



Fall in the Finger Lakes



Driving along our rural road, I swerve gently left...and then right...and then left again, trying to avoid a parade of banded woolly bear caterpillars. There seems to be no clear directional pattern to their wanderings, as one might see with frogs in the spring, crossing to gather and cavort with others swamp-side. Where are they headed – and why cross the road at all? The woolly bear - *Pyrrharctia Isabella* is a cold region caterpillar that emerges from an egg in the fall. As temperatures drop, its heart stops and its body freezes solid until spring. A cryoprotectant substance prevents damage to the biological tissue during this deep wintertime freeze. For me, their presence, and my wavering attempts to avoid them as they journey across the road (many are lost even before attempting their subzero heroics) offers yet another sign that, despite the seventy degree weather, fall has arrived in the Finger Lakes.

There are other signs of the inevitable. There is the unmistakable honking overhead of the “V” shaped skeins of geese, and the disappearance of many of the southward migrating passerine birds. The migrators gather in small flocks among the vegetation or line up on roadside wires before lifting skyward and off to appointed destinations. The monarchs, too, take flight and depart to gathering places thousands of miles away.

Some hardier species stay and weather the winter. Small and large, feathered and furred creatures are seen everywhere, in shrubby undergrowth, fields and high up in forest canopies, in search of delectable fall fruits that will fatten them for times of dearth, and provide surplus stockpiles. Chipmunks, woodchucks, bats and black bears prepare for a wintertime period of rest and relaxation, and will sleep away the colder months. Others, including most of us, remain active, gradually adjusting to the cold. Squirrels, mice and white-tail deer spend the winter actively searching for their daily food. The squirrels dig up some of their buried treasures for future use. Many of these caches will be forgotten, and grow into oak seedlings that sprout mysteriously, far away from the nearest bearing oak tree. The rich layers of deciduous leaves will nurture these misplaced gifts from the nut-loving rodents.

The changing leaf colors are, perhaps, the most commonly recognized sign that fall has arrived. The orange of the monarchs’ wings are camouflaged by the brightening brilliant hues that blanket the hillside trees, as leaves parachute, one by one, to the ground below in a graceful downward spiral.

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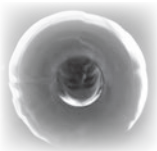
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See page 6!**

Read and Reflect
Get it right

Owl Light Contributors

T. Touris ~ The Light Lens - 5

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.



Doug Garnar ~ Pathways...Democracy - 5

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, NY. E-mail: garnardc@sunybroome.edu.

Sally Gardner ~ Cartoon - 6

Sally Gardner is a graphic designer and illustrator living in the Finger Lakes. <https://sallygardner.com/>



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."

Dee Sharples ~ The Night Sky - 7

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.



Derrick Gentry ~ Homestead Gardener - 8

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. E-mail: Derrick.Gentry@flcc.edu.



Steve Melcher ~ Dragonfly Tales - 9

Steve Melcher is the primary caretaker, hoof trimmer & poop scooper at Odonata Sanctuary, 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: fb Odonata Sanctuary.*



Mary Drake ~ Monthly Review - 15

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.

The Conscious Crow - 16

~Reminding you to grow!

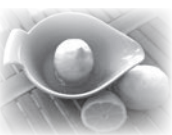


Sky Trombly ~ Simple Sustainability - 17

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.

Barbara Stahl ~ Making Lemonade! - 18

Barbara is a mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, retired school library media specialist, and a western New York/Finger Lakes area lover who did a previous column for *Canandaigua Daily Messenger*. She loves her family, circle of friends, reading, writing, history, music, theater, and Tarzan the cat who critiques her articles. Contact her at makinglemonadeOwl@gmail.com



Joy Lewis ~ Richmond History

Joy Lewis has served as Town of Richmond, Historian since 2013. She offers reflections on the history of Richmond, NY in every other issue of *Owl Light News*.

Deadline for all content for the December issue of Owl Light News is November 10th!
Our pages fill up FAST!

Owl Light Question for December:
Is Sting's song "Every breath you take" a great love song or a creepy song about a stalker?
Let us know your take at:
www.facebook.com/CanadicePress

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Kurt Staudter ~

Kurt Staudter, Springfield, VT. Over the course of thirty years Kurt's career working for National Grid and New England Power has given him a unique perspective on the Connecticut River. From operating the Bellows Falls Hydro Plant in the 1990s, to his job now in Substation Operations & Maintenance, every day his work takes him someplace along the river. He is an elected Executive Board Member of IBEW Local 486. A longtime activist and political columnist for the Vermont Standard, Kurt along with his wife Patti also ran the Vermont Brewers Association representing the growing number of craft breweries in the state for almost seven years. He has a Bachelors of Arts degree from the National Labor College, and participated with a fellowship in the Harvard Trade Union Program.



On the cover: Scenes of autumn from around the *Owl Light* offices.
Photos by D.E. Bentley

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Publisher: Canadice Press

OwlLightNews.com

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Owl Light News is available free of charge at locations across the Finger Lakes. If you would like more than one free copy, please contact us for additional copy permissions and/or to arrange location drops near you.

Owl Light at Home mailed subscriptions are \$25 (for one year)
e-mail name, address, phone to editor@canadicepress.com.

Published Monthly

Submissions via e-mail, facebook or
- last resort - via our postal address.*

5584 Canadice Lake Road, Springwater, NY 14560

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From the Editor

As this issue comes together, I am spending time on the road, visiting with my mother, some of our final time together. The drives have reminded me, once again, of the riches we have here. The hillsides are sparkling in brilliant hues as fall offers up her most impressive show for all to enjoy. These moments encourage us to slow down, to take our time and explore, more.

I often beseech our Homestead Gardener, Derrick Gentry, to, as our theme for our first literary/arts issue for 2020 stresses, “keep it short and sweet.” (Writers and other creative sorts, see page 12 for details on submissions.) Like me, Derrick is a long writer, and I always regret asking for changes to fit in what he has to say. I enjoy each and every word that he shares. One of our goals at *Owl Light News* is to provide deeper insights into what it means to live rurally, out here, where trees outnumber humans. Derrick’s reflections offer vivid insights. His “Garden Reflections ...on harvesting ...and dreaming” was perfect for our November issue, which straddles the summer’s end and the often-chaotic festivities that mark the approaching end of another year.

We are excited about the months and years ahead as we plan for the next exciting issues of *Owl Light News*. There will be some subtle changes as we tweak things for 2020, such as our new front page logotype – by Sally Gardner – in this issue, but you can count on more great content with each monthly *free* print issue – and some accompanying online content.

Arts events, creative literary offerings, and environmental ponderings are in abundance in this issue, and we are thankful that this has become a regular and lasting presence on our pages. Providing a forum for sharing views is another focus for us, and this issue offers many different voices on the things that matter in our communities. Ultimately, what matters most of all are the people and memories that are closest to our hearts, and caring/sharing with others. Our community pages, which include “Making Lemonade,” our humor column by Barb Stahl – about what it means to be growing older – offers listing of support services, community meetings, and dinners, for anyone who might appreciate a good meal and company during the holiday season (or anytime).

The deciduous finery and the calls of the night owls – mostly the barred owls near us with their familiar “who cooks for dinner, who cooks y’all” calls – offer inspiration and solace. Despite a busy schedule, I have found some time to walk with our pups to the Canadice outlet off Canadice Hollow Road, and up and around the nearby cemetery on the hill. Each time I go, the scenery has changed in subtle but noticeable ways, things as minute as the congregations of leaves floating on the water’s surface. The light, too, changes. In the owl’s light of morning, there is mistiness that presents some of the tree trunks in vivid details while others gather ghost-like around them. In the evening owl’s light, the road is shrouded in darkness, while the hills radiate a brilliant red glow.

D.E. Bentley
Editor, *Owl Light News*



Letters from *Owl Light* Readers

Support for West Bloomfield Town Board Candidate

I write in support of Ruth Cahn’s candidacy for a seat on the West Bloomfield Town Board. A town resident for more than 30 years, Ruth has a great appreciation for West Bloomfield and the essential skills to represent us. Integrity and a willingness to listen marked her long career in music education and nonprofit leadership. She continues to reflect these qualities today.

Ruth demonstrated her interest in the West Bloomfield community early on by organizing the successful “Music in the Bloomfields” family concerts and securing a grant to fund the series. Now retired, she is committed to serving her town and preserving its environment and farming heritage. She is a member of the West Bloomfield zoning board and participates in the extensive training that goes with the assignment. She is active in the local Democratic committee and the West Bloomfield Historical Society, where you may find her on her knees tending the memorial garden. As Ruth Cahn seeks your support, she is visiting residents and gathering input on town issues. Please share your views with Ruth and consider casting a vote for this hard working, responsible town board candidate.

October 9, 2019
Suzanne Washburn
Ionia, NY

Voices from the Campaign Trail in West Bloomfield

As a candidate for Town Board in West Bloomfield, my duties included visiting all the homes in our small town to share my campaign goals and to listen to the concerns of citizens. What I expected to be a straight forward responsibility of office seeking, became a beautiful profile of the value of life in our town. Residents all agreed with my campaign goals of supporting agricultural traditions and the value of the wonderful soils the long-ago glacier left for us. Community members also spoke of the importance of maintaining the environment of our “country life style” with discreet limits to “development”. However, the most heart-warming responses came to my question, “What is your favorite thing about living here?” Sincere responses ranged from “best place I have ever lived”, “a great place to raise my family”, “the beauty of the environment reaches me daily”, and “I am so fortunate to live here”. Most community members were excited about our new town hall which will be opening soon. (Bravo to our current Town Board!) While there are functional governmental duties that the community members wanted to improve, their expression of love for our home town encourages me in my desire to share my skills in finance, development and management with our town as a new Town Board Member.

Ruth Cahn
Democratic Candidate
for West Bloomfield Town Board

Mitrano calls for return of funds to bring “clear skies” to the 27th

Tracy Mitrano, Democratic candidate for New York’s 23rd congressional district, released the following statement on October 3rd in response to former Congressman Chris Collins’ resignation, following his guilty plea.

“Former Congressman Chris Collins’ actions have been a dark cloud hanging over the 27th Congressional District for the past two and a half years. Congressman Collins should have resigned at the time of his indictment, in June of 2017. Instead, he created the CHRIS PAC and began funneling campaign money to fellow Republicans, including Congressman Tom Reed (R-NY23).

“It is ironic that Congressman Reed now calls on Governor Cuomo to quickly set a special election to ensure the people of the 27th District have proper representation in the House. Mr. Reed, where were you back in June of 2017 when the allegations against Mr. Collins resulted in his indictment for felony fraud charges? The 27th District hasn’t had representation for the past two and a half years! During that time, instability and mistrust have infected not only the career of Congressman Collins but the entire political environment of the 27th District. And that dark cloud has not yet passed.

“Congressman Reed needs to take the right action and donate those contributions to a local non-profit organization. At least that’s a start to getting dirty money out of the 23rd congressional district and bringing clear skies back to the 27th district.”

Livingston County Sheriff’s Office awarded grant for Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program

The Livingston County Sheriff’s Office was recently awarded over \$265,000 in multi-year grant funding from the United States Department of Justice to administer a Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program.

The Sheriff’s Office routinely interfaces with victims and witnesses who are faced with significant emotional, psychological, and financial stress as the result of traumatic incidents and victimization. The Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program will ensure that victims and witnesses receive immediate intervention and assistance by involving the specialist at the onset of a case.

The specialist will be able to:

- Evaluate a victim’s unique and urgent needs; and
- Collaborate early on with local agencies to provide comprehensive, specialized care; and
- Provide a full range of services to victims and witnesses through forensic assistance, emotional support, advocacy, communication, education, identification of service resources, and facilitation of services.

Sheriff Thomas Dougherty said, “In a year where an exorbitant amount of state funding is going to defend those accused of crimes, we are very excited and appreciative to receive federal funding to assist the victims of crime. I commend the grant-writing team that worked on this funding source, and we look forward to offering this very important service to help victims cope, know their rights and feel supported.”

For more information on the Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program, please contact the Livingston County Sheriff’s Office at 585-243-7100.

Become part of the *Owl Light* conversation.
Submissions to editor@canadicepress.com

RE-ELECT STEVE BARNHOORN

Councilmember,
Richmond
Town Board



Your Hometown Choice

VOTE on Election Day
Tuesday, November 5, 2019
Richmond Town Hall
Polls Open - 6:00 AM - 9:00 PM

As an active member of the Town Board, Richmond Councilmember Steve Barnhoorn has played a key role in many positive changes that have shaped *our* community.

A lifelong resident of Honeoye, Steve's local leadership is inspired by his love and knowledge of the community and his passion for public service.

Trusted experience and proven results:

- **Spearheaded** the process of strengthening land use regulations to protect Honeoye Lake from runoff that contributes to algae blooms.
- **Completed capital projects** that brought public water to residents of East Lake Road and Ashley and White Roads, providing clean, fresh drinking water to help stabilize property values and improve residents' daily quality of life. These projects were completed **under budget**.
- **Engaged the NYS Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to replace our Main Street (Route 20A) bridge**, advocating for its construction as well as partnered with the Town's Streetscape Committee to provide input on project design.
- **Led the effort to streamline zoning and permit process** to make it easier for homeowners to install residential solar units and achieve energy independence.
- **Shepherded a local law to promote Agritourism** (farm-based event venues), increasing our tourism presence in the Finger Lakes region.
- Instrumental in forming a new Municipal Parks District **for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations.**
- Played a key role in **supporting and guiding the construction of the current Town Hall**, built in 2009 after more than two decades of talk (debt was retired in 2018).
- Led a five-year process to develop a policy handbook for town employees and officials, **protecting the town from liability and bringing employment standards up-to-date.**
- **Responded to residents' concerns for public safety** by authoring/introducing Town Board resolutions that **successfully led** to NYS-DOT approval to **reduce speed limits** on Ashley and White Roads.
- **Proudly recommended and obtained approval by Congress and the US Senate to honor**, for all time, **Colonel Thomas E. Schaefer USAF** (a Honeoye Laker, one of the 52 Americans held hostage in Iran, 1979-81) in the Congressional Record.

**Keep Steve Barnhoorn
working for you!
Making a difference
for tomorrow,
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Enter The Working Class Hero ~ Opinion by Kurt Staudter

Last weekend our very own Senator Bernie Sanders (U.S. Senator for Vermont) rejoined the race for the Democratic nomination for president after leaving the campaign having had a heart attack. At this point in medical science heart attacks aren't the death sentence they once were. Today, you're raced to the hospital, quickly diagnosed, and given a couple of stents inserted either through the arm or groin, and sent home for a little rest and then rehab. I'm sure we all know people that have endured a heart attack, made some corrections in lifestyle and eating habits, and have gone on to have normal lives for decades after the event. If there was any doubt that the heart attack slowed down Bernie Sanders one iota they were quickly dispelled after he joined Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez on stage at a rally in my birthplace of Queens, New York City.

At a beautiful sunny day near the site where Amazon wanted to gentrify a large section of the borough in exchange for tax breaks that would have cost New Yorkers for decades, Bernie, AOC, and other supporters raised the stakes in the presidential contest. This was no longer just a race for the presidency, but instead a call for revolution. No longer will the steady decline in wages and wealth for workers and the middle class be tolerated; what was launched last Saturday was a full-throated attack against the status quo and those that profit while we toil for less. It was basically the same call to action that lit a fire in my soul during the dark days of Reagan/Bush coming from the same man. Watching the crowd of supporters hanging on every word of Michael Moore, AOC and Bernie, I saw myself in a more sparsely attended rally in the 1980s listening to Bernie call attention to wealth inequality, the declining middle class, economic justice, and most importantly, the desperate need for a single payer healthcare system.

It's because of the inspiration of Bernie Sanders that I've put my name on a ballot a couple of times, and for almost a quarter-century appeared in the paper every week calling attention to those that want all of us to work harder for less. After watching Bernie's rally on Saturday I've been inspired again. Of course once again by Bernie, but even more so by these youngsters who are now carrying the torch of revolution to the next generations to come.

As a Bernie supporter for years I've often been asked by his detractors why he isn't more effective. I always point out that his effectiveness isn't so much in the here and now, but in setting the stage for necessary change in the future. Here are a couple of examples: In the House he was on the banking oversight committee warning that the economy was being undermined by reckless banking and investing practices, and then the Great Recession happened. Another example is our healthcare crisis that keeps getting worse every year while Bernie was demanding single payer healthcare for half a century, now the idea of Medicare for All has the support of a majority of Americans even when you say that we need to raise taxes to pay for it. You want to know what the next big issue will be in ten years, listen to what Bernie Sanders is talking about now.

I was thrilled that there were so many young people in the audience, and know now that we've reached the tipping point in this nation to once again embrace government as a force for good, and perhaps the only force strong enough to reverse the culture of greed that was spawned by Ronnie Raygun when he declared war on our unions. The decline of the middle class wasn't just a quirk in the economy, but a full-frontal assault on our share of the wealth created by our labor. Through the last four decades we've watched as our laws that helped build the middle class are quietly rolled back by corporate leaders through the best legislation money can buy – Often writing the laws themselves. Every time Bernie stood up pointing out these crimes and injustices against the vast majority of Americans, he was declared a “class warrior” by the very greedy corporate leaders that were waging the war against us.

They say leaders like Bernie Sanders come along once in a generation. While my generation drew inspiration from Bernie so is the next generation. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez is now inspiring a generation that can't even vote yet. This is when I got interested in politics as a freshman in Sleepy Hollow High School. However, after seeing the greedy drift of the nation in the 1980s, after experiencing the lack of opportunity as I entered the workforce, and after having to pay steep hospital bills because of the lack of employer insurance; I became disillusioned. I thought that nothing could stop the greedy tsunami that was washing away the gains of the New Deal, and destroying the largest middle class in the richest nation in the history of the planet. Enter Bernie Sanders.

Why isn't he effective? For crying out loud he's begun a revolution, and for once we have them on the run!

Morgan endorsed by building and construction trades

Freedom, NY (10/17/19)—State Senate candidate Austin Morgan has been unanimously endorsed by the Southwestern New York Building and Construction Trades Council, a group representing 15 different local unions in WNY.

In a letter to the Austin Morgan for State Senate campaign, Council President Steven J. Thorpe of the Sheet Metal Workers Local Union #112 in Jamestown wrote:

“On behalf of the Delegates of the Southwestern New York Building and Construction Trades Council, I am happy to announce that we have unanimously decided to endorse you in your bid for election as our Senator for the 57th District of New York.

Thank you for all of your efforts, hard work, and dedication to all of the working men and women who make the 57th District their home. We are committed to building a brighter future and with your leadership on the issues most important to our members, we know our voices will be heard and we are united in this effort.”

Morgan stated: “It is an honor to receive this endorsement from the Building and Construction Trades Council, but it is an even greater honor to stand with the many thousands of hard-working men and women who represent organized labor in our region. Cathy Young fought and stood with the labor community, and now those same workers are saying loudly and proudly that Austin Morgan is the one to carry on her legacy as a champion of the working class. I believe that Albany ought to look and work more like the taxpayers of this district. With this endorsement, we are one step further to proving that Albany does not need any more wealthy executives, we need people who understand hard work, the value of a dollar, and the needs of the working class.”

The Southwestern New York Building and Construction Trades Council consists of delegates from the following unions: Heat and Frost Insulators, Boiler Makers, Bricklayers, Elevator Constructors, Electricians, Laborers, Operating Engineers, Painters District Council, Plumbing and Steamfitters, Roofers, Iron Workers, Cement Masons, Plasterers, and Sheet Metal Workers.

Pathways...to Democracy by Doug Garnar



A Nation in debt: How can we pay the bills?

Seventy three years ago the Federal Government, despite having fought a highly destructive World War, had a national debt of less than 300 billion dollars.. Less than a year ago the national debt had risen to over 21 trillion dollars. The bulk of this debt has only emerged since 1988.



So what are some of the reasons for its massive expansion?

- The country spent money on fighting wars abroad or providing new benefits without raising taxes to cover the costs.
- Tax cuts were implemented without cutting expenditures.
- Fewer people were working and paying taxes during recessions.
- The govt. cut taxes or passed “stimulus” programs to prevent a recession from becoming a depression (an approach that worked well in the past including in 2008-09).
- Rising health-care costs added to govt. spending on Medicare, Medicaid and veterans programs.

Some thoughts to think about as we “deliberate” on how to deal with this 600 pound gorilla in the room:

- What should we do to shrink the national debt?
- Should we move to directly reduce the national debt?
- Should we increase the debt in the short time in the hope that long term solutions might be crafted along with a more productive/larger economy?

The National Issues Forums Institute has developed the following “public deliberation” guide offering three possible public policy options. As with all NIF forums each option has multiple “actions” to be considered along with counterpoints and obvious trade-offs.

OPTION 1: AGREE TO LIMITS

This option is rooted in the understanding that to avoid passing the debt burden on to future generations we have to act now in a spirit of compromise, resulting in a raising of taxes and selective spending cuts. Key actions include:

- Raise taxes (rethink the tax cuts of 2018)
- Reduce Federal spending on defense and other programs
- Reform Social Security

Counter arguments to each action and the “trade-offs” are included.

OPTION 2: STRENGTHEN CHECKS AND BALANCES

This option is rooted in the idea that an out of control national debt is due to the failure of “legislative safeguards” to restrain spending. Put another way “political willpower” is not enough to ensure the “can is not kicked down the road”. Fundamental to this approach are the following actions:

- Pass a “Balanced-budget amendment”
- Time again for “Pay as you go”
- Consider “sunset” requirements which set expiration dates for proposed programs or existing agencies
- Permanently ban “earmarks” (basically “pork barrel” spending which individual legislators direct to their home districts---they were banned in 2011 but \$14.7 billion in 232 earmarks were spent by 2017 leading one to believe that “pork never fades away so long as there are votes to be had!)

As with Option 1 counter arguments for each action and the “trade-offs” are included.

OPTION 3: INVEST IN GROWTH FIRST

This option argues that by growing the economy, the national debt will become more manageable and that a thriving economy with more people working will boost tax revenues and make the debt less of a burden. Central to this approach are the following actions:

- Reduce corporate taxes
- Reduce governmental regulations
- Fix our infrastructure (i.e. roads, bridges trains and airports)
- Focus more on job training and retraining (an increased role of technical secondary education and community colleges)

As with earlier options counter arguments and “trade-offs” are included.

After concluding this deliberation participants might consider the following:

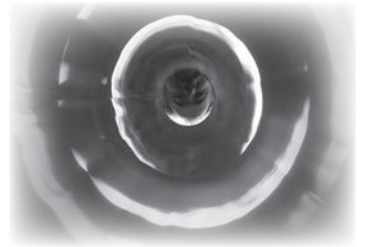
- Should all of have to tighten our belt, or should we ask more from larger corporations and the wealthier among us?
- Should we take drastic actions now to shrink the debt or would we run the risk of damaging our economy?
- What is the right direction for tax rates to go---up to cover our spending or down to encourage investment and growth that might expand the economy?
- Are we willing to live with a much smaller Federal budget---and if so, what benefits and service are we willing to live without?
- Finally, people talk of a “Green New Deal” to stem the damage of climate change, how does this factor in the overall argument for regaining control of our National debt?

Any questions or information about the NIF forum can be directed to the National Issues Forums institute at nifi.org; or to Doug Garnar, NIFI Ambassador at garnardc@sunybroome.edu

How much debt? Find out at: <https://www.usdebtclock.org/>

The Light Lens by T.Touris

Get over it!



I really don't care what you say anymore. I'm almost eighty in human years and you're going to kick me off of this nice warm quilt? Forget it.

Can't teach an old dog new tricks? Just wait 'til you see what I've got up my sleeve. By the way, that's a figure of speech - I don't do sleeves. If you try and put me in one of those humiliating doggy sweaters, there's gonna be hell to pay.

New rule here on forth: the nice comfy leather chair in the living room is mine. Keeping up the charade of jumping off of it every time you walk in the room is just too damn tiring for you and me both. These old bones have had enough.

Speaking of bones, you need to start throwing me one everyday. Not just whenever you feel guilty about leaving me alone for hours on end. It's a start on making up for all the years I've had to choke down that dry kibble junk.

Now don't start thinking I'm too old for long walks. Daily exercise is an important factor in canine longevity. A ride in the truck is a nice substitute however. We can ride together for the daily bone run.

Don't worry, you'll learn. Your fear of getting old will make it much easier to accept these new rules. Now let's go for a walk.

Then I will come back and take a nice, long nap.

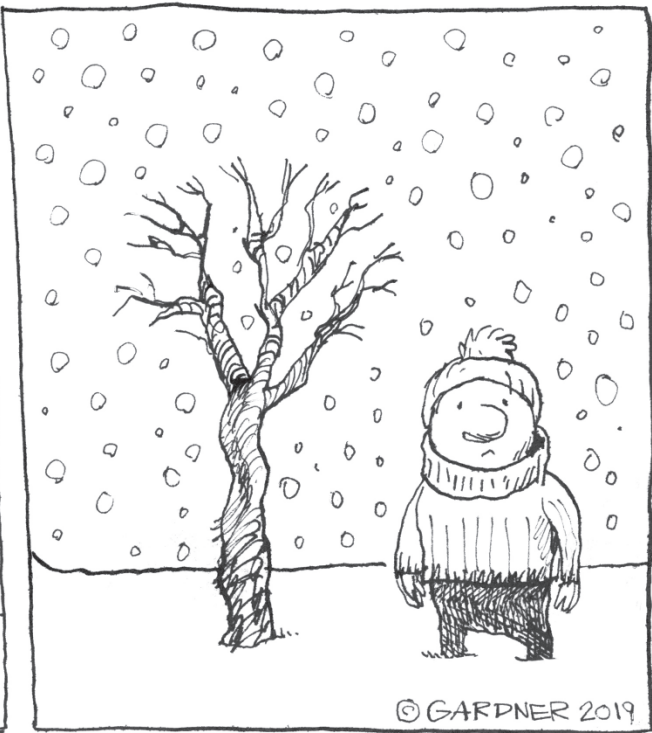


Owl Light News accepts submission year round of fiction, creative non-fiction, essays, poetry, art and hybrid content ... including:
• Letters / Commentary • Nature / Gardening • Arts / Events • Literary • Simplicity / Sustainability • Local History...

We are also looking for submissions from hamlets, towns, villages & smaller cities in New York State for a new monthly feature.

We want to hear from *your town* in words and images - what makes your place special?!

We will choose a different submission each month – from among those submitted.



Cartoon by Sally Gardner



Fall from front



There are less visible changes taking place beneath our feet, as we walk among the trees and marvel at their outward beauty. It is there that the true magic of fall in the Finger Lakes takes place. The changes below manifest in the gathering of newly fallen leaves, and in the emergence of mushrooms, puffballs and brackets that appear magically and greet us in the autumn morning light. The newest painted

leaves, gathered for their perfect beauty and piled into large mounds for gleeful pounces or garden protection, are the top layer of centuries of decomposing matter. Each layer descending downward is less recognizable as leaves, with last year's leaves already skeletonized to their veins. Further below, they have no semblance of their former selves, but continue to play a crucial role. Fungi and molds aid in the decomposition of leaf matter, along with a myriad of animals. A shovelful of forest earth reveals a world of small, smaller and smallest creatures dependent on and responsible for these life-giving changes. Earthworms and centipedes, slugs, snails and millipedes co-exist with spiders, ants, and beetles as they all do their share. Mites join these larger decomposers, as well as fly larvae, the tiniest of worms, and the smallest of the earthly small – invisible to the human eye.

The conifer forests are undergoing changes as well. Their needle-like leaves, some of which have fallen slowly while new ones emerge throughout the year, prevent the accumulation of damaging snow. The needles remain on the tree for several years and those that do fall add to a thick blanket that protects the trees' roots. These trees replace water with resin, which acts like an antifreeze, and wear a protective cutin (waxy) coating. The resin also quickly seals injuries against the elements, lessening disease. Although the smaller leaves of most conifers are not as efficient as deciduous leaves when it comes to photosynthesis, they continue to photosynthesize year-round, taking advantage of the lengthening daylight of late winter.

We too prepare in many ways as the warmer days give way to blustery fall breezes. Our bodies gradually adjust to the shorter days and cooler temperatures. Some of us migrate south, returning north with the songbirds and geese in the spring. For those of us that remain, there is work to be done: stocking up on food and fuel, hunting and gathering. For gardeners, there are endless tasks as we reap and sow, weed and mulch, and prepare the soil for the next season's crops. Our endeavors to expand the boundaries of the North-

east climate, means extra care for many plants that would perish without added protection from the harsh cold to come.

Behind my garden, where there is still much to do, honey bees drip from the bottom of sugar feeders, trying to build up adequate stores for the colony's winter needs. They fly from flower to flower, gathering pollen, which provides the protein and nutrients they will need. Here too, there are hidden secrets at work. The bees of summer live for four to six weeks. Winter bees, the bees that are born in late summer and fall, near the end of the foraging season, are the beneficiaries of a natural adaptation that allows them to live months rather than weeks. These bees are genetically identical to their sisters, but a variation in their diets (that the nurse bees instinctually offer) gives them the longevity they need to keep the queen warm and safe until spring, when she will resume her egg laying. In the same way that we take steps to stop the drafts that push in through minute cracks in windows and doors, bees use propolis, bee glue made from saps, resins, saliva and wax, to seal the cracks in their homes.

As I sit shivering in the half-light of a gloomy day, adapting physically and mentally to the changes, I marvel at the ingenuity of life all around me. A sudden gust scatters leaves from the ash trees. They collide in the cold, creating a gentle song, audible despite the boisterous Corvidae reunion. I pull my jacket more tightly around me, knowing that soon the leaves will have completed their descent, with only a few hardy stragglers left behind to cavort in the colder winds yet to come. Soon, stillness will settle all around. The rhododendron bushes outside our bedroom window will tighten their leaves as they begin to feel the chill. The Black-capped-Chicadees, already busy, like the squirrels, hiding seeds and dried berries, will sit among the branches as snowfall piles up around them. These small creatures amaze me, how well they embrace the cold, confident that soon a warmer air and brighter mood will prevail, as the seasonal cycles continue, and with spring it all begins again.



Bees harvesting sugar water to store for their winter needs.

The OWL LIGHT News

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The Night Sky~November

Watch Mercury's transit across our Sun's face

~ Leonid meteor shower peaks before dawn on November 18



by Dee Sharples

The planet Mercury will be at the center of a special event this month. On November 11, Mercury will travel across the face of the sun from our vantage point on Earth, a trip which will take 5 hours and 29 minutes.

Such planetary transits across the sun can involve only the two inner planets, Mercury and Venus, which lie closer to the sun than we do. These transits happen infrequently because the Earth and the planet involved need to be lined up in a particular way.

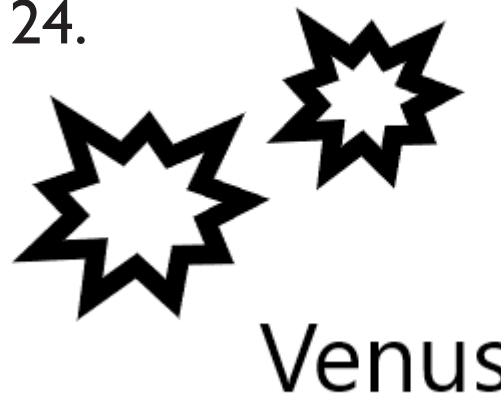
A telescope with a solar filter to protect your eyes will be the only way to view this event. What you would see is a small black dot moving very slowly across the huge bright disk of the sun. This will be the fourth of 14 transits Mercury will make this century.

The planet Venus makes even fewer transits. I was fortunate to observe both of only two that it would make this century! I had recently purchased my telescope and solar filter, and on June 8, 2004, I enthusiastically headed outside to set up my equipment. It was clear and sunny in the early morning, not always a given in the Rochester area, and the sun was just rising in the Northeast.

Continued on page 10

Looking southwest
30 minutes after sunset
on November 24.

Jupiter



Venus

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

Venus: -3.8

Jupiter: -1.9

Bright star: 0.0

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,

Strasburgh Planetarium in November

Every clear Saturday night in November, Strasburgh 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 dusk to about 10:30 p.m. You will need to climb 60 stairs to the telescope observation deck at the back of the planetarium. Call the planetarium after 6:00 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.

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

POETRY

by William Preston

LIVING LIGHT

Some might consider foolishness
as something to condone
but old friends know that wasted time
is sunshine left unshone.

Some might forgive one's thoughtlessness
and toss it far away,
but old friends use it as a fire
to forge a truer day.

Wherever friendship casts its light
the heavens glow as gold,
but constellations cannot match
one friendship burnished old.

All friends are brilliant points of light,
akin to stars of blue;
but old friends flood the galaxy
as supernovae do.

A WINTER NIGHT AT THE SHORE

All heat is gone; the nights are cold at last;
the sky is bright again, and I can see
the constellations touch infinity.
Their glows, born in remotest ages past,
now link me to the overarching cast
of characters that wander ceaselessly
across the firmament. A placid sea
accepts the stellar graces, vast to vast.
It seems to me, the ocean and the sky
are making love, a loving born of time
together, getting better as they go;
and go, it seems so clear to me, should I.
I recognize at last that I must mime
the stars and sea; though how, I do not know.

William Preston~

William Preston is a retired medical writer and editor who at present does general freelance editing and writes poetry, generally in forms. He and his family live in Macedon, New York.

Out & about in the Owl Light
Pages 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19,
back page & more...

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The Homestead Gardener

by Derrick Gentry



Garden Reflections ...on harvesting ...and dreaming

"What is paradise, but a garden ... full of pleasure and nothing there but delights."
- William Lawson (1668)?



It is the middle of October, the clock running down in the harvest season, and in these waning days of the season most of our potatoes still lie sleeping in four different beds. The shelves in the root cellar are bare. Yes, I know it is getting late. Normally, at this time of year, all the potatoes have been harvested and long since been put to bed in another dark place after two weeks of air curing. This year has been different. We have been occupied with more tasks than usual in addition to the routine busyness of canning, fermenting, and curing. So we have dug up a few potatoes now and then when we needed them, while the vast majority -- the ones destined for winter storage -- wait patiently in situ with few above-ground signs to mark their location, the green leafy plant tops having long since withered away into nothingness.

One virtue of potatoes and carrots and celery root and many other late-season crops is there is no special sense of urgency about harvesting them. They will wait patiently -- unlike fruit that ripens and falls from a tree, tomatoes that ripen and split on the vine, or (earlier in the season) garlic that must be taken up not a day too late or too soon. And there are rewards for waiting. Many would agree that kale is not really kale until the cold autumn nights come, the starches converting to sugar, and carrots likewise get sweeter and tastier the longer they oversleep in the ground. Forget about the so-called lazy days of summer; it is the unrushed interlude of these mid-October weeks that I cherish the most, when every morning the goldfinches keep returning to the seed heads of the cone flowers, when the ground is weeks away from freezing, and one by one the leaves fall from the trees at exactly the moment each feels called upon to do so. There is still time to watch from the window, time to wait another day.

Baskets Full of Potatoes

The fact that we can harvest potatoes at our own leisure (ideally when the ground is dry and the sky overcast) means that they are the ideal garden crop for harvesting with the helping hands of young children. To dig for potatoes is to dig for treasure -- though whenever I pitch it that way to children, as an advertisement for this fun chore we can all do today, I invariably get a faint "oh, come off it" look from the above-six-year-old crowd. So I have learned to tone down my circus barker act. I conceal from them the fact that the digging work will also involve sorting work. I have found that the treasure hunting game naturally transitions to the equally satisfying game of sorting the treasure we have found. Perhaps potato digging/sorting is a bit more like Pokemon card collecting ... but now the circus barker is talking to himself.



The only excavation tools required for potato digging are a simple garden fork and our hands. And for sorting, all we need are pairs of hands and eyes and some baskets covered with towels (to protect from the sun). The first challenge in the art of potato treasure hunt is to guess the right spot to sink the garden fork, a foot or so away from the remains of the plant stem, so that we loosen the soil and gently lever up the potatoes without impaling a perfect-looking potato with one of the tines of the fork. There is a recurring moment of suspense every time we move on to the next plant.

And then the dramatic moment of discovery: when the bright redness of the Red Norland potatoes suddenly emerges from the dark and rich-smelling soil. And as we burrow our hands into the loosened earth, there is the tactile thrill of discovering a giant Yukon Gold potato and knowing its existence with our hands before we know it with our eyes. Seeing is not always believing when we harvest potatoes. The whole experience can feel like an exercise in restoring all of our senses to the same level of significance. Ah, the ecstasies of groundedness, of digging in the dirt!

["Get real, dad!" Yes, yes, you're right: Time to come off it and get back to work...]

The sorting process begins at the moment of harvesting. Sorting potatoes demands a different kind of attention than the mid-Summer sorting we did with the onions and the garlic. There is a basket for the unblemished potatoes, which we bring inside to air cure in a well-ventilated darkness (not at all like winter squash, which is rubbed down with vinegar and cured by sitting in the sun). Then there is a discard basket for the potatoes with discolored patches and tips, the over-eager ones that have peaked through the mulch and exposed themselves to the sun. Remember to place them, not drop them, in the basket that we keep covered with a towel. Bruised and cut potatoes do not heal over time.

Over there is the "eat right away" basket, where we put the ones we have accidentally forked (the moral: every accident is an opportunity for mashed potatoes). And beside that basket is the less damaged but still compromised "eat before Christmas" cohort. Sometimes there are emergencies to deal with: "Stop, everyone!" someone jokes. "We need to eat this one right now!!"

Finally, there is the smaller basket for stand-out, healthy-looking potatoes that we discover nestled together in a cluster of other stand-out siblings, all of them born of the same plant. These we cure and save for seed. There is a good deal of serious deliberation over what goes into the "save for seed" basket; one voice asking "is this a seed potato?" sets into motion a series of inquiries from other voices repeating the same question verbatim. Soon, the inquiring children have stopped taking their questions to the tallest treasure hunter and have begun to deliberate among themselves. The stakes are not nearly as high as they think, but it's nevertheless fun to see kids get absorbed in something and get carried away as foolish grown-ups tend to on occasion. I hope they do not come off it any time soon.



This year's treasure hunt is over ... now time to ponder the future (and think of what to plant next year).

Screen Time and Garden Time

I much prefer harvesting potatoes and other storage crops in the company of young people. The process does go faster if I do it myself. But there are no silly jokes to respond to and no questions to answer; only questions to ponder. Why do I feel so ill at ease by myself? I suppose I feel less selfish when it is a group effort, and with storage crops in particular it feels less like I am hoarding and prepping for the harsh winter months ahead. It is also psychologically important for me that I grow a surplus of potatoes for sharing with friends and family and neighbors. There are some primal fears and hopes at play here that I do not fully understand.

Children of a certain age generally do not want to spend long stretches of time -- all afternoon, for example -- digging in the garden or collecting fruit in the orchard. It is fun, but only up to a point. Then kids naturally want to go off and do something else. I try to make the most of this brief window of time spent with them, and I wonder what, if anything, they will take away from the experience, whether the meaning I read into it will ever remotely resemble the meaning it has for them.

My friend Petra Page-Mann, who is one of the founders of Fruition Seeds in Naples, likes to recount her childhood memories of time spent in the garden with her father. She was not fully aware of those memories-in-the-making at the time of harvest, of course. Such is the nature of lived experience in contrast with reflection and rumination. But now that she does have the time and distance to reflect upon last season and upon seasons past, the grown-up Petra appreciates that working in the garden with her father was not just "work," but rather a set of meaningful rituals and chores woven into the fabric of life, day to day and season by season. Sowing seeds at the beginning of the season, moreover, meant saving seeds at the end of the season, a ritual that Petra now recalls as "so implicit I did not think anything of it, any more than the thought of brushing my teeth."

Now that I spend my seasons cultivating a garden and raising a son, I wish I could talk with Petra's father and get some coaching. However, I am not sure that he would be able to answer my questions or be in any position to play the role of coach. Role modeling is an implicit line of work: the models do what they do, and that exemplary activity on display somehow becomes an action-at-a-distance force. It is as impossible to engineer nostalgia as it is to predict or control the future. And in my private journal, whenever I start a sentence with "I want my child to appreciate that..." I come to the curious realization that I have no idea who I am talking to.

A New Season, A New Ecosystem

My son, who is now eight years old, has recently begun to think of work in the garden as a chore that he can perform in exchange for "screen time" playing video games. That is the activity that currently absorbs his attention and makes him lose track of time. Part of me feels sad over this development, but I have nevertheless resolved to pay more attention to this new fascination of his, to educate myself on "gaming" and prepare myself for a world that is new to me. I am told that there is even a video game that involves managing a farm; I am not sure if it involves battling zombie woodchucks and robot voles.

The game I have been researching the most is the popular one known as Fortnite, which is sometimes referred to as the "Fortnite Ecosystem." There are different versions of Fortnite. There is "Fortnite: Save the World," which is a post-apocalyptic game in which the objective is to be the last player standing. I have also been learning about different game modes: There is "Player versus Player" (PvP) mode, which ultimately leaves one player standing; and then there is "Player versus Environment" (PvE) mode, also referred to as "Player versus Monster," casting nature as an antagonist and source of primal fear (sort of like the primal fear/antagonism that is a subtext in the epic Beowulf). On Wikipedia, it says that "characters playing in PvE mode are often protected against being killed by other players and/or having their possessions stolen." The line between PvE and PvP modes is not always a sharp one, which reminds me of what Rachel Carson wrote about PvE and PvP being interrelated: "Man is a part of nature, and his war against nature is inevitably a war against himself."

In either mode, the narrative seems to be intensely goal-driven and player-centric: players are on quests/missions that are either thwarted or succeed to new levels. This quest-narrative achieved a dramatic apotheosis just this month, as season 10 of Fortnite (they are referred to as "seasons") came to an end when all of the players and the entire ecosystem itself were swallowed up by a black hole that suddenly appeared as a rupture in space-time. Can a post-apocalyptic game end in apocalypse? At any rate, season 11 -- a new beginning -- is on its way.

Continued page 16



Dragonfly Tales

by Steve Melcher

Joey's Journey ...or ...the Odyssey of an Ass

A Buffalo sanctuary, I should say an animal sanctuary near Buffalo as there are no actual buffalo at the facility, has a fundraiser called 'Kiss a Cow'. You will be given a five dollar bill if you are bold enough to brave a bovine blush of slobber. This usually only amounts to a peck by the kisser on the forehead of a cooperative cow. You kiss the cow, she doesn't necessarily return the smooch. 99% of the time, and the sanctuary depends on this, the kisser gives the \$5.00 donation back with an added sawbuck or two. This is a wonderful way to raise funds for food and shelter for their furry and feathered inhabitants! I want to try this. However, I don't have a cow, but I do have several donkeys. You get the idea? I think folks might be interested in coming to the sanctuary and meeting our equine troupe. But could I call it 'Kiss My Ass?' I'll bring it up at the next board meeting.

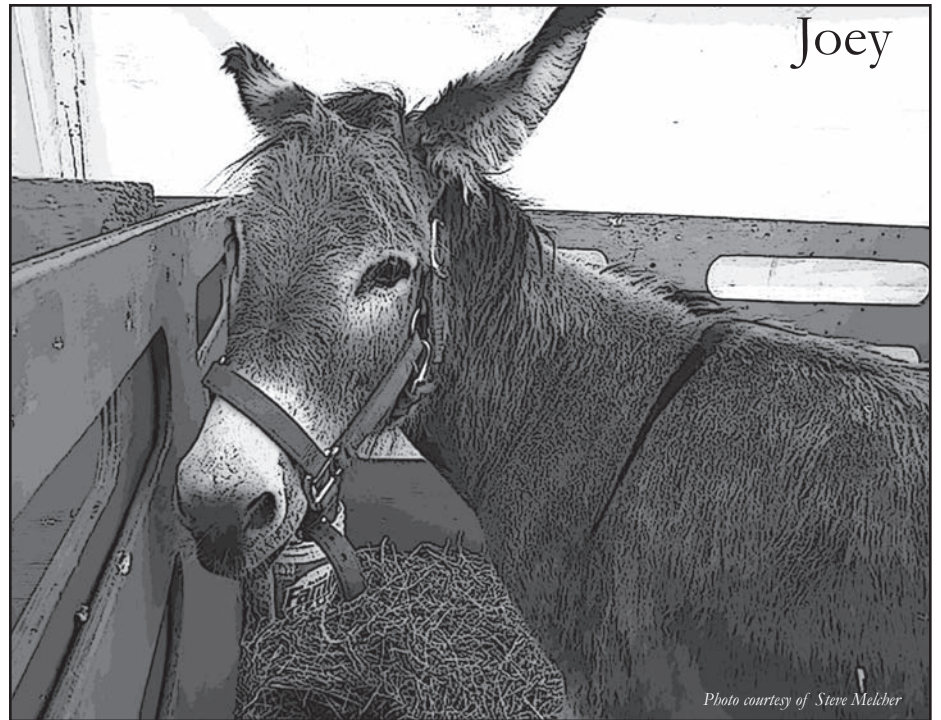
Let me introduce you to our unlikely menagerie of mokes.

Jenny, cleverly named for the name given to all female donkeys, and Hank, aka Hercules, came to us just two years as 'temporary residents', which meant that we would take care of them while the owners moved and set up house and stable. Long story short, they are still with us. We call 'Hercules', Hank because, as a miniature donkey he didn't quite fit the bill of an Olympic hero. He doesn't seem to mind the name change and is perfectly happy now as father to Lilac. Yes, somehow, although professed to have been 'neutered', Hank, with Herculean effort managed to impregnate the full sized jenny named Jenny. Little Lilac, aka HayZeus the Miracle Donkey, was born without complications at Odonata Sanctuary, a sanctuary that specializes in hospice care for the elderly. She seems to be doing just fine though and almost immediately became special friends with an elderly sheep couple, Ella and Jango. All the critters have their story and fifteen minutes of fame, from our 'turns out not to be a potbellied mini pig', Wilbur's time appearing in TV commercials selling convertible Cadillacs to Joey's fame carrying the Virgin Mary.

I'd like to share Joey's story with you as he has been with us the longest. I'll give you the short version of his odyssey. If you want further episodes, you can find them in the upcoming book or just wait for the movie.

Joey's timeline sans details.

Joey was born on a farm near the Erie Canal in Wayne County, NY where he was immediately put to 'work' as a member of a highly popular nativity scene carrying Mary and being pulled by his namesake into a manger filled with other conscripted critters. The show closed as do all seasonal rodeos and a 'Very Nice Lady in a Straw Hat' adopted Joey from the menagerie and brought him home to be a companion to her horses. Unfortunately, the nice lady's husband became ill, so she looked for someone to take care of her horses and Joey while she cared for her husband. She found a friend to take the horses and Joey and this friend found a friend of a friend who took in Joey. Joey was now separated not only from the 'Nice Lady in the Straw Hat', but his familiar family of horses that he had finally become comfortable. Unfortunately, the couple that took in Joey suffered a bitter divorce and as a result, Joey was donkeynapped by the irate ex-husband. Joey 'disappeared' but ended up a year later at a llama farm. For another year he suffered the spits and hair pulls of being the short necked ugly duckling of the persecuting llama gang. The original horses were returned to the 'Nice Lady in the Straw Hat', but Joey was missing! The lady in the straw hat hired a detective (I kid you not), to find her beloved Joey. Two years later, remember this is the abridged version, the nice lady, with no words of hope from Mannix, adopted a pregnant horse from The Humane Society at Lollypop Farm. Her barn is now full. Lollypop Farm hears the nice lady's story of the missing Joey and decides to investigate. They find Joey, with hooves like skis, having never been trimmed. He could barely walk. Patches of fur were missing, a result of llama bites of his hide, and he was 'emaciated' according to the vet's report. Unfortunately, the Nice Lady's barn is now full and she cannot take Joey in. A phone call to Odonata Sanctuary from Lollypop Farm changes history. I took the van, complete with wife and four kids and a little straw, just in case, to pick up a 'miniature donkey'. Joey is not a miniature donkey. Arrangements are made and Joey is delivered from Macedon to Mendon into the loving arms of beginning sanctuarians.



Joey is the smartest critter at Odonata Sanctuary, and that includes the 2 leggeds. There is no hatch he cannot unhitch or no latch that he can't unlatch. He's learned to put his head under the split rail fence and work the rail back and forth until it comes loose. He'll wait patiently until the other donkeys figure out that they can get out and then follow them through the gap. He's hidden my fence tool pouch on many occasions just for kicks. He can pick up a sheep like a piece of Samsonite and gently place it on the other side of the fence. As devilish as he is, I recently witnessed him trying to bring a possum, who was playing possum, back to life. The possum finally got up, soaking wet from Joey's slobbering life saving technique, and sauntered away through a gap in the fence.

I'm looking forward to sharing more stories of Joey and the other critters here at Odonata Sanctuary. Donkeys can live to a ripe old age of 50 years. Knowing Joey, he'll still be playing tricks on the next generation of caretakers at the sanctuary.

FYI A male donkey or ass is called a jack, a female a jenny or jennet; a young donkey is a foal. A jackass is a ...well I don't want to get political so I'll just assume you all know one. A mule is a cross between a donkey and a horse, typically a male donkey (a jack) and a female horse (a mare). Donkeys are called Mokes in the land down under. Burro is Spanish for donkey. Burra is the female. A Moke is also British slang for donkey or boring person. A group of donkeys is called a drove or herd. A group of asses is called a congress. Traditionally New World burros were considered a different species from their African ancestors, and their scientific name was *Equus asinus*, suggesting a certain assiness to the critter. However, in 2003 burros were officially recognized as a subspecies of the wild African type, whose scientific name is *Equus africanus*. Therefore, the burro's proper scientific name is *Equus africanus ssp. Asinus*. I may get into an argument about this but ask any farrier and they will tell you that donkeys are far smarter than horses. Joey was involved in politics in 2005 where he was seen in a photo standing by a hole in the ground with the caption, 'Do You Know the Difference?'

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/>

Action for the Environment

Concerned about the climate crisis?

Join the West Bloomfield Knitters ("knitting" our community together) on Thursday November 14th at the W. Bloomfield Congregational Church Community Room (9035 Rt 5&20) for a discussion of our climate crisis and how to solve it presented by Citizens Climate Education leaders. Learn about pending legislation that will put a price on carbon and pay dividends to all Americans. 6:30pm social time; program starts at 7pm. Free and open to the public. This is 4th in a series of discussions on topics of public interest. For more information, contact Paul @ pbarthud@outlook.com or 585-330-0889.

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Night Sky from page 7

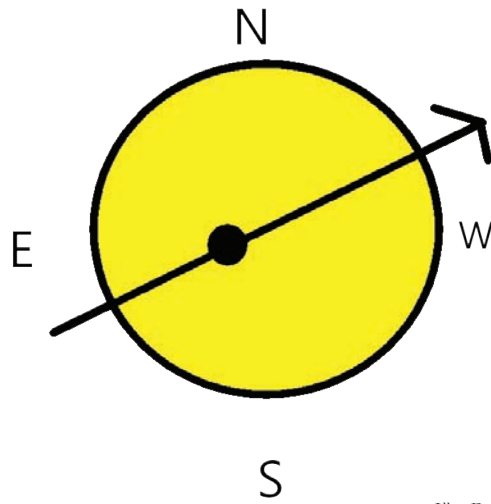
I was inexperienced and had considerable difficulty lining up my telescope with the sun. On about the 10th attempt, I looked through the eyepiece and there it was - a prominent black circular object on the face of the sun in the lower southwest quadrant. It appeared larger than I had anticipated, and I could also see several sunspots as a bonus.

A few years later on June 5, 2012, the 2nd Venus transit of the century was going to occur, this time in the late afternoon sky. It was another clear sunny day - unbelievable! This time I didn't have any problems lining up my telescope and spent the next two hours watching the slow progress of Venus and sketching what I observed through my eyepiece.

It was a huge milestone for me to be able to say I witnessed both of these rare transits. The next time Venus will transit the sun will be on December 10, 2117!

On November 24, about 30 minutes after sunset, you can see a naked-eye event when two bright planets, Venus and Jupiter, appear only 1.4 degrees apart in

Mercury's path as it transits the sun



Illus. Dee Sharples

the southwestern sky. Start watching around November 14 as brilliant Venus comes into view at magnitude -3.8 lying very close to the horizon. As Venus climbs higher in the sky each evening, it will draw closer to Jupiter which will be dimmer at magnitude -1.9.

The Leonid meteor shower peaks before dawn on November 18. The meteors will appear to originate from the constellation Leo the Lion which will rise in the east around 3:00 a.m. The Earth will be passing through the dust and debris left behind by Comet Tempel-Tuttle each time it travels through our solar system every 33 years. This debris burns up in our atmosphere, creating meteors traveling at 44 miles per second, some being brilliant fireballs. In spite of the light from the moon, you should still be able to spot 15 meteors per hour.



Musing on the Andromeda Galaxy

by William Preston

Up there, a smudge in autumn's sky
that I spy with averted eye
is coming closer, by and by,
and someday, when it mingles here,
I wonder if the atmosphere
will glow with darkness, dim with light,
or bid us all a last good-night.

Celebrate Honeoye's Heritage & Pride Reception~November 7, 7 pm at Richmond Town Hall!

After nine months of meeting, planning, researching, gathering & editing, The Honeoye-Richmond Historical Society is pleased to introduce our 2020-2021 18 month calendar!

The calendar reads like a family photo album, which captures Honeoye's rich history and astounding natural beauty. This calendar will serve as not only a record of your yearly activities, but a lovely keepsake as well.

Thanks to the generosity of many Honeoye local businesses, we were able to produce and publish our best calendar to date!

Please join the Honeoye-Richmond Historical Society for a reception to celebrate the unveiling of our new calendar on Thursday, November 7th at 7 pm at the Richmond Town Hall! This will be the public's first opportunity to view and purchase calendars. (If you are a snowbird and would like to purchase calendar(s) prior to this date, please contact Elizabeth Mosher at emosher53@frontier.com.)



The calendars sell for \$12 and are available for purchase after November 7th at the following locations:

- Cornerstone Market
- The Fuzzy Bunny
- Honeoye Public Library
- Richmond Town Hall
- Joy Lewis' Office
- Reed Homestead.

New "Spotlight Exhibit"

featuring four artists painting a variety of subjects, still life, animals, landscapes, and figurative work.

October 18 - November 22, 2019

West End Gallery,

12 West Market Street, Corning, NY

Gallery hours: Mon.- Thurs. 10-5:30, Fri. 10-8, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 2-5.

Featuring the work of four regional artists...



- Trish Coonrod, Lansing, NY
- Amy Hutto, Bath, NY
- Wilson Ong, Corning, NY
- Gina Pfleeger, Corning, NY

• With a Special Showcasing for Brian S. Keeler of Ithaca, NY in the Upstairs Gallery!

- New website!
www.westsendgallery.net
- Email: info@westsendgallery.net
- Phone 607-936-2011

Daryl Marshall

For

Richmond Town

Supervisor

Vote November 5th

Thank You

For

Your

Support

Paid for by Richmond Republican Committee.

Honeoye Public Library

"We're Books ... and More"



Second Saturday Movie
The Lion King
- 11:00 am...November 9...
with popcorn!

~Book Talk Group~
Wednesday Dec 4th, 5:30 pm
Educated ~ by Tara Westover
Tara Westover's memoir is a coming-of-age story that really gets at the heart of what "education" is.
All are Welcome!



Join Us! ~No gathering Oct./Nov.
~ Library closed for holidays.
Canadice Lake Writers'
~2nd & 4th Tuesday - 5:30pm

Hours: Mon. & Thurs. 2-8, Tues. - 10 - 8, Sat. 9-1
8708 Main St. - Honeoye

honeoye.owwl.org
585-229-5020



Like us on facebook@
Honeoye Public Library

AAA
Defensive Driving Class
Saturday, Nov. 16, 9am-3:30pm
Pre-register w/\$28 payment by
Nov. 12. ~ Space is limited!



The Little Mermaid in Honeoye

November 8th and 9th, 7pm

November 10th, 3pm

Tickets available at the door.

\$8. for Adults \$6. for seniors and students.



Troa Vimahi as Triton and Tori Armstrong as Ariel in Honeoye Central School's Fall 2019 musical. Photo courtesy of Jennifer Gundy.

Set under and above the high seas, *The Little Mermaid* tells the story of Ariel, an adventurous young mermaid who's got a thing for disobeying the rules and following her heart. Ariel's fascination with the human world often leads her to the sea surface, a zone that's designated as "off limits" by her father Triton the sea king. One day while sneaking to the surface, Ariel witnesses a shipwreck and rescues Prince Eric, with whom she becomes instantly smitten. Furious at Triton's inability to understand her love for the prince, Ariel runs away and strikes a deal with Ursula, Triton's evil witch of a sister, to experience the life she dreams of on land.

"A Show for Joe"

An entertainment-packed evening will celebrate the life of beloved music icon, Joe Dady, November 16th at Hochstein Music Hall. More than fifty performers from the Rochester area and beyond will come together to perform the songs that Joe will most be remembered for.

One half of Rochester's own Dady Brothers for over forty years, Joe died from complications of Myelodysplastic Syndrome earlier this year.

In addition to being a talented singer-songwriter and proficient on a multitude of instruments, Joe also had a passion for teaching. He shared his talent and his love of music with hosts of students in his home in the Hemlock Hills. He and his brother John performed thousands of concerts together, including hundreds of school performances, always encouraging young people to explore different types of music or pick up an instrument themselves. One local music phenom recently commented that the growing resurgence of young musicians in Rochester playing in the Roots Tradition can be largely attributed to the influences of Joe and John Dady.

A local legend and longtime friend of John and Joe, Jack Garner, will host the evening. All proceeds from ticket sales will go toward establishing a scholarship in Joe's name at Hochstein School of Music for students who might not otherwise have the resources for music lessons.

Tickets are on sale now at www.brownpapertickets.com

More at: <https://www.owllightnews.com/sibling-harmony-inspired-by-musical-roots/> and <https://www.owllightnews.com/that-finger-lakes-sound-irish-music-a-local-living-tradition/>



GVCA Presents "Reimagining the Beach"

The Genesee Valley Council on the Arts (GVCA) is pleased to announce a group exhibition done in collaboration with "Mandelbrot's Beach", a book of poetry written by local poet Dave Kelly. "Reimagining the Beach" features eighteen local artists and their interpretations of poems found in Kelly's 2019 book. The work includes several different mediums such as paintings, ceramics and song.

Dave Kelly, the former Poet-in Residence at SUNY Geneseo, has published 15 books and chapbooks of poetry and experimental prose. He has received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York Foundation for the Arts, and the Poetry Society of America. He retired from SUNY Geneseo in 2009 and resides locally.

The exhibit was the idea of GVCA member, Carol Nickol. "I am so pleased that so many artists readily signed on to this project," said Nickol. "It started out with Kim (one of the artists) and I talking about how much fun it would be to do a poetry and interpretation project. But as soon as it got started, other people asked to join. After about five people were on board, I pursued others so we could have a full show. I think that with such a variety of media, there will be something for everyone to enjoy."

The exhibit will open on Thursday, November 7th and run through Tuesday, December 3rd. A reception will be held on Friday, November 15th at GVCA from 4:00pm – 7:00pm celebrating the artwork and the poetry. Music relating to the poetry will begin at 5:30pm that evening.

Featured Artists for "Reimagining the Beach"



- Jerry Alonzo
- Kim Binaghi Lee
- Anthony Catalano
- Mark Calicchia
- David Coon
- Katelyn Costello
- Jennifer DeVillie Catalano
- Reb Geduk
- Jackie Swaby
- Melissa Leahy Simon
- Louise Michaud
- Carol Nickol
- Fred Schuknecht
- Carl Shanahan
- Julia Stewart Bittle
- Mike Sparling
- Sue Swanson
- Sandra Tyler

Please visit www.gvartscouncil.org or call 243-6785 for more information.

"It's always interesting to see what the various arts can do to and for each other," said Kelly. "And I think Carol's concept is such an exciting method of collaboration!" All are welcome to attend the reception and view this show at GVCA, 4 Murray Hill Drive, Mount Morris.

• Get your arts venue and events into the *Owl Light* •

Add events to our calendar for free at: www.owllightnews.com/events/community/add

Advertise with us ! Learn more at: www.owllightnews.com/owl-advertising/

The Genesee Live Music

RIVIERA

Albert Cummings
Sat., Nov. 23rd

Victor Wainwright and the Train
Opening with Owen Eichensehr
Sat., Nov. 16th

and...

Enter the Haggis
Sat. Nov. 30

Tickets at: geneseoriviera.com/music/

Also in November

Sat. Nov. 2 – Steve Grills and the Roadmasters
 Tues. Nov. 5 – Toronzo Cannon
 *Thurs. Nov. 14 – House of Hamill
 Tues. Nov 19 – Nick Moss Band
 Mon. / Tues. Nov. 25 & 26 – Band of Friends
 – A Celebration of Rory Gallagher featuring Davey Knowles, Brendan O'Neill and Gerry McAvoy
 November shows start at 7pm. Tickets \$20

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OWL LIGHT NEWS is accepting submissions for our JANUARY 2020 LITERARY/ARTS ISSUE!

Our theme is JUST DES(ERTS)!

We are looking for writers and visual artists to help us keep it sweet!

Be it sweet encounters or sweet revenge, you tell us. Keep it short...and sweet...(less than 500 words-or less than 35 sq. inches for image print size). No politics for this one (yes, we know it *is* tempting), but we have all seen too much of that kind of news. Have fun, keep it light(ish) and irresistible. To sweeten the deal (last pun, we promise!), chosen submissions will be published in our January 2020 issue (print and online) and authors will receive a complimentary year of *Owl Light News* (\$25 value) delivered to their doors*.

*If you are already a subscriber, we will add on a year.

Guidelines: All entries must be received by December 1, 2019 at midnight. Written entries (fiction, poetry, creative non-fiction) should be 500 words or less (title exempted from count) and in Times or a similar font (10-12pt) in doc. or docx. single-spaced (to fit on one page). Visual arts entries should reproduce well at 35sq. inches or less (any dimension) and should be sent as pdfs. *Hybrid entries, including poems with creative line use, may also be sent as pdfs, to ensure accuracy.

Submission page (page 1) should be free of identifying information, as all entries will be reviewed blindly. Page 2 only should include: Title (and description, if applicable) name of author or artist, mailing address, e-mail address, phone, and short (50 words or less) bio.

Submit entries and information/bio page as a single (two page) attached document via e-mail to Editor@CanadicePress.com.

*Questions? Editor@CanadicePress.com or 585-358-1065.

All entrants will be notified prior to publication. All future publication rights are retained by the author/artist. Final decisions will be made by the editor & Guest Judge(s)-TBD. Mailed print subscriptions for chosen entrants will begin with the January 2020 issue of *Owl Light News*. We accept submissions of creative writing & art ongoing, for our regular issues.

Our second 2020 Literary/Arts issue will be in July 2020.

Little Lakes 

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Poetry,
Stories

OwlLightNews.com

51st Annual Holiday Fair Craft Show
Sat., Nov. 23, 9am – 3pm
Bloomfield High School Gyms
Oakmount Ave, Bloomfield, NY
(Please note new location!).

135 crafter spaces selling a wide variety of crafts, gifts, & homemade goodies. Lunch is available.

Free admission & parking.
Bring your holiday shopping list!

3rd Annual Community Art Exhibit November 1 - December 15

The Village Gallery of Caledonia (3119 Main St.) will be hosting our 3rd Annual Community Art Exhibit. This exciting event will feature the art of the people in our community in any fine art medium, including painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture or photography.

Friday, November 1, 2019-Community Reception, 5-8pm

December 6, 2019-Reception (Caledonia Hometown Holidays)

A Village Gallery Award of \$100 will be awarded at the opening reception. A "Peoples' Choice Award" of \$100 will be awarded at the close of the exhibit.

Artwork will be for sale - 30% commission to the gallery.

Website: <https://thevillagegallerycaledonia.com/>

Sea of Coffee Open Mic at The Dalai Java November 7, 2019 • 7-9pm

An open mic, and a featured performer. November 7, 2019
7pm - 8:45pm open mic sign up 6:30-7. Featured is Irene Simon Sipos.*

See Irene's poetry and bio on on page 14.

Kelly's Saloon ~ Tuesdays, 8:30 pm 'til 2 am!

Hosted by Buzzo!

71 Main Street, Geneseo ~ fb Kelly's Saloon

Idle Hour ~ Mondays, 8:30!

Hosted by Tim Bucci, and Emily

5 Center St, Geneseo, NY. ~ fb The Idle Hour

*Peacemaker Brewing Company ~ Wednesdays 6-9 pm

~Hosted by Old World Warblers ~

*20 Pleasant St, Canandaigua

Rising Storm Brewing - Livonia ~ every Thursday, 7-9 pm.

Acoustic Open Mic Hosted by Steve West

~*All ages and talent levels are welcome ~

*Minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The Lobby Craft Eatery - every Thursday, 6-9 pm.

With rotating hosts.

3530 E Lake Rd, Canandaigua ~ www.lobbycrafteatery.com

The Dalai Java Cafe - First Thursday, 7-9 pm.

Literary 157 Main St Canandaigua, NY

Co-hosted by Steve Lewandowski & Scott Williams.

Rotating guests plus open slots each month.

Dublin Corners Farm Brewery ~ Fridays, 7-9pm!

Hosted by Buzzo!

1906 Main St, Linwood - <https://www.dublincornersfarm.com/>

Brew and Brats at Arbor Hill ~ Fridays, 6 pm!

6461 BB State Route 64, Naples, NY - info@brewandbrats.com

Dansville ArtWorks

4th Fridays: February ~ November, 6:30 pm

153 Main Street - Dansville ~ www.DansvilleArtWorks.com

Fanatics Pub and Grill

~ Check web site for dates and times.

7281 W. Main St. Lima ~ fanaticspubandpizza@gmail.com

Dansville ArtWorks OPEN MIC

Performing Arts Series
FINAL Open Mic for 2019!
Friday, November 22 - 6:30pm

153 Main Street - Dansville

585-335-4746 • www.DansvilleArtWorks.com

Open - Thurs 12-6 | Fri 12-6 | Sat 10-3



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.

Massage by Amanda,
Amanda Miles LMT,
at Shannon's Family Barber.
Located at 7 N Main St, Wayland NY 14572.

To schedule appointments please call
(585) 728-5515.

Hours: Thursday-Friday 8am-7pm,
Saturday-Sunday 8am-2pm.

Out & about in the Owl Light

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

November 2019 Events

Swing Dance with Hannah PK and the Blue Hearts
Friday, November 1, 7pm, Tickets \$12
Little Lakes Community Center, Hemlock, NY
Enjoy this wonderful and popular swing band! Back by popular demand!

Surviving the Holidays
Hope and help for those who have lost a loved one.
Saturday, November 2, 1-3pm
Lighthouse Wesleyan Church, 101 South Lackawanna St, Wayland, NY
See back page for more information.

Kiwanis Election Night Spaghetti Dinner
Tuesday, November 5, 4:30-7:30pm
Canandaigua Academy's Cafeteria, 435 East St., Canandaigua, NY
See Page 19 for more information.

Celebrating Honeoye's Heritage and Pride
Honeoye-Richmond Historical Society calendar unveiling
Thursday, November 7, 2019 7 pm at Richmond Town Hall.
Public is Invited. Calendars will be available for purchase.

Mystical Meet-up, Saturday, November 9, 7-9pm, \$10.
Little Lakes Community Center, Hemlock, NY
All are welcome to join our spiritual meet-up group to discuss paranormal, metaphysical and mystical subjects, as well as wisdom from spiritual teachers throughout the ages.

After Hours at the Wireless Museum
Wednesday, November 20, 7:30-9pm
6925 Route 5 in Bloomfield, east of the corner of Route 444
presentation on "Tourism in the Finger Lakes" by Valerie Knoblauch, President and CEO of Finger Lakes Visitor Connection. The Finger Lakes Region has so much to offer to visitors and tourism is an important economic engine to our region. Enjoy the Antique Wireless Museum before and after the presentation. Tickets are available in advance at the Museum or at the door. Admission for adults is \$10 or \$5 for Museum members.

51st Annual Holiday Fair Craft Show
Saturday, November 23, 9am - 3pm
Bloomfield High School Gyms, Oakmount Ave, Bloomfield, NY
Please note new location!; 135 crafter spaces selling a wide variety of crafts, gifts, & homemade goodies. Free admission & parking. Lunch is available. Bring your holiday shopping list!

Family-Friendly Skating Party
Saturday November 23, 7- 8:30 pm
Little Lakes Community Center, Hemlock, NY
Admission and skates - \$6.50. Refreshments available for purchase.
Presented by Be-Mar Skating, local skating party experts. Please do not bring you own skates; only those provided by Be-Mar are acceptable.

Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner
Sunday, November 24, 2-4 pm (or gone).
St. Mary's Church, 8961 Main Street, Honeoye, NY
Co -sponsored by St. Mary's and St. Matthew Faith Communities.

Find events online at www.owllightnews.com/events

CLASS OF 2021 PRESENTS



BROTHERS THE BLUE
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WITH SPECIAL GUESTS PERFORMANCES FROM
PAUL CUMMINGS & CHAD ROWLY ALUMNI '02



NOVEMBER 15, 2019

HCS Auditorium
SHOW TIME 7PM - 10PM
ON-SITE ADMISSION and PRE-SALE \$10
Go to NEWS @ honeoye.org to get your tickets NOW!
Or contact Ms Adams at cadams@honeoye.org

• Get your arts venue and events into the Owl Light •

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Advertise with us ! Learn more at: www.owllightnews.com/owl-advertising/

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Check out our weekly hours at www.reedhomestead.com,
or call us at 585-367-8651.

Looking for ongoing events?

See Page 12 (left) for Open Mics; Page 15 for Literary/
Visual Arts; and Page 18 for Community.

POETRY

by Irene Sipos

Tired

Sitting across the aisle
on the B train
I look at the row of weary faces

various shapes, sizes, colors, ages,
a horizontal explication of what it means
to have woken many mornings

to brave routine, to leave concerns at home
along with scattered laundry and unwashed
dishes to head for same/same at work.

I picture each of you, one at a time. I try to
observe without you knowing and suddenly I
see round, soft faces, no creases in foreheads,

no wrinkles like parentheses around eyes, no down
turned mouths, no slumped shoulders. I see the plump
babies you once were. And with that, a rush of hoping

that you were affectionately held on generous laps, that
you were sung tender songs, that you were offered
a bowl of blueberries as initiation to the messy pleasures

of this world. I hope that occasionally you reach back,
even if only briefly to recall your beginning self as a
visitor new to the planet, unencumbered and dear.

Rebels

My mother didn't like summer.
The rest of us lived for it.
This caused a little stress in the kitchen
in summer months. She would be pancake
flipping at the stove weekend mornings, declaring
misery even before 10:00 am. My father, brother,
and I would be rejoicing that winter's dark mask had
finally lifted. The syrup was Aunt Jemima, label and contents
both anathema to me. Still, I endeavored to be patient
with my mother's anxious voice and short temper. Be home
by 6:00 for dinner, she would instruct.

By 1:00 or 2:00, after various tasks, we summer lovers needed
to jump in Canada's cool waters. We needed the sun to lick us head
to toe, sunscreen protected or not. We wanted to cross the exciting
bridge named Peace, rolling down hand-cranked windows to
declare our citizenship and pay the twenty-five cent toll.

We wanted to bury our feet in burning sand, to converse with
minnows in shallow water, to float alongside sunfish that would
tickle our skin, to swim until people back on the shore appeared
tiny and unidentifiable. We would return home, sandy and scorched,
delayed because of Sunday afternoon traffic, almost but not quite
satisfied, definitely nervous and guilty for being late.

by Scott Williams

Walpurgisnacht

Six months prior to the fourth Witches Sabbath we call Halloween, October 31, is the second Witches Sabbath known as Walpurgisnacht, April 30. In Northern and Central Europe this day is acknowledged in a manner reminiscent of our Halloween, though it possesses far more tricks than treats; that is, it makes one think of the Finger Lakes' Ring of Fire, a mild version Devil's Night in Detroit when multiple cases of arson and vandalism occurred in that city. So yes there are acceptable bonfires and mild cases of vandalism.

Walpurgisnacht arises from Saint Walpurga's night. Walpurga (710AD - 777) was both the daughter of a saint and the sister of a saint. She was lauded in Germany for battling "pest, rabies and whooping cough, as well as against witchcraft." Her sainthood comes from converting Pagans to Christianity. Today the oil produced from her tomb is regarded as holy oil and used by Benedictine nuns. Walpurgisnacht bonfires are created to "ward off evil." I was present one Walpurgisnacht during a visit to Nuremberg, Germany whence a poem (below) germinated.

Dancing Walpurgisnacht

I went dancing in a Nuremberg bar on
The witches sabbath opposite Halloween.
That April thirtieth was a beautiful Spring Evening.
The Germans, done with trickery, came out to drink.
Their men wouldn't dance, forcing
their ladies to dance with each other,
me, and a visiting Dutch Volleyball team,
traveling for wins in Prague.
The women, thrilled to American Black style,
desired more from giant muscular
Dutch than their poor moves.
Still I received respect (or maybe anger) in Deutschland.
At midnight, now May first, I walked alone,
feeling excised from my second
Walpurgisnacht celebration
and my first in its homeland.
I walked home alone to the hotel
housing wife, young daughters
and baby Eve who points at me saying
"tade" (ta-day) that's Czech for "that."

Scott W. Williams © 191003

Scott W. Williams ~

SUNY at Buffalo Professor Emeritus Dr. Scott W. Williams is a poet and author of short stories. His poems appeared in "Sunday Review", "Coffeehouse Writings From the Web", "Juniper", "Peach Mag", "Ground & Sky", "Scripatic Magazine", "Le Mot Juste", "Punch Drunk Press", "Journal of Humanistic Mathematics." The most recent of his books are "Bonvibre Haiku" (CWP Press-2017) and "Natural Shrinkage" (Destitute Press-2018). Scott edits the syfy poetry & flash-fiction anthology series, "A Flash of Dark" (Writers Den-2018) and "A Flash of Dark vol 2" (Writers Den-2018). Williams hosts workshops of the poetic forms Ghazal and Haiku and co-hosts the series Second Stage Writers (with Dr. Max Stephen in Buffalo, NY) and Poets Soup (with Victoria Hunter in Canandaigua, NY). He also hosts a monthly Open Mic with Stephen Lewandowski at Dalai Java.

Irene Simon Sipos ~

Irene Sipos earned her Master of Arts in the legendary 1970s English Department of SUNY University at Buffalo. She retired from SUNY Buffalo State where she taught in the English Department and the College Writing Program. Irene earned a Faculty Merit Award from the Educational Opportunity Program in 2011 and a Muriel Howard Award for Promotion of Equity and Diversity in 2009-10. She was a founder of the Buffalo State Rooftop Poetry Club in collaboration with poet Lisa Forrest. Her work has appeared in Lilith Magazine, The Comstock Review, Earth's Daughters, Buffalo Poets Against War, Burchfield Penney Newsletter, The Jewish Journal of Western New York, Artvoice, Buffalo News, as a Park Street Press broadside and in the anthology, A Celebration of Western New York Poets. Her chapette, Poem... and other Poems, is No.12 in the Buffalo Ochre Papers. She was a finalist in the 2004 Comstock Review Awards Issue and the 2015 Jesse Bryce Niles Chapbook Contest. Her collection of poems, Stones, was published in 2018. Currently, Irene works at the Writing Center at Buffalo State University and is a freelance editor and tutor.



The Monthly Read by Mary Drake

A life made of choices

- A review of *The Water Museum Stories*
by Luis Alberto Urrea

The Water Museum Stories
by Luis Alberto Urrea 272 pp
Back Bay Books, NY. (2015)
<http://luisurrea.com/books/the-water-museum/>

Lately, there seems to have been a renaissance of the short story. Many talented writers like Lesley Nneka Arima (*What It Means When a Man Falls from the Sky*), Lucia Berlin (*A Manual for Cleaning Women*), and Jamel Brinkley (*A Lucky Man*) are choosing this uniquely challenging but flexible literary form. Short stories are difficult because there's only a limited amount of space for the action to occur, but with each new story the author can vary settings and characters and explore a new point of view. In Luis Alberto Urrea's collection of short stories entitled *The Water Museum*, he uses realism, some futuristic dystopia, and even a little fantasy to consider some of the choices we face in life as well as how much we're influenced by our environment.

Any collection of short stories must all hang together in some way; Urrea's all take place in the West or Southwest. The sense of place in each of the thirteen stories is like another character who is never far removed from what happens and often causes the action. Take the first story, "Mountains Without Number," for instance. The action in this story is intimately tied to the mountains; they "are the original inhabitants of this valley. And they weren't always cliffs. They were entire mountains once, until the inevitable carving wind and scouring dust and convulsive earthquakes and cracking ice trimmed them, thinned them, made their famous face appear to oversee the scurrying of those below." The mountains oversee the inhabitants of the dying town of New Junction, and everything has been altered by the ravages of time. The protagonist is a woman named Frankie, a nickname she thinks sounds spunkier than her full name—Francine; Frankie is stuck in 1977, the year she graduated from high school and was loved by two boys. One of them wanted her to run away with him; he wrote her poems, wanted to show her the ocean and teach her how to live. The other boy, favored by her parents, had no use for college and was ready to start his own business. She favored the first, but tells herself, "You can't just leave home behind to wither and die," but it does anyway, because of the drought. Ultimately, the choice was taken away from her, but she's still got some options left. Urrea writes convincingly of the regret and despair felt by a woman who wanted to do the right thing but feels that life has passed her by.

Although Urrea's stories all take place in the same arid Southwest, he creates a wide array of characters through whose eyes we see this bleak landscape. If the protagonist of his first story is a woman, his subsequent characters are males of all ages—young boys, teenagers, adults, and old men, and he writes convincingly in each persona. The seventeen-year-old boy in the story "Amapola" tells us about the love of his life, who just happens to be the sister of his new best friend, Popo, a "cool Beaner kid with such long hair. He looked like some kind of Apache warrior." But Popo has "more money than God" and wears Cradle of Filth and Velvet Underground T-shirts, which may not mean a lot unless you like extreme metal music or countercultural rock and roll. Suffice it to say that Popo is a way cool Mexican kid with a beautiful younger sister who, alas, still lives in Mexico, but visits frequently. The protagonist, whose name we never learn (perhaps he could be any young boy) falls hard for Amapola, but learns the hard way that not all families welcome newcomers, especially those running a "duty-free import/export company based on each side of the border." The shocking and violent end of this story makes Romeo and Juliet look peaceful by comparison.

Lest all this seems too grim, Urrea provides comic relief in the person of Dexter Bower, an old rancher in "The Sous Chefs of Iogüa," a "sous chef" being the understudy of a primary chef, and "Iogüa" being the sound Mexicans make when they try to pronounce "Iowa." Dexter Bower finds them irksome, but the Mexicans have invaded his little town of West Linden to the point that "Every American town is a border town now." And the Mexicans have all opened restaurants. Dex is trying to educate them in American ways and down-home American food; however, "there's nothin' but tacos on this goddamn street. . . how many tacos do you expect a fellow to eat?" He advises them to diversify but is

aghast when they serve spaghetti with egg or chicken Parmesan that comes out of a Hungry Man box. Dex exhorts them to make "real American Eye-talian food" like pizzas and calzones; the Mexican chef smirks because "calzones" in Spanish means underpants. Dex can't understand why a Mexican café is called "Mom's Coffee," especially since the word "café" is French, he says, not Spanish. "Cheezits krize!" his Mexican friend cries, "French is American now?" Finally Dex erupts in frustration, "could you cook a simple meal that anybody from here would recognize as real food?" His Mexican sous chef answers that perhaps that's what the Native Americans once said, and Dexter shuts up and eats.

But it's the title story, "Welcome to the Water Museum," that really makes you stop and think. Imagine a dystopian future where it hasn't rained in seventeen years, and water is so scarce it's become a tradable commodity—Western drought states trade with the Eastern water states, wind/solar energy for water. "Light—it's the new harvest." Still, there are "chemicals [that] suck moisture out of the air and pass it [water] down . . . through the filter and into the jug," but this method only gathers about two inches of water a week. Flush toilets no longer exist; water is rationed monthly by the government; and people use paper plates, take sponge baths, and

water their gardens with recycled "grey" water. So when twelve-year-old Billy learns that his class is going on a field trip to a water museum, he's not sure what to expect; he and his buddies just think museums are boring. However, in a place where water merits its own museum, it has become so rare that the simulated thunderstorm and ensuing downpour freak the kids out:

Some kids cried as the mothers laughed and clapped. . . Not real rain, of course. But the sound of it. The sizzle and the whisper and the hiss and the splash of it. . . Rain like lace curtains, rain like smoke, rain like spiderwebs and flags and wind you could see. Rain that sang to their bones, that ached inside their bellies and their hands, rain that made them thirst and cover and hide.

Some of the kids beg for it to stop. "All that color," Billy moans afterward, shuddering, "All that noise." And just like that, in one generation, we can lose the memory of all that beautiful water and the life that springs from it.

So take heed, Urrea seems to be saying. Don't take your environment for granted. And heed the choices you make today, for they may define your life, tomorrow.



Writing Groups

Warsaw's Write Connection
2nd Tuesday, 6:45 PM ~ Warsaw Public Library
For more information, contact Wendy at (585) 786-5290

Canadice Lake Writers' Group
2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30 pm.
In our third year ~ Honeoye Public Library
Info Darlene at 585-313-7590

Wayne Writers Group, Macedon
2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7-9 pm. ~ At Books ETC., by Post 494.
Goal: To Intensify Creativity

Lakeville, NY ~ Poets' & Writers' Group
1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 10:30-12pm
~ Chip Holt Ctr., Vitale Park.

The Canandaigua Writers' Group
1st Friday of the month from 10 am to 12:30 pm.
~ Ewing Family Community Room, Wood Library ~

Reading Groups

Honeoye Public Library Book Talk Group
4th Wednesday, 5:30pm, library conference room.
See ad page 11 for upcoming titles: or 585-229-5020

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

Genesee Valley Council on the Arts (GVCA) to collaborate with the Genesee Migrant Center

Recently, GVCA discovered an opportunity to sponsor the Creative Artist Migrant Program Services (CAMPS), along with the tireless efforts of the Program Coordinator, Julia Stewart-Bittle. Thanks to grants received from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), the CAMPS program will continue to provide access to arts instruction and materials to underserved migrant workers, encouraging their creative and expressive development and fostering improved quality of life.

For more than 40 years, the CAMPS program has sent teaching artists into migrant farmworker labor camps to provide materials and instruction to workers. Five years ago, Stewart-Bittle established a coalition with two other migrant service agencies, which expanded the program geographically. A 2018 NEA Artworks grant, including a new collaboration, has expanded the program serving farmworkers into eight counties. The partnership with GVCA further extends the reach of the program to underserved populations.

"The coalition of migrant serving agencies is continuing to grow and will soon include another county," said Stewart-Bittle. "It is important to reach farmworkers and families new to the program. Participants who never had the benefit of art instruction discover that they are able to express themselves creatively and beautifully. Witnessing the joy that students feel as they complete a drawing, collage, ceramic sculpture, or painting is truly wonderful, and our instructors share in that joy. Many thanks to GVCA for joining this very important program!"

Last year, thirty migrant artists gave permission for their work to be framed for an exhibit entitled "Hand Picked: Art Expression of Farmworkers Who Feed Us," which also included six poems (funded partly by NEA Artworks and NYSCA grant awards). The exhibit was shown at GVCA, Rochester Contemporary Arts Center, the Arts Council for Wyoming County, Salih Studio (a gallery affiliated with the Genesee-Orleans Regional Arts Council/GO ART!), and by invitation at Hoag Library in Albion and Hipocampo Children's Books in Rochester. Over 400 people have viewed this show, many of whom had never before viewed artwork created by farmworkers, commenting on the significance and poignancy of the exhibit. Planned for late October to mid-December, the last exhibit of 2019 will be presented at the Lockhart Gallery of SUNY Genesee.

"We are so excited to have the CAMPS program as a project affiliated with GVCA," said Deborah Bump, Executive Director of GVCA. "Julia has worked so hard with this valuable program, and we are happy to be able to continue offering these beneficial services to the migrant workers of the region."



The Conscious Crow

Changing perspectives

– How we look impacts what we see

Many of the Conscious Crow writings have to deal with the topic of perspective because as they say “perspective is key.” Our perspective and stance on the world is a powerful vehicle directing

the life we lead. What types of glasses we wear alter our perception and dictates said reality. It is a strange and beautiful concept that what we see shifts and changes in how we choose to see. It is a choice. When we take the route of being open to seeing and doing things differently, willing to look beyond our initial ideas or opinions, we expand our world into a greater realm of possibilities with a wider range of options than our previous comfortable conclusions. Our world suddenly has more to offer.

Widening our focus and taking a different angle on any given situation requires some effort in deviating from our immediate, habituated, accustomed responses. It starts with a shift in placing our attention to a moment beyond the one we’re currently involved in— one that is clouded with a very specific lens we’ve acquired. This takes effort in altering, but once we continue practicing the new reaction and approach it becomes habit. Shifting our response dismantles the old habit we’ve exercised in such routine fashion and replaces it with a new one the more we adopt it into our repertoire. The new way of seeing things extends our ability to understand how such diverse viewpoints have a potent direct correlation with what world exists therefrom.

When we are open, doors swing open.

In entertaining an outlook other than our own we slowly break limitations and barriers that we could not see beforehand— simply because we were not willing to see things differently. It is only when we adapt flexibility into situations that we would initially intend to respond to otherwise, that we will truly grow. We must “[step] back within our own mind, to look at the bigger picture and to move beyond our limited self-awareness and our limited self-interest” Douglas Abrams proclaims in *The Book of Joy*. In this incredibly profound book, The Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu share their experiences of happiness and how incredibly vital perspective has on its presence in our lives. If we move forward “with a wider perspective, we can see our situation and all those involved in a larger context and from a more neutral position,” which in turn creates a bigger platform in which we view and live in the world. The Dalai Lama suggests that we “...look at any given situation or problem ... from at least six different angles. This allows us to take a more complete and holistic view of reality, and if we do, our response will be more constructive.”

By relying upon the same vantage point, we forget to consider the fact that maybe there is more than one way of doing things and maybe our ideal way isn’t actually the healthiest option for all those involved. Maybe there is more than one perspective to take on a matter and maybe that perspective offers more freedom, creates less stress, and actually increases our happiness. Just as our perspective evolves, so too does our world.

The Conscious Crow ~ Reminding you to grow

Garden Reflections... from 8

The World is Watching

When did garden writing become so heavy and serious? Until fairly recently, writing in this genre — like the hobby of gardening and like the garden itself — was a space in which the writer could adopt a comfortable persona and then wander off to revel in their own eccentricity and aloofness and cheerful disregard of the noisy world outside. The world outside the garden has since changed, and so has the writing. We have come to realize that scale matters, and that small-scale gardening therefore matters in new ways. Michael Pollan, whose gardening book *Second Nature* is already a classic, wrote a very serious essay on gardening and climate change more than a decade ago under the title: “Why Bother?” The essay was reprinted in the best-selling *Drawdown* anthology on ways to reverse global warming. Dave Holmgren, one of the founders of permaculture gardening, posted a widely-circulated essay earlier this year titled “The Apology: From Baby Boomers to the Handicapped Generations.”

I am mostly happy to see gardening talked about in these contexts, and it is nice to see serious writers like Aldo Leopold and Wendell Berry mixing it up with Margery Fish and Eleanor Perenyi and other old-fashioned garden writers that I love. But these days, I feel it is all the more important to remind ourselves that when we reflect upon why it is worth bothering to do something, one of most logically respectable answers is that it gives pleasure. I still believe this, even though the current context makes it more difficult to rally in defense of the cause of pleasure, particularly when it is the kind of pleasure that involves privacy and privilege.

I wonder if Greta Thunberg has read Holmgren's "Apology." The remarkable young woman from Sweden has been busy inspiring people young and old, and at the same time irritating others and inspiring them to make comments that are not good examples of grown-up behavior. Both responses are sure signs that she has hit a nerve and is doing something significant. What has she done? Simply reminding us, in the wake of the I.P.C.C. reports, that it is much later than we think. And though she has not said so explicitly, I think she also means to say that retiring to the solitude of our private gardens is not the form of action we need to take.

I am struck, like many are, by her direct language. I am also intrigued by her subtle use of pronouns. "My message is that we will be watching you." There are three pronouns in that sentence, artfully ambiguous pronouns held in tension with one another in a way that

only a handful of public speakers have been able to pull off — Abraham Lincoln being one, Martin Luther King Jr. being another. The "you" is "me," and the "we" includes all of us, including Thunberg herself, who also somehow also manages to throw her voice so that it assumes the critical distance of an old-time prophet. There is some real rhetorical skill at work here. Thunberg's rhetorical strategy, and her message, remind me of Carl Sagan, who once startled my generation with the rhetorical question: "Who speaks for Planet Earth?"

I cannot defend the inaction of my generation to Ms. Thunberg or to the young people who have been marching with her. They have every reason to feel the way they do. But I am not sure that the system they refer to when they call for "system change" is a system that can be reformed. And I am not sure that making demands of their elders who are ensconced at the center of that system is the best approach to take. We need an entirely new system, and that will require us to take some initiative in changing our own lives and creating some autonomies outside the current system. There is no time for watching, and no time for waiting.

Like Dave Holmgren, I worry that we are not giving future generations — the handicapped generations — the tools they need to flourish in this new world they will be entering. The self-destructive war against nature that Rachel Carson wrote of has entered its late stages, and the "get big or get out" model of industrial agriculture that Wendell Berry warned against in the 1970s has more or less won the day. The median age of food growers in 2019 is somewhere around 55 years old, and making a living on the margins as a small-scale grower is an extremely difficult proposition. This is the world that Greta Thunberg's generation has inherited. The garden may, in fact, be one of the few places where children today can learn about things like growing food and about natural ecosystems and how to live happily and sustainably within the limits that these systems impose.

I was recently talking with a middle-aged friend of mine about what it is like to re-read Wendell Berry at different stages of life. My friend brought up the classic poem by Berry, composed years before I was born, that has now taken on a different meaning in light of the concerns we both have right now about our world and about our children and grandchildren:

*When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.*

I think this poem has something to say about the nature of hope. Until this year, the comfort I took from these lines felt like the fully-earned consolation we derive from an uncomplicated truth. But now I wonder about what I may have been reading into it. I wonder, for example, whether going off somewhere to seek peace and freedom is a fully grown-up response. “For a time”: It has been so easy to skip over that qualifying phrase. The plain-speaking 16-year-old from Sweden has gotten me to re-read this poem written more than 50 years ago by a man from Kentucky. She has got me thinking not just about the nature of hope, but also about the nature of honesty and facing things straight on.

These days when I head out alone to the garden, I sometimes feel like I am being watched. I still hope someone will come out and join me for a while as I finish doing things before dark. Then I take myself back to the house where everyone sleeps and where we tell our stories; and then time to brush our teeth, put to bed, and dream ourselves into a new day.

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Simple Sustainability by Sky Trombly

The FlyLady System – An Overview

I've recently come across a system that has been life-changing for me and so I want to share it with you.

I must admit that I've been one of those all-or-nothing type "home executives". The house was either a mess or it was sparkling clean and kids returning home was more nightmare than joyous reunion.

When the house was less than stellar, I focused on other household tasks. When the house got very clean, I would forget to pay bills. Keeping all the plates in motion without dropping them is much more challenging than the uninitiated can imagine.

Enter the FlyLady system. For managing my home life, this system is all inclusive and every task gets its attention at the right time. I also don't have to waste valuable head space trying to figure out what task I should be doing. My daily tasks are basically on auto-pilot and my weekly and monthly chores are laid out for me in my control journal (a notebook that collects the routines).

I used to feel harried and unbalanced in my attempts to keep the house together with six people living here, now I don't let tasks take all day, I keep a limit on the work I do, it all gets done, and I still have energy left to get out and do other things. This is something I can stick to, in a word, it is sustainable.

If we look at the structure of the FlyLady system, it rests on three main pillars. I describe them below.

Daily Routines

The first of the pillars is our daily routines.

There are some routines that need to be addressed on a daily basis and the FlyLady system encourages us to develop at least a morning and evening routine that is tailored to our lifestyle (you're not going to put "feed the dog" down if you don't have one).

Thus, as an example, here are a few things I do every morning:

- make beds • empty dishwasher. • start a load of laundry.

I also have on my list a few things for myself:

- meditate • exercise • get dressed to shoes.

And a few things for my family:

- wake up kids • help them dress and brush teeth • make breakfast.

In doing these routines, I keep our home running smoothly. There are clean clothes to put on, clean dishes to eat from, made beds to collapse into at night. Every day that I go through my routines, I feel much more productive throughout the day.

These routines can bracket a day spent in the office, at the work site, or on the floor with the toddler. It isn't a system that requires a certain lifestyle or that you keep doing it all day long.

Weekly Tasks: The Daily Focus

The second main pillar of the FlyLady System is the Daily Focus.

These are tasks that need addressing at a once-a-week level.

A good example is Errand Day, the day you might return library books or borrowed items from friends, drop off dry cleaning, hit the bank, the post office or go grocery shopping. By collecting these tasks for one day out of the week, you can take the car out less often (more eco-friendly!) and not waste time having to run errands as they come.

As anyone who consciously builds habits knows, it can be challenging to develop habits that aren't done daily. Designating certain times of the week for activities and having a list to refer to can keep us organized so that those not-daily important tasks do get done.

The FlyLady template goes something like this:

- Monday – Home Blessing Hour (an hour long sprucing of high traffic areas of the house)
- Tuesday – Plan & Play Day/Desk Day (review upcoming events, figure out what is needed, pay bills)
- Wednesday – Anti-Procrastination Day (do a task you've been putting off)
- Thursday – Errand Day (see above)
- Friday – Date Night/Connect with friends, clean out car and purse or bag
- Saturday – Family Fun Day
- Sunday – Renew Your Spirit Day

The Daily Focus also gets tailored to your needs. For example, I do my grocery shopping on Sundays because I have the car then but the rest of the errands I tend to do on Thursday by foot when the offices are more likely to be open. On Sunday, when I have the car, I also clean it out and put gas in it.

I find that the model is a useful springboard and I try to incorporate her tasks in the most meaningful order for me.

The Zones

The third pillar of the FlyLady system is zone decluttering and zone cleaning. Here, you break your home into 5 zones or areas. She has her suggested zones, which I used as a model and tweaked for my own home's layout.

Each zone gets addressed for a week, as time allows. If you were to look at a calendar page there are five rows each month. Three of them will be a complete, seven day weeks. Two, one at the beginning and one at the end, will be partial weeks and will vary in length each month. Zones get addressed in order and will be addressed every month.

The first task is to declutter each zone so that everything has a purpose and a place. This is because, as the FlyLady likes to say: "you can't clean clutter". This first tasks may take a month or a year depending on your home. But once the space has been cleared for cleaning, you might find some clutter creeping in each month as you move to deep cleaning the zone. It is still important to pounce on the clutter and get rid of it so that it doesn't breed in the corner.

Once the zones have been decluttered, this is when the monthly deep clean comes in and takes the place of spring cleaning or madly cleaning in time for guests. This keeps your home guest ready and sparkling all year long.

The deep cleaning tasks vary by room, but to give you a picture this might include things like: a thorough mopping or vacuuming (moving some furniture), dusting baseboards, removing spider webs, that sort of thing. The FlyLady has a list of tasks for each room that, again, you can customize for your own home. A couple of tasks taken each day of the week and your zone should be ship-shape by the end.

Closing Thoughts

The FlyLady system is pretty powerful stuff for transforming your home life. That said, getting started can be a tad confusing, which is why I decided that this piece was so important. I hope this overview has given you a realistic picture of the FlyLady system. If this is something that you think would be of value to you, check out the resources I've listed below.

☞ **Until next time, live lightly!** ☞

Great Resources to Get Started:

- FlyLady's Getting Started Page: <http://www.flylady.net/d/getting-started/flying-lessons/>
- FlyLady's Book: *Sink Reflections* by Marla Cilley

Important FlyLady Tools

by Sky Trombly

A system that transforms my house from CHAOS (Can't Have Anyone Over Syndrome)* to clean? There must be a hundred tools I need for that! No. There really isn't. In fact, you likely have everything you need to get started at home.

The Control Journal

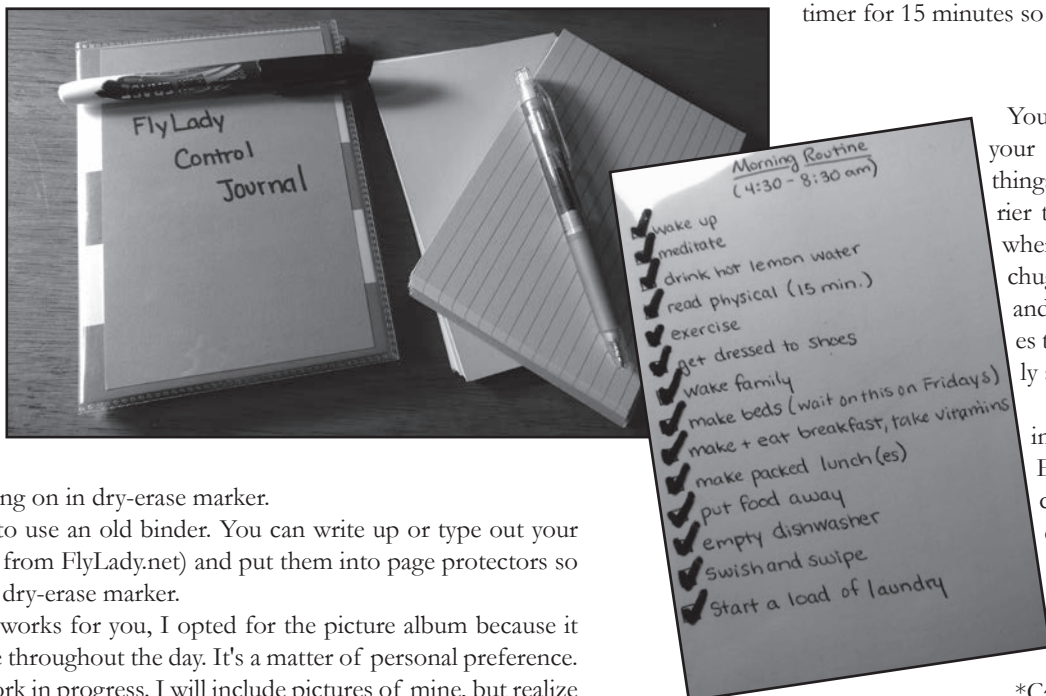
The control journal is the place where you keep track of your daily routines, the daily focus tasks, and the cleaning tasks for the zones. It is a tool you make yourself in whatever way works for you.

I use a cheap picture album and large index cards to write down my tasks, I slide them into the sleeves and tick them off with a dry-erase marker as I get them done. I also make notes of errands I need to run or things I might be procrastinating on in dry-erase marker.

Another popular technique is to use an old binder. You can write up or type out your own (you can also buy printables from FlyLady.net) and put them into page protectors so that you can tick off tasks with a dry-erase marker.

The best form is the one that works for you, I opted for the picture album because it was the size I could carry with me throughout the day. It's a matter of personal preference.

Also, the control journal is a work in progress. I will include pictures of mine, but realize I am a new FlyBaby and it is still changing as I learn about the system. As my family and my lifestyle changes, I know that I will be tweaking for greater efficiency too.



The Timer

Another very important tool for the FlyLady system is the timer. I use the one on my phone and the one on my oven, so there really isn't a need to go out and purchase something new.

Many of the tasks are timed so that we don't take all day on something. It helps me to keep tasks in perspective. Most things FlyLady are done 2-15 minutes at a time. Even when we sit down to get inspiration from the FlyLady site, we should set our timer for 15 minutes so we don't get sucked in.

Cleaning Supplies

You probably already have cleaners and tools in your home and already know a lot about keeping things clean. Learning to clean isn't usually the barrier to a clean home. I've found that not knowing when to clean which thing in order to keep things chugging along smoothly was my main barrier... and also consistency. The FlyLady system addresses the whats, how oftens, and how longs very nicely so that things get done.

On a non-FlyLady note, I would suggest looking up the cleaners you use on EWG.org (the Environmental Working Group's database) to check out how safe your products are and if you discover that your choices are more toxic than you like, switch them out for cleaner alternatives. After all, you may find yourself cleaning more often.

*Can't Have Anyone Over Syndrome or CHAOS is a FlyLady term, she's even titled two of her books using it: *CHAOS to Clean* and *The CHAOS Cure* both by Marla Cilley.

Making Lemonade! by Barbara Stahl



Eyes on (and in) the waiting room

Spending a lot of time in eye care waiting rooms recently launched me into a study of waiting room behavior. Because my medical visits have mainly been for "eye care," typically my "fellow waiters" are elderly like me. In fact, it is very noticeable that younger ones there often have very serious and/or painful eye trauma. My heart goes out to the children, as well as their parents, who are waiting in the pediatric section.

When I overheard the following question, "You did very well. Which sticker would you like?" I assumed it was being asked of a child following a procedure having been successfully completed. I was totally surprised and saddened to see that it was an elderly man in a wheel chair being asked by the technician if he "wanted a sticker." Several times the technician patiently and kindly repeated the sticker choices: "dinosaur, triceratops, or pterodactyl." After considerable thought the gentleman chose triceratops.

Most people were busily studying their smartphones. Some even answer or make phone calls for all to hear describing their symptoms or arranging details for meetings with whomever is on the other end of the conversation. Some are knitting, many are texting, and still others are listening to verbal information with the sound turned low. There are quiet, introspective people. Some conversations are in other languages. I try to see if I can interpret those conversations with my limited foreign language expertise. Usually I can't. My long ago French and Latin classes aren't very helpful.



One of the most fascinating exchanges to me was the elderly mother and fifty-something aged son. She was talking to him pretty much non-stop while he continually scrolled through pages on his smartphone. What was most amazing to me was that after awhile he would answer her and seemingly was able to respond to something related to the lengthy conversation she alone had been conducting.

The day that I was taking these notes was a particularly long wait to see my doctor. There obviously had been some sort of snafu or medical emergency taking precedence. One gentleman, in particular, was getting more and more agitated as time went on, and he began tapping his foot in between complaints. He declared that, "it was an hour-and-a-half past his appointment." Others, along with me, chose humor for coping and were more jovial about it. Still others just continued to read books or interact with their smartphone.

One of the most unusual waiting room conversations was one that my son and daughter-in-law witnessed while they were waiting for me while I was having surgery. A young woman talking to another woman suddenly took out her fake eyeball, held it toward her, and declared "I have a glass eye, see?" My son looked; my daughter-in-law did not.

After all of this, my advice to you is if you are in a waiting room and you see someone writing, maybe they are taking notes for an article, so now is the time to be on your best behavior!!

You can contact Barb Stahl at: makinglemonadeOwl@gmail.com.

Community notices courtesy of our paid advertisers!

Honeoye-Richmond Historical Society Museum

Open the first Saturday in November, 9:30-11:30am
Closed December - March.

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

Food Pantries

All welcome community contributions and volunteers.

Naples Open Cupboard
Every Wednesdays from 11-2
Harwood Lane - basement of Village Offices. Serves people in Naples Sch. Dist.

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

Wayland Food Pantry
Wednesdays 4:30-6pm,
Saturdays 9-10:30am
Serving all in Wayland- Cohocton Dist.
Bread and Baked Goods may also be picked up Sundays 9:00-9:30am
Lighthouse Wesleyan Church, 101 South Lackawanna St, Wayland - 585-736-7586
Info: www.enjoylwc.com/food-pantry

NEW!
Hemlock Food Pantry
Thursdays, 10am - 5:30pm
Little Lakes Community Center
Around the back...
Serving people in the Hemlock area & others in need!

Springwater Food Pantry
Wednesdays 6:30 - 8pm
and Saturdays 9 - 11am*
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, 9-10:30 am.
UCC church on 8758 Main St., Honeoye
Info: honeyefoodpantry@gmail.com

Sent by Ravens ~ Pantry
Saturday's 9-11am
40 Spring St, Livonia, NY

Trinity Pet Food Pantry
1st Sundays, 12:30-1:30pm
62 W. Buffalo St, Warsaw, NY

Meals

Honeoye UCC Spaghetti
1st Wednesdays, 5-7pm -
8758 Main Street, Honeoye, NY
(except July and November)
A portion of the profits donated to a different charity monthly.

Seniors

Community Coffee Hour
1st Wednesdays, 9:30-10:30am -
Free coffee!
62 W. Buffalo St, Warsaw, NY

Community Meetings

Little Lakes Community Center Open Community Meeting
The first Monday evening-6:30-8:30pm-each month is dedicated to community input. All are welcome to join in, to learn about the organization and to ask questions and make suggestions.

Grief Share ~ Mondays, 5 pm
Wayland Free Library,
101 W Naples St, Wayland
Encouragement after the death of a loved one - non-denominational

Community Closets

The Open Closet
Wednesdays and Saturdays, 11-2
Harwood Lane - basement of the Village Offices. Offers people in Naples School District quality clothes etc.

Honeoye Community Closet
For more info. contact Kelly Sacchitella, Box 170, Honeoye, NY 14471



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Only YOU Can Secure your RX!
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MONITOR - count your medication regularly
SECURE - lock up any medication you do not want anyone else to access
DISPOSE - drop off any unwanted/unused and expired medication to your local disposal site



Medication Drop Box Locations:

Bristol:
Town Hall

Canandaigua:
FLCC (Keuka Wing)
The Medicine Shoppe
Ontario County DMV Office
Canandaigua Police Dept.
Thompson Hospital (lobby)
Mental Health Clinic (County Complex)

Geneva:
Police Station
North Street Pharmacy

Richmond:
Town Hall
CVS Pharmacy

Farmington:
State Troopers

Clifton Springs:
Hospital (Lobby)

East Bloomfield:
Town Hall

Naples: Village Hall

Phelps:
Community Center

Rushville: Village Hall

Victor:
Meade Square Pharmacy

If you do not live in Ontario County, please contact your local law enforcement agency. Questions, please call us at 585-396-4554.



Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner



St. Mary's and St. Matthew Faith Community invites you to attend a Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner to be held at St. Mary's Church, 8961 Main Street, Honeoye, NY on Sunday, November 24th from 2:00-4:00 pm (or gone).

All are welcome!

Be Thankful

by Wendy Schreiner

Be thankful for family members near and far friends and relatives and co-workers too

Be thankful for all you have and everything around you not just on Thanksgiving, but every day Be thankful in every way

Election Day Dinner

**United Church of Christ
8758 Main St. Honeoye**

Tuesday, Nov. 5th

Serving from 4-7pm

*Turkey with all the trimmings,
Including homemade rolls and pies!*



Adults - \$12.00
Children - \$6.00
5 & under - Free



Take outs available

Wendy Schreiner ~

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 does freelance writing for Warsaw's Country Courier. She also facilitates "Write Connection" at the Warsaw Public Library.

Wyoming County Progressive Christian Meetup Group is newly formed and open to anyone looking for more. Connect face to face with people just like you! Free mid-week gatherings to inspire and inform. Find us on Meetup.com, or go directly: tinyurl.com/yy4v5yb4



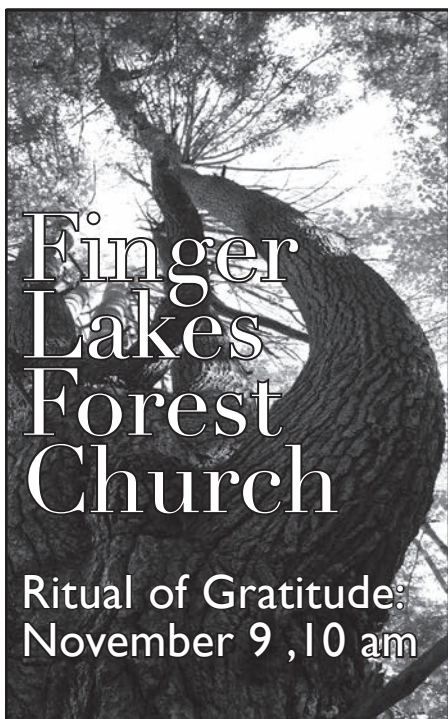


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Finger Lakes Forest Church

Ritual of Gratitude:
November 9, 10 am

At this time of harvest, we will celebrate the abundance and blessings that fill our lives.

Participants are invited to bring a photo or other memento of someone/thing they feel grateful for. An outdoor ramble will invite us to find mementos of the natural world that also inspire feelings of gratitude.

Location:
8832 E Main Street, Honeoye, NY, "The Elms Manse."

For more information, contact FLForestChurch@gmail.com or check out Finger Lakes Forest Church on Facebook. For directions to any of our events, call 585-354-1885 or 585-370-3570.

52nd Annual Election Night Kiwanis Spaghetti Dinner at Canandaigua Academy, Canandaigua, NY

The Kiwanis Club of Canandaigua is celebrating their 52nd year of serving spaghetti dinners to the community to raise money for local children's projects. Each year, the club serves dinner on Election Day; this year landing on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at Canandaigua Academy's Cafeteria located at 435 East St., from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Drive-thru takeout orders are available. Cost is \$9 for adults, \$6 for children under 12, and \$7 for senior citizens. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance at the following locations: Any Kiwanis Club of Canandaigua Member / Canandaigua Chamber of Commerce / Canandaigua National Bank & Trust / The Medicine Shoppe / Community Bank / Lyons National Bank.

"We know kids need Kiwanis in our community and around the world," said Stephen Fantuzzo, Spaghetti Dinner Chairperson for the Kiwanis Club of Canandaigua. "Without the generous support of our community organizations and businesses we would not be the organization that we are today." All funds donated go to the Kiwanis Community Fund which benefits the Salvation Army Christmas Party for over 150 children and their families, the Easter Egg Hunt at the Elementary School reaching hundreds of Canandaigua kids, Senior Bingo Night at 80 Parrish Street, ARC support, student scholarships, and so much more!

The Kiwanis Club of Canandaigua welcomes new members who want to serve their community. Information about becoming a member is available at CanandaiguaKiwanis.org or by joining the weekly meeting every Tuesday at 12:05 p.m. at the American Legion, or every 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. also at the Legion. You can visit the Kiwanis Club of Canandaigua Facebook page as well.

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**Hope and help
for those who have lost a loved one.**
Saturday, November 2, 1-3pm
 Lighthouse Wesleyan Church, 101 South Lackawanna St, Wayland
 For more information: 585.728.5005 or www.enjoylwc.com

*Choosing your tree is
an outdoor adventure at
All Western Evergreen Farm!*

For those who like to decorate early,
come on Special Opening Day,
Friday, November 29, 9 AM-dark



Select and harvest your own in our fields
or choose from our freshly-cut trees.

Choose Fraser, Concolor, Grand, Korean, Sub-alpine, Douglas & Nordmann fir trees,
or mixed wreaths, kissing balls, & other decorations made from our evergreens.

**All Western Evergreen Nursery & Christmas Tree Farm ~ 6840 Liberty Pole Road
(Co. Rd. 38), one mile west of Rt. 15 between Webster's Crossing and Springwater.
• Phone: 585-669-2659 (home & farm), 585-737-5205 (cell) •**

Open the Friday after Thanksgiving (Nov. 29) 9 AM-dark; weekends through Dec. 22;
Saturdays, 9 AM-dark, Sundays, 11 AM-dark, weekdays by appointment or by chance.

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 Closed November 21-24,
 November 28- Dec.1.

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CAROLINE SAUERS: RICHMOND SUPERVISOR

**"TRUSTED, PRO-ACTIVE LEADERSHIP
FOR A BETTER COMMUNITY"**

**WE PLAN TO FURTHER STABLIZE TAXES AND STOP
PAST PRACTICES OF GOVERNING FROM CRISIS TO CRISIS.**

- 2019 TAX RATE INCREASE OF 16% WAS LOWER THAN THE PAST 16 YEARS AVERAGE OF 28%!
 2005 up 48%; 2006 up 38%; 2009 up 43%; 2012 up 17%; 2013 up 58%!
- REVITALIZED OUR PARK, AT NO COST TO TAX PAYERS!
 1. The Town insurance company & DEC said fix it or close the park. 2016 Town Board took NO action. Caroline listened and removed trees at **no cost to tax payer. To do nothing would have been the most expensive option!**
 2. Park Pavilion roof finally **replaced** after YEARS of neglect with plywood showing!
 3. Caroline partnered with OCSWD and obtained a \$30,000 grant to **control erosion** at the Sandy Bottom Beach.
- REDUCED RISK OF ROAD FLOODING AT LITTLE COST TO TAX PAYERS!
 1. **Pinewood Culvert:** Previous board Financed \$220,000; Taxpayers cost: \$260,000. **Caroline's grant initiative saved taxpayers over \$240,000, by paying off the debt early!**
 2. **Allen's Hill Culvert fixed:** Project had to be financed; no funds were set aside by previous boards. **Caroline obtained grants to pay down the loan, saving the taxpayers over \$190,000!**
 3. Mill Creek Bank Stabilization Phase 1: Cost estimate - \$185,000. The town partnered with USFish & Wildlife to secure grant funding (paid only \$2,500.00). **If financed all 3 project phases of the project would have cost tax payers over \$500,000!**

"Together we have accomplished so much; there is more we can do!"
 Let's continue to build together and KEEP VOLUNTEER MOMENTUM GOING!

1. Embrace Climate Smart incentives by securing grant funding to reduce electric costs, creating a vibrant Main Street with an improved infrastructure of connecting walkways and trails, and improving quality of life while expanding the tax base.
2. Diversify the community's assets to plan for community success: Focus on continued water quality initiatives - including safe recreational use of Sandy Bottom Park and trails; complete Main Street active transportation study; address neglected Main Street maintenance and drainage; and implement the "Street Scape" plan our Comprehensive has called for for the past 20 years!
3. Keep taxes low by partnering with grant providers, using county, state and federal taxes for our local projects and by AVOIDING FINANCING, INTEREST, AND FEES!!!

**VOTE FOR VISIONARY LEADERSHIP, COMMUNITY ACTION, PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE AND
TAX STABILIZATION ON NOVEMBER 5TH - VOTE FOR CAROLINE!**

Campaignforcaroline@gmail.com • [FaceBook@CarolineSauersRichmondTownSupervisor](https://www.facebook.com/CarolineSauersRichmondTownSupervisor)

Paid for by Citizens for Re-election of Caroline Sauers