacation the next.

I needed a cleaning schedule that was always relevant and flexible.

I broke my house down into manageable sections based on the square footage and the relative amount of work. As I have a large home with a large family, this means four sections. I devote 15 minutes to tidying and cleaning each section.

I set a timer and get as much work as I can get done. It also keeps my heart rate up as I race the clock, which I hear is good for you.

I start with tidying, scanning the areas for stuff that is out of place and putting stuff where it belongs. Then, I take my cleaner's caddy out and tackle the cleaning jobs that jump out at me. Not every cleaning job gets done each day, but most important tasks do get done during the week.

This strategy relies on consistency. The first day the kids are back at school, I might take the whole 15 minutes picking up toys, but by the end of the school week, I might be addressing door handles and the crumbs underneath the couch.

My daily hour does not include a few things. It does not include laundry, dishes, cooking, grocery shopping, bill pay, and yard work, for some examples. I eat every day and try to incorporate washing dishes as I do my food preparations. I also have to do 2 loads of laundry each day in order to keep up with the kids and with cloth diapering. The other items get done about once per week, outside of my basic cleaning schedule.

But am I actually cleaning less?

For someone who hates cleaning as much as I do, the question remains: how often do I need to tidy and to clean to maximize my benefits in the face of my laziness?

Unfortunately, I found the simplest answer to be: more often than I used to, but with far less elbow grease.

The unspoken fact is that when you have less underwear, you do laundry more often (because you must) and when you have fewer plates you wash them more often (because you must).

The benefit is that when you wash that underwear, it isn't mildewy and when you wash those plates, there isn't hardened-on mold. Jackets stay cleaner because they are hung instead of walked on. You get the picture.

Some of you might be feeling a little misled: the article did promise "cleaning less". But bear with me and this unpalatable news.

In my case, the result of consciously deciding how much cleaning and upkeep I was comfortable with meant I was doing more than before. I hadn't been comfortable with the amount I wasn't doing. I needed to "up" my cleaning game.

That said, cleaning is a lot easier than it once was. I am in a routine of glancing over my surroundings for things that are out of place and putting them away or discarding them. I find it easy to straighten and to wipe down surfaces so that, for example, dinner is served on a clean table. I don't sweat figuring out the best cleaning solution to apply. My house is typically visit worthy and even if I skip a day of cleaning I haven't lost my place in a "cleaning schedule".

Though I am cleaning more (and more easily), it doesn't mean that this will result in more cleaning for everyone. I have 6 people (+ pets) living here, 3 of whom are still too young to help out effectively. You could, for example, assign areas of the house for greater equity. If you don't have small children, you may find 15 minutes in each area excessive because you don't spend 10 of that cleaning up toys and other stray items they brought in with them. If you live in a smaller home, you might have fewer zones overall to do. Laundry might be a once-a-week chore for your household.

In turning the methods of minimalism onto the cleaning task, I have discovered that I am cleaning more. The secret is that it doesn't feel like it. Sure, when I get up I now take my mug out with me, and I might be cleaning microscopically throughout the day. But everywhere I look, there is greater satisfaction to be had. That, I guess, is about as Zen as it gets.

Until next time, be the light by living lightly!

Laundry can sometimes feel like a mysterious task, especially for those who are newly independent. I, personally, did not get a handle on dealing with stains until after I had children. I have gathered here my accumulated laundry wisdom in order to help demystify the task of getting our clothes clean.

Sky's Handy Household Hints by Sky Trombly

Good for you ~ Good for the environment.

Laundry Hacks

- (1) Peroxide is an excellent bloodstain remover. Simply apply to a fresh stain directly and wash as usual.
- (2) Dish soap is an excellent oil/grease stain remover. Apply to stain, work into the fibers & wash as usual.
- (3) Soak stained or dingy clothes in cold water with a teaspoon of ©Arm & Hammer Super Washing Soda before adding garments to the washing machine. Never put different garments in the same soaking bowl because the dyes may leach from one garment & infuse others.

(4) Baking soda can be sprinkled into the washing machine w/ your laundry to kill foul smells.

(5) Clothes with elastic in them (i.e. spandex) should not be put in the dryer but instead hung up on a rack to dry. Dryer heat destroys elasticity.

(6) Graphic t-shirts are best turned inside out. If there is fragile decoration ~ lace or embroidery ~ these clothes should be turned inside out too.

(7) Bras are especially delicate ~ hand wash or machine wash in a mesh delicates bag; hang dry.

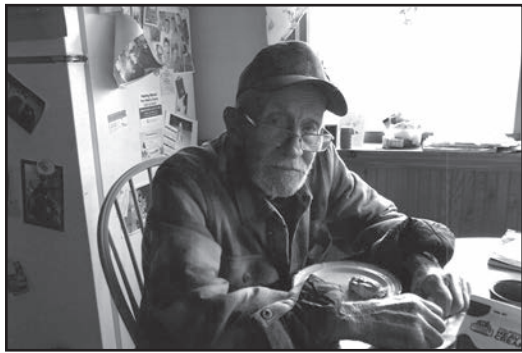
(8) Hanging natural fibers (such as cotton) out to dry in the sun can work as a bleach alternative. Not recommended w/ synthetics, as the sun can break these down.

(9) The fewer times you wash something, the longer it will last. Those with small children may not be able to capitalize on this, as kids get dirty faster, but I am putting this out there.



In Memoriam
Notices & Tributes

Robert F. Padalino "Bob" "Grumpy" ~ April 5, 2019



Naples: At age 81, Grumpy passed away peacefully with his family by his side on April 5, 2019 at his home in Naples. He was born in Rochester, NY to the late Frank and Madeleine Padalino. He is predeceased by his brother, David and sister, Anita. Grumpy is survived by his Life Partner, Susan Dominick (the Queen); his children, Debra (Lester) Siegel, Theresa (James) Zarcone, Michelle (Brian

Anderson, Linda (Jim) Pilkenton, Vanessa Padalino, Frank (Penny) Padalino, Troy (Iraci) Padalino, Joshua Dominick, his sister, Joyce (John) Miller, his grandchildren; Richard, Ian, Mark, Nicholas, Michael, Rebecca, Madelyn, Jack, Jimmy, Emily, Jammie and his cherished great grandchildren.

Bob touched many lives across his time in Rochester, NY, Naples, NY and Boynton Beach, FL. Bob also served in the National Guard from 1955 to 1957. He is dearly loved by family and friends.

Bob's stoic, cantankerous personality did not long hide his warm, generous heart.

In keeping with Bob's wishes, there will be no formal funeral services.

To send a condolence or share a memory, please visit: www.doughertyfuneralhomes.com

William J. Olmstead "Bill" "Snuffy" ~ April 3, 2019

Richmond: At age 89, Bill passed away with his family by his side on April 3, 2019 at the M. M. Ewing Continuing Care Center in Canandaigua, NY. He was born in Rochester, NY to the late Raymond and Helen Olmstead. Bill is survived by his daughter; Alice (Tom) Mann of San Bernardino, CA, his sister; Barbara Barrow of Lakewood CO, his grandson Jason Mann of San Bernardino, CA., and his nephew William Barrow of Lakewood, CO. He is predeceased by his nephew, Robert Barrow.



Bill worked as welder for The Eastman Kodak Company in Rochester, NY. He was also a member of the Honeoye - Hemlock American Legion, the NRA, and the Honeoye Fish and Game Club. Bill loved the outdoors, anything Ford or old, but most of all his family.

A Memorial Mass will be held in the summer at St. Mary's Church, 8961 Main St in Honeoye with interment following at Richmond Center Cemetery on Richmond Center Road in Livonia. Services will be announced at: www.doughertyfuneralhomes.com. Please feel free to visit the website to send a condolence or share a memory. Memorial Contributions may be made to: Richmond Fire Department, 8741 Main Street, Richmond, NY 14471.

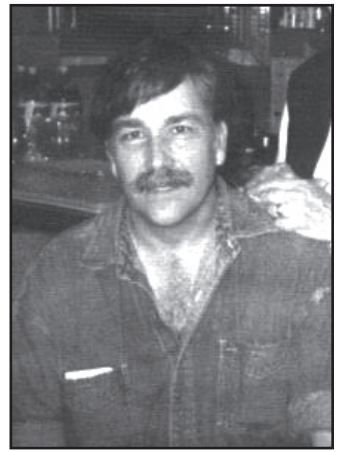
Kevin P. Leslie ~ March 28, 2019

Bristol/Honeoye: March 28, 2019 at age 64 years. Predeceased by his son Brandon Leslie and parents Herbert & Jeanette Leslie. Survived by his sons; Kaleigh Leslie-Taylor of Syracuse and Keegan Leslie-Taylor of Honeoye; sisters Cheryl Siple and Sandra (Timothy) Cannon, several nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Kevin was born on August 31, 1954 in Rochester, NY to parents Herbert and Jeanette (Watson) Leslie. He served his country as a Sergeant in the US Army and specialized in testing and repairing guided missiles. Kevin also attended MCC earning his degree in electronics and worked in several fields including security systems and truck driving.

Family and friends may call on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 from 10am-12noon at the Kevin W. Dougherty Funeral Home Inc., 8624 Main Street, Rte 20A, Honeoye, NY where his funeral service will be held at 12noon, immediately following calling hours. Burial will follow at Lakeview Cemetery, Honeoye, NY with military honors. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made in his memory to the Richmond Fire Department & Ambulance, PO Box 469, Honeoye, NY 14471.

To send a condolence or share a memory please visit: www.doughertyfuneralhomes.com



Robert A. Connors "R.A." ~ March 22, 2019

Honeoye - With great sadness we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father and grandfather on Friday March 22, 2019 at the age of 85 surrounded with love from his family. Bob was born in Rochester, N.Y on December 29th, 1933 and was predeceased by his father William and mother Florence (Renouf) Connors, brother Elmer (Virginia) Connors. Bob leaves behind his beautiful wife of 63 years, Shirley (Jenks) Connors. He is also survived by his 6 children, Scott Connors of Hemlock and Arlene (Dave) Spike of Bloomfield, Bonnie Connors of Rochester, Brian (Chris) Connors of Hemlock, Cindy (Mike) Bock of Honeoye, Nancy (Craig) Hommel of Bloomfield along with 8 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren, and along with many nieces and nephews.

Bob served his country in the U.S. Navy from 1951-1954 including service on the USS Leyte. Bob was a lifetime member of the Honeoye-Hemlock American Legion Post as well as a member of the Flying Farmers Association, Honeoye Chamber of Commerce, Richmond Town Cemetery and President of the Honeoye school board. Bob and Shirley were owners/operators of Robert A. Connors Paving Inc. for decades as well as many other business ventures along the way such as Connors Sand & Gravel, Springwater Peat, RA Connors Inc. (sales of motorcycles, snowmobiles, tractor) before finally retiring and spending their well-deserved winters in Florida and traveling cross country with friends. Bob had a passion for photography, woodworking, stock car racing and loved spending summers residing in the 1000 islands enjoying his fishing. Bob cherished the time he spent with his family the most, taking the grandkids on trips that were both fun as well as educational, holiday gatherings, birthday celebrations, and family picnics. Bob's curiosity and zest for life inspired so many and will continue to do so as his legacy lives on thru the lives of each and every one of us that he touched.

Family and friends are invited to gather for calling hours on Friday, March 29th from 5:00-7:00, at the Kevin W. Dougherty Funeral, 8624 Main St, Honeoye, NY 14471, where a funeral service to celebrate the life of Bob will be offered on Saturday March 30th, at 12 PM. Private burial Richmond Center Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made in Bob's memory to the Honeoye-Hemlock American Legion Post 1278, 4931 County Road 36, Honeoye, NY 14471. *To share a memory please visit: www.doughertyfuneralhomes.com*



Obituaries and other In Memoriam notices in *Owl Light News* are \$50. E-mail editor@CanadicePress.com or call 585-358-1065.

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Food Pantries

All welcome community contributions and volunteers.

Geneseo/Groveland
Emergency Food Pantry
 Tuesdays/Thursdays 10-2 am,
 Wednesdays 4-6:30 pm
 31 Center St, Geneseo (lower level of CPC).
 To donate, please drop items during
 scheduled hours (lower level).

Springwater Food Pantry
 Wednesdays 6:30 - 8 PM
 and Saturdays 9 - 11 AM*
 South Main Street, Springwater
 *Serves Springwater Canadice &
 Webster's Crossing area, but no one in
 need will be turned away!

Honeoye Community Food Pantry
 First Saturdays of the month,
 9-10:30 am.
 UCC church on 8758 Main St., Honeoye

New Age Book Study at the
Warsaw Public Library
 Wednesdays at 4 pm
 Hosted by Trinity Episcopal Church.
 Find book details @ trinitywarsaw.org.

Grief Share ~ a non-denominational help seminar providing encouragement
 after the death of a loved one.
Mondays, 6 pm, Springwater Church of the Nazarene,
 8498 Indian Valley Rd (Rt 15), Springwater. Info: 585-728-5961 or 585-669-2319.

Faith in Community

Celtic Journey First Sunday monthly, 6pm ~ Honeoye UCC
 *Welcoming and inclusive of all people * Honoring the wisdom of the ancient Celts and Jesus * Contemplative worship and teaching
 May 5th ~ Sailing Life's Seas w/ Brendan the Navigator; June 2nd ~ Herbs of Blessing.
 Honeoye United Church of Christ, 8758 Main Street, Honeoye, NY

Richmond History by Joy Lewis

The Alchemist: He changed iron into gold

Lewis J. Beam (April 10, 1834 – February 25, 1914)

Seven days he was on the train. From his home in Canadice he walked the few miles to Livonia Station where he boarded a westbound train. Arriving a week later in St. Louis, he made his way by river barge to St. Joseph, three hundred miles distant; this voyage took another week. It was from St. Joe that his adventure began in earnest. The next one hundred eighteen days he spent walking.

It was early April 1856 when twenty-two-year-old Lewis Beam set out to make his way to the gold fields of California. Like many another adventurer before him, he found the streets of St. Joseph, Missouri, a-swarm with humanity – upwards of 5,000 pioneers readying to make the journey west. Here he partnered with a company of three other single men; they pooled their resources to purchase a wagon (\$120), two yoke of oxen (\$20 per ox), provisions for themselves, and a quarter ton of hay to feed the team for a couple weeks – paying upwards of two dollars a hundredweight – until the grass along the trail would be sufficiently high for the oxen to graze. Potatoes were selling for a dollar a bushel, white beans for a dollar-and-a-quarter, and flour more than six dollars a barrel.

Lewis and his partners joined a train of seven other wagons, under the able leadership of a man who'd made the trip before. Making from seven to twenty-two miles each day, fording rivers swollen with spring melt, battling wind and cold and rain, the party reached Fort Kearny, Nebraska, toward the end of April. A contemporary diarist wrote that "Fort Kearny is a pretty place. There are some fourteen houses in it, three frame buildings two stories high. The other houses are made of grass sods or mud, the roofs are covered with dry grass. There is a store, blacksmith shop, hospital and a post office."

The next leg of the trip along the Platte River took them in three weeks' time to Fort Laramie in Wyoming. In the going they passed a half dozen emigrants on the back trail, encountered a party of amiable Sioux, killed scores of rattlesnakes, and battled millions of flies. The fort they found to be a busy trading post, with "about twenty houses enclosed by a wall." Here they stayed for a week or so, storing up six hundred pounds of fresh cut hay to feed the oxen as they contemplated crossing the mountains. For themselves they restocked their supplies, paying dearly for bacon and ham, sugar and flour and salt.

There were more rivers to ford, wolves to guard against, and hoards of mosquitoes to combat. They heard tales of misery – measles and dysentery and accidental gunshot wounds; beheld a litter of bleached white buffalo carcasses. Shallow graves marked both sides of the trail; they passed two or three each and every day. They saw, too, abandoned wagons, dead oxen, horses, and mules. Household goods were scattered about, where

others had sought to lighten their load: log chains, ox yokes, horse collars, cooking stoves, spinning wheels, even plow shares. Water became scarce or was alkaline. A hot sun burned down by day, water froze in the bucket overnight. They dealt with a lame ox, survived a sandstorm, learned to cook their meals over a fire of buffalo chips.

Ten days out from Laramie Lewis and his companions arrived at Independence Rock – a pillar of pure granite, two hundred fifty feet high, a sentinel rising out of the surrounding plain. Thousands and thousands of names were engraved and painted upon its flanks, enshrining for decades to come the immigrants' passing.

Though it was late-June the party encountered cold as bitter as February as they entered the mountains. A day's travel gained them only six or eight miles now. Their first difficult crossing lay at Pratt's Pass. For more than six hours they labored over a narrow rugged road until at nightfall they came out of the cut into a meadow that previous arrivals had dubbed "Blooming Grove." Here they encamped. Another two days brought them to the Continental Divide, "the summit of the dividing ridge between the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans."

When finally they made it out of the mountains, there was yet the desert to cross. After thirty-six miles without a single watering hole, the company arrived at a spring expecting to find fresh water, but found the water to be "brackish and disagreeable to the taste." It was to be another day's travel before they could refill their barrels with fresh water.

As they faced the last obstacle – the foreboding Sierra Nevada – they arrived in mid-August at the Mormon Station, "a perfect skinning post for emigrants." The camp was brimming with shopkeepers unfavorably compared by the pioneers to Yankee nutmeg peddlers. Flour and coffee and other needed supplies were on offer at sky-high prices.

The final push down into the Sacramento Valley brought them at last to the gold fields near San Francisco. Here Lewis parted from his trail-mates, pursuing his way among the rowdy throngs of fortune seekers. He remained in the mining camps but a short while. By year's end he had met the man who would propel him to riches.

The story of Lewis J. Beam will conclude in the June print issue of *Owl Light News*, or read now at <https://www.owlighnews.com/lewis-j-beam-part2/>.



Armed Forces Day ~ "Voices of Vets" Saturday, May 18, 6:30 - 9 pm

You are invited to share your own story of service with other vets and their families and friends at an informal evening gathering. This event has been supported by a grant from the Genesee Valley Council on the Arts, to honor our vets by listening to them tell of their experiences with a sympathetic audience. If you are interested in participating or have questions, please call Tawn Feeny (585) 738-7144, email tawnfeeny@gmail.com.

Wreath Ceremony for 1st Lieutenant Charles A. Goheen

On Saturday May 11, 2019 a Wreath Ceremony for 1st Lieutenant Charles A. Goheen will be held. Goheen is a Medal of Honor Recipient, from the Civil War. Goheen is buried in the old section of the Honeoye Falls Cemetery. Participants include American Legion Post 664, New York State Guard 21st Detachment, Monroe County Sheriffs Department mounted Unit, Civil War Reenactor's and Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War will be present. Staging and parking: Saturday May 11, 2019, Noon at the American Legion Post 664 (AKA) Mendon Community Center 167 North Main St. Honeoye Falls, NY 14472. The ceremony will begin at 1:00 PM. Event will conclude before or at 2:00 PM. If you are interested in attending our event and have questions, contact Edward O'Brien at 585-358-1004



A note to the *Owl Light* community

Since we get so many drops in our in box for fundraisers (dinners, rummage sales, raffles etc.), and other fee-charged events. We are asking that these be sent as advertising requests.

Classified ads are just \$20 (25 words with a heading) and a business card box ad is just \$28 for a 1x run.

If you are requesting promotional assistance, please e-mail us a request for support, and we will see what we can do.

We want to support all of the wonderful businesses and organizations across the region, which is why we offer our online calendar for one time events. It is also why we keep our print and online advertising rates low.

Thanks to all our past, present and future advertisers for supporting the *Owl Light* so we can keep supporting you!

Classifieds

Pulled Pork Dinner

Saturday, May 4th - \$10.00

Includes Pulled Pork w/slider, Salt Potatoes, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Beverage & Brownie
4:00 pm 'til 7:00 pm (or until gone). Eat in, or take out.
Honeoye Masonic Center 4994 County Road 36, Honeoye
Sponsored by Eagle Star Chapter #350, OES.

"Emotions Tied to Our Vital Organs." Wednesday, May 15, 7 to 9p.m.

Loving Touch Healing monthly discussion group. \$20
Little Lakes Community Center (LLCC)
4705 South Main Street, Hemlock, NY 14466
Seating is limited, please reserve your spot by calling Jodie at 585.455.9070 no later than Monday, May 13th.

Science, Religion & the Supernatural: Faith, Reason & the Paranormal Friday, May 17, 6 – 9pm.

A Presentation by Parapsychologist & Author, Mary Grace
Little Lakes Community Center (LLCC)
4705 South Main Street, Hemlock, NY 14466
Come for a fascinating evening to discover how the paranormal is a bridge between science and religion.
Cost: \$20.00 donation to Gifts of Grace Ministry & LLCC.
RSVP Requested to reserve a seat. Call 585-766-9318

Chicken BBQ

Saturday May 25th - \$10.00 meal

12:00 pm 'til gone, take-out or eat in.
Honeoye Masonic Center, 4994 County Road 36, Honeoye
Sponsored by Eagle Lodge F&AM

Memorial Day morning welcome

Monday, May 27 after Downtown Hemlock Parade

Following the parade and memorial service in front of the Little Lakes Community Center, volunteers from LLCA will welcome visitors by providing refreshments and information about the Center. Little Lakes Community Center, 4705 S. Main Street, Hemlock, NY.

Spaghetti Suppers - Honeoye UCC 5-7pm - \$7

May 1, 2019 ~ *Honeoye Food Pantry.

June 5, 2019 ~ *The Hospice House.

Honeoye United Church of Christ, 8758 Main Street, Honeoye
*A portion of the profits will be donated to the charities listed.

Honeoye-Richmond Historical Society Museum

Open 9:30-11:30 am
1st Saturday of May and
every Saturday
during June, July, and August

Honeoye-Richmond
Historical Society Museum
provides a wonderful and
enlightening glimpse
into the past
and is free of charge.

(Donations are appreciated).

Richmond Town Hall (in back), 8690 Main Street, Honeoye, NY

585-229-1128 ~ historian@townofrichmond.org



Owl Light Outings by D.E. Bentley and T. Touris

Preserving our boating heritage

Finger Lakes Boating Museum, Pleasant Valley, NY

One of the types of Owl Light Outings we plan to do more of is visiting museums. We had just that opportunity when we traveled to Pleasant Valley, NY, just south of Keuka Lake, during a sunny April Saturday. The idea of a museum dedicated to boats and boating in the Finger Lakes seems like a no-brainer, and to the dedicated individuals who imagined and brought the museum to life it was.

The Finger Lakes Boating Museum opened its doors in 2014, in the former Taylor wine building. Their mission is "Preserving our boating heritage," and based on the extensive collection of boats and related historic memorabilia, along with a growing offering of educational programming, they are well on their way to doing just that.

The history of boating in the Finger Lakes is a rich and enduring one, and the collection spans generations. The numerous displays include The Canoe Room, Fishing Boats and Row Boats, The Second Floor exhibit Hall – which includes inboards, The Ed Wightman Exhibit Hall – with boat molds and lakes-related exhibits, and the Steamboat room. A children's area has been also been thoughtfully added to the floor plan, making this a worthy destination for family groups with children.

The self-guided tour begins with a 13-minute video that provides an overview of the museum. From there, it moves to the Steamboat Room where local model artist Steve Harvey has meticulously recreated scale models of steamboats from the four largest lakes. Perhaps, given time and grace, Mr. Stevens will complete the steamboat replicas of the larger lakes and have time to also contribute models of the beautiful steamboats that offered luxury accommodations to travelers on the smaller lakes. His work is impressive, and this alone makes the trip to the museum worthwhile.



For anyone who has an interest in boats and the history of boat building in the Finger Lakes, the extensive and varied collection – only a fraction of which can be on display – a day could easily be spent learning more. The museum's boat collection includes (80) wooden trout boats. The six trout boats on display, by known and unknown local boat builders, include the oldest boat in the collection, the Sutherland double ender built by Henry Sutherland in 1905. All of the boats on display

are accompanied by historical information about the boats and boat builders. There is also more general information about boatbuilding as a craft. There are some absolutely striking examples of restored wooden boats.

For those who prefer speed and luxury over fish and oars, the second floor exhibit hall houses a bevy of wooden inboard beauties. You'll be tempted to run out and get a wicker picnic basket and spend the afternoon sitting in the Elizabeth Ellen - a 1910 26' launch built by the Fay and Bowen Engine Company of Geneva. She shares the room with an impressive collection of runabouts - speedy little numbers perfect for pulling a water skier or two. Their brightwork, the wooden parts of the boat left natural and carefully varnished to a mirror finish, dazzles the eye.

After drooling over this collection, make sure you visit the boat shop. Here you should see a boat or two being built or restored. You'll probably want to sign up for a course or workshop after seeing a bit of the fascinating process of boat building.

The only downside to visiting the museum is not being able to see some of these beautiful boats in their natural environment – the water. However, don't despair, the 41st Finger Lakes Antique and Classic Boat Show is being held in Skaneateles July 26 – 28.

We spent a couple pleasant hours looking over the collection and plan to visit again, and when time allows become more involved. A couple breezed through while we were there, slowly reading and taking in what the museum has to offer – Don't! There is so much here, Take it in and then take the time to get out there, on the water, to rejoice in the region that inspired this rich and rewarding history of boats.

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GENESEE VALLEY COUNCIL ON THE ARTS PRESENTS



MOUNT MORRIS ENTRANCE | Highbanks Recreational Area

JUNE 15TH 11AM-6PM

JUNE 16TH 11AM-5PM

FREE ADMISSION / \$10 TASTING GLASS

family friendly - live music
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