

Marrione, Bentley, Kasal & 4x4 Relay Earn All-State Honors

By Richard Furst

Six Warwick Valley girls earned All-State honors and two school records were set last weekend at the New York State Track and Field Championship at Cicero-North Syracuse High School.

Marrione Jumps to Second Place

Leading the team on Friday was Jenna Marrione with a great second place finish in the pole vault at 11' 9." Marrione had a great jump at 12' and just caught the bar on the way down.

Bentley Sets School Record in 400m Hurdles

Shernai Bentley won her heat and placed sixth overall in the 400m hurdles in a school record of 63.96. Bentley had set the old record of 64.54 on May 23.

Kasal Breaks School Record in Steeplechase

On Saturday, Jackie Kasal set her goal of earning All-State honors and went out hard in the 2000m steeplechase. Kasal held on to place sixth in Division I in a new school record of 7:05.03. Kasal had set the previous record on May 23 at 7:08.95.

Despite Setback, 1600m Relay Takes Sixth

Later on Friday, the 1600m relay team took to the track and took advantage of their opportunity to place as they ran a close sixth in the finals in 3:53.72. The team nearly met with disaster on Friday when an official stepped in front of Bentley forcing her to stop. The incident caused the team to lose two seconds but they still made the finals.

In the finals of the 1600m Relay, Bentley led off in 58.9, Kasal clocked 57.6, Kayla Leahey ran a 59.4 leg and Kristen Jados anchored in a fine 57.1.

More Outstanding Efforts

Also turning in stellar performances were: Jados in the 100m in 12.54, 14th in Division I; Taylor Payne in the high jump at 5'2, 13th in Division I; and the 400m relay team of Marrione, Bentley, Gabriella Astorino and



Jenna Marrione charges down the runway enroute to her second place finish at the New York State Track and Field Championships.

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Humane Society Announces Winners of Dog Photo Contest



Popcorn, owned by the Citelli family of Goshen, tied for Best Senior Dog Photo with Max. (Photo submitted)

Everyone who attended the "Who Let the Dogs Out?" fundraiser on Sat., June 13 at the Applewood Winery had the opportunity to vote for their favorite dog in the Dog Photo Contest to benefit the animals of the Warwick Valley

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Awards Draw Crowd to Warwick School Board Meeting

By Nancy Owen

Forty-eight awards were presented to students and staff at the regular Warwick School Board meeting on Mon., June 8, attracting not only those who were receiving the awards but family members and well-wishers.

Student Awards

Caroline Moore, a 14-year-old high school student was presented to the board for her discovery of a super nova and she was chosen as "young astronomer of the year." Caroline teaches younger students about astronomy and will be written up in *Astronomy* magazine for her discovery. She would like an opportunity to make a power point presentation to board members at a work session and make some suggestions for school programs in the school system.

The Superintendent's Scholar Athlete Awards for the Spring term were: Dorothy Arner - Girls Crew; Shernai Bentley - Girls Track; Megan Connolly - Girls Lacrosse; David DeWan - Boys Track; Timothy Horton - Boys Golf; Jed Kistner-Morris - Boys Crew; Daniel Lapidus - Boys Tennis; Benjamin Pearce - Boys Lacrosse; Rebecca Starer - Softball and Eric Stranski -Baseball.

These awards were designed by Superintendent Dr. Frank Greenhall for those students, who not only excel in their sport, but are excellent scholars and leaders in their school community. Most of the students have above 90 averages (Rebecca Starer ranks #2 in her class) and David DeWan, who will attend Steven's Institute of Technology next year, was on the State Championship 3200 Meter Relay team that competed at Cornell University in March 2009.

Other members of that team who also received a NYSPHSAA (New York State Public High School Athletic Association) 2009 Champion and Federation Champion awards were Charles Armand, Tim Luthin, and Dan Ramirez. Jenna Marrione won the same award for Girls Pole Vault.

The Section IX Wrestling Champions were Shane Connolly at 96 lbs., Michael Santalla at 140 lbs., Mitchell Wightman at 145 lbs. and Sean Prell at 152 lbs. They won the championship in February.

Staff & Board Commendations

Dr. Marijane Reinhard, in her presentation of the commendations to retiring staff members noted that it represented 583.5 years of service and

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Suspect Arrested in String of Warwick Burglaries

Detective Shawn Tetzlaff, of the Warwick Police Department reported that he, along with Detective Mike Hoffman, arrested a 17-year-old male and a 15-year-old male in connection with a string of commercial burglaries in April.

The first crime scene was Talk of the Town, which was burglarized on April 13 between 11:30 and 11:45 p.m. According to Tetzlaff, the 17-year-old suspect kicked in the door on the Spring Street entrance, and then proceeded to take money from the cash register and \$200 from a metal donation box and fled. Contributions were being taken to assist a hair stylist who had broken her foot.

The same suspect is believed to be involved in two additional break-ins, along with a 15-year-old accomplice late April 19 into the early morning hours of April 20. Somewhere between 10 p.m. and 12:37 a.m. the suspects are believed to have entered the Glen Bryan Salon on West Street using a screwdriver to gain entry. Thirty-five dollars was removed from the cash register, and a Sirius radio was taken. The suspects dropped the screwdriver upon fleeing the location. Shortly thereafter, it is believed they attempted to break into the Long Spring Chinese restaurant at 10 Oakland Avenue. According to Tetzlaff, the suspects were unable to break through the metal door. They attempted to break the glass, but weren't able to successfully enter the restaurant.

Two Special Presentations Begin Town Board Meeting

By Siobhan Barton

Before the usual commencement of evening conversation at the Warwick Town Board meeting on Thurs., June 11, two special presentations were introduced.

The Nicholas P. Lesando American Legion Post #214 donated a large framed photograph of this year's Memorial Day commemoration at Warwick Cemetery. Then, Eagle Scout candidate, Ryan Miller, a Boy Scout with Troop 45, entered the room with a newly sanded bench. The bench was made and donated by Miller as the final step toward his Eagle Scout rank. It will be installed at the Town Park at Union Corners Road.

\$147K Approved From Highway Fund for East Shore Road Improvements

A motion was approved to authorize the signing of a supplemental agreement with the New York State Department of Transportation for East Shore road improvements. A total of \$147,000 is being appropriated from the Town of Warwick Highway fund and is being made available to cover the cost of the restoration. In the event that the federal and non-federal share exceeds the aforementioned amount, the Town Board will convene immediately to discuss and appropriate the excess. Supervisor Michael Sweeton has been authorized to

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All Around the Town

County Begins Discount Program for Disabled Vets



County Executive Diana with Douglas Couch, who helped to spearhead new discount program for veterans. (Photo submitted)

The Orange County Access Pass Program will emulate the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's pass program. It will allow qualified veterans access to all Orange County parks and related facilities for free, however, it is not valid at any facility within a park operated by a private concern under contract, such as restaurants.

"Personally, I am very excited about this discount program because it is another way Orange County can honor and thank the men and women who have served and sacrificed their lives for our country," said County Executive Edward A. Diana "I also want to thank Douglas Couch who brought this issue to our attention and the Orange County Veteran's Coalition and Advisory Board who also supported our efforts."

To qualify for this discount, veterans must have certification from the United States Veterans Administration or New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs that proves they are veterans and have 40% or greater service-related disabilities. There are about 27,000 veterans residing in Orange County and approximately 3,000 will qualify for this program.

In order to get an Access Pass, veterans must fill out an application through the Orange County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation at 615-3830.

Town Board Meeting

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execute all necessary agreements and reimbursement requests for federal aid.

A public hearing has been scheduled for June 25 at 7:15 p.m. to examine and discuss the Local Law, "Assessments Other Than for Special Districts or Local Improvements."

Trails Cleared & Swimming Instruction Available

Town Councilman Leonard DeBuck reported that trail clearing has begun at Cascade Lake Park. Students in grades five through nine from Camp Warwick, along with other volunteers, will conduct group outings to contribute to the effort. The report expressed that the paths are improving tremendously as they now allow passage through previously blocked areas.

Town Councilman James Gerstner, in discussing the local area summer recreational programs, reported that public swimming instruction would be available to Greenwood Lake and Florida students during late June and early to mid July.

Supervisor's Report

Warwick Town Supervisor Michael Sweeton reported that the town's solar panels have been turned on since last week, providing 15 kw of electricity from each of these panels. An upcoming lobby exhibition of the History and Transportation of Warwick was discussed. He also gave his thanks to the Warwick Valley Gardeners for their spectacular job decorating and designing the terrain around the Town Hall flagpole and other areas in town. Sweeton discussed the Millennium Pipe Restoration work; total funds are now just over \$1.6 million.

Carass & Sirotof Reappointed to Conservation Board

A motion was made to adopt a resolution re-appointing Stephen Carass to the Conservation Board for a two-year term, expiring June 1, 2011. Similarly, Gregory Sirotof was re-appointed for a one-year term to expire on June 1, 2010. Another motion was made to close the unsafe building located at 8 Wendy Way with noted resolution of the issue as documented by the building inspector.

A public hearing was scheduled for June 25 at 7 p.m. for the proposed franchise renewal agreement between the town of Warwick and Cablevision of Warwick, Inc.

The next Warwick Town board meeting will be held at the Warwick Town Hall at 7 p.m. on Thurs., June 25.

Warwick Valley Board of Education Meeting

The Warwick Valley Central School District Board of Education will hold a Special Meeting on Wed., June 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room. The agenda will include personnel.

SUPERVISOR'S CORNER

For Town information log on to www.townofwarwick.org or tune to Cablevision Municipal Channel 21 or WVT Channel 130.

The Town Board was honored to receive from the Nicholas P. Lesando, Jr. American Legion Post #214 a beautiful print by renowned artist Bob Fletcher. The scene depicts the traditional Memorial Day observance in the Warwick cemetery. On behalf of all Town residents we are very grateful and will proudly display this treasure in the main Town meeting room. Thank you to all the Legion members and all veterans for their contributions over the years to our great Town.

Restoration work has begun on last Fall's millennium pipeline installations. If you have any questions about your specific property, please call 1-800-572-7515.

June 19th marks a little known holiday recognized by the state of New York, namely "Juneteenth" Day. Juneteenth is a "portmanteau" of June and nineteenth and is now recognized in 31 states. The day also known as Freedom Day commemorates the



By Michael P. Sweeton

announcement of the abolition of slavery in the U.S. state of Texas. Today the holiday recognizes the significance of the Emancipation Proclamation and is traditionally celebrated as a day-long feast in a park or outdoor space.

A public hearing on a renewal of the local Cablevision franchise will be held on June 25 at 7 p.m. in the Warwick Town Hall.

A public hearing entitled "Assessments other than for special districts or local improvements" will be held on June 25 at 7:15 p.m. This local law will facilitate the Town's recovering the costs from code violations where the property owner is unavailable to local or state court jurisdictions.

The next regular meeting of the Town Board will be held on Thurs., June 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the Warwick Town Hall, 132 Kings Highway.

Register for Warwick Summer Rec June 23 & 24

The Warwick Village summer recreation programs are available to all Town and Village residents of Warwick between the ages of 5-12. To be eligible, each child must be at least five years old and must have completed one year of Kindergarten.

All programs will register on Tues., June 23 and Wed., June 24 from 6-8 p.m. at the following sites:

The park program, swimming, football, cheerleading and basketball will register at Stanley-Deming Park. The track program will register at the Warwick High School Track facility in the Pavilion. The tennis program will register at the Warwick Middle School tennis courts. The soccer program will register at the Warwick Middle School parking lot.

All summer recreation program offered are free of charge. Copies of immunization forms are required for each child registering for the park program.

The summer recreation programs will be the week of June 29 and end on July 31.

This Week in Orange County

By Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana

June marks the beginning of Hurricane Season. Hurricane season is a perfect time for families to review their home safety plan and home emergency supplies in the event of an emergency. Traditionally, the Atlantic hurricane/coastal storm season in New York State runs from June 1 through November 30 and is typically busiest in August and September. While predominately coastal storms, in recent years these devastating storms have impacted areas of the State which are hundreds of miles from the ocean.

Federal forecasters predicted a near-normal hurricane season with nine to fourteen named tropical storms. The season is expected to include four to seven hurricanes with one to three likely to be major — Category 3 or higher, with winds more than 111 miles per hour. There were five major hurricanes last year.

Primarily, by the time a storm hits, you should have all your preparations completed! If you prepare in advance and plan ahead, your stress levels will be much lower. Although we cannot predict what will unfold this year, I urge you all to be prepared. Orange County has developed an official emergency preparedness guide- "Will You Be Prepared?" Please review this guide and develop your own family plan. If you haven't received a guide, you may obtain one by calling the Orange County Department of Emergency Services at 615-0400 or visit the County website at www.orangecountygov.com. The safety of our residents is my #1 priority.

Until next week, I wish you health and happiness...

Town of Warwick Meetings Cancelled

The Town of Warwick June 22 work session, and the July 1 planning board meetings have been cancelled due to the July 4 holiday. Have a safe holiday.

Community Center to Offer Summer Program

The Warwick Valley Community Center (WVCC) is offering a supervised program daily for 6-9 years olds from July 6 through August 21 from 2-5 p.m. The fee is \$48 per week and includes a daily snack. Activities include movies, games, crafts or just relaxing with friends. A special bonus is available for those participating in the Stanley-Deming Town Rec. Program this summer. Dial-A-Bus will transport the children directly from the Park to the Community Center. Call 986-6422 to register.

News from the Warwick Village

Library Calendar Photo Finalists Selected



Three of the calendar photo finalists Susan Supak, Louise LoPinto Hutchison and Carol Phelan gather to discuss their favorite books, which will appear in the Friends 2010 calendar along with their winning scenic photos.

The Friends of the Albert Wisner Public Library have selected the photo finalists for their 2010 Calendar, "Warwick – Lovely and Literary." Nearly 200 entries of scenic Warwick vistas were submitted, making the task of selecting the 12 finalists challenging yet extremely enjoyable.

In keeping with the "Literary" theme, the 12 finalists were asked to choose a favorite book, which will also be highlighted in the calendar. The Friends are planning a reception to kick-off the sale of the calendar later in the summer, honoring the photographers who submitted entries.

McConnell Named New Historical Society President



New Warwick Historical Society's new officers (from left): Tony Houston, Trustee, Patricia McConnell, President, and John Skinner, Trustee.

For over ten years, Pat has worked with Sue Gardner in the Archival Program of the Society, which has collected and catalogued thousands of documents of Warwick's rich history.

Pat's mission for the Society is to bring more members and financial support through grants, donations and functions.

The Historical Society of the Town of Warwick is rich in buildings and collections,

The Historical Society of the Town of Warwick voted in a new President, Patricia McConnell as its new President at its annual meeting held in May.

Pat is a life long Orange County resident and has always been a community activist. She was the chair of the Conservation Board of the Town of Warwick and was instrumental in closing the Penaluna Dump in Greenwood Lake - one of the northeast's most toxic dumps.

From the Mayor's Office

Staycation

A new word has recently been introduced to the English language, "staycation." Its obvious meaning is a home vacation and it's a direct result of a nation facing economic woes and in the face of shrinking incomes or job loss – creative perseverance! The Warwick Valley is a great place to spend down time – our Valley is so alive and each of our Villages and Hamlets offering so many possibilities. Recently a friend of mine decided to go to Paris with her husband. After a trip to the local video store for some French films and a luncheon date at La Petite Cuisine, Viola!! When the going gets tough, humor and creativity will get us through.



By Michael Newhard Mayor, Village of Warwick www.villageofwarwick.org

I urge everyone to take a visit to the new library site on McFarland Drive. The building is taking form and is a beautiful addition to our Village.

This past Sunday was Flag Day and our Village looked great. Thank you to the Town's Republican Committee who now put out flags for national holidays.

The Town's Democratic Committee honored me this Sunday with the George Birnbaum Award for my service to the community. Thank you to the Democratic Committee, it was unexpected and a true honor.

Reminder: The Village brush pile is open to Village residents every Saturday in June from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Memorial Park.

but struggles to maintain these without a large endowment.

Tony Houston is a new Trustee of the Historical Society but not a new resident - in fact, his family goes back many generations in Warwick. Tony was Supervisor of the Town of Warwick and as Trustee, he plans to get involved in public relations.

John Skinner was also appointed a Trustee. He has lived in Edenville for over 5 years and is an Executive with the Great A & P Tea Company. As a member of the Board of Trustees, he is the Parliamentarian and on the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Warwick Farmers' Market Expands Offerings

Four more farms will be joining the Warwick Valley Farmers' Market on Sundays between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Pennings Orchard & Farm Market has contracted with Tonjes Farm Dairy, in Sullivan County, to bring their highly successful non-homogenized dairy products. Tree-Licious Orchards of Hackettstown and R&G Produce and J. Gleblocki Farms will also be added to the market.

On Sun., June 21, children can enjoy a visit from Macaroni the Clown between 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The Warwick Valley Farmers Market is open Sundays from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the South Street Parking Lot. For more information, visit www.warwickfarmmarket.com.

Village of Warwick Brush Disposal

The Village of Warwick is once again holding the Brush Disposal program. Permits will be issued at the Village Hall between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. A valid picture ID showing Village residency will also be accepted.

Only Village of Warwick residents will be allowed to dispose brush at the disposal site, at the Village Department of Public Works in Memorial Park. The site will be open Saturdays only in June. The site is open from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

No commercial operators will be permitted. Brush cannot exceed 6" in diameter. No grass clippings are allowed. Leaves will be accepted in paper bags only.

Warwick Valley Dispatch

Donate Marrow & Help Save a Life

The national bone marrow registry is having a nationwide drive, allowing individuals to be tested for free until June 22 or until they reach 46,000 new members, by going to marrow.org to register. A donation could help save a life, like Roy Chelsen of Warwick, who has been waiting for a match, while in turn fighting a great fight.

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Visit our website: www.wvdispatch.com.

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Letters to the Editor

We welcome Letters to the Editor. All letters should be approximately 500 words or less due to space limitations. For verification purposes, letters must be signed with full name and telephone number. Anonymous or unsigned letters will not be published.

Letters may also be edited for length. Send letters to the Warwick Valley Dispatch, P.O. Box 594, Warwick, N.Y. 10990, or fax to 987-1180 or e-mail: editor@wvdispatch.com.

Have A Good Story?

Do you know of a good news story or need coverage of an event? To make a request call 986-2216, e-mail news@wvdispatch.com or fax your request to 987-1180.

Obituaries

The Warwick Valley Dispatch reports the death of current and former residents of the Town of Warwick as a community service. We do not charge a fee for obituary listings. For more information contact the office at 986-2216.

Classified Ads

The rates are \$12 minimum charge per insertion for up to 12 lines. The deadline is noon on Monday. Copy for the advertisement and check should be mailed to: The Warwick Valley Dispatch, P.O. Box 594, Warwick, N.Y. 10990. To place an ad, call 986-2216.

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The Dispatch has the best rates in Town for display ads. To inquire about display advertising, call 986-2216 or e-mail ads@wvdispatch.com. Deadlines are noon on Friday.

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Letters to the Editor

Guidelines for Effective Letters

The Dispatch welcomes and encourages Letters to the Editor. Everyone has a right to express an honest opinion, but we would like to remind readers of a few simple rules for writing effective letters.

Less is more! The shorter your letter the more likely it is to be read. Letters should be approximately 500 words or less and may be edited for length, grammar, and style. Deadline for letters is 12 Noon on Monday.

Due to space limitations and an influx in letters during elections,

letters pertaining to candidates or propositions must be 200 words or less.

For verification purposes, letters must be signed with the writers' full name, address, and telephone number. Anonymous or unsigned letters will not be published. Misinformation and gratuitous insult Please send letters to: The Warwick Valley Dispatch, P.O. Box 594, Warwick, N.Y. 10990; Fax: 987-1180; or E-mail: editor@wvdispatch.com.

U.S. Veterans Ensured the Future

Editor,

In the fast-paced nature of our society, it is easy to lose sight of our past. We are often so focused on where we are going that we ignore any urge toward examining how exactly we got there. But whenever we do slow down, stopping to examine who we are, it is evident that we are in no way completely on our own. Rather, we are forever indebted.

From the direct influences of our parents to the powerful echoing voices of our forefathers, it is evident that our achievements are a joint venture between the work that we have put forth and those before us who have strived to foreword our possibilities.

Memorial Day carries with it a monumental importance, because it truly touches on the essence of history. It is difficult to raise the argument for anyone other than our veterans, who have more dramatically bettered our standing through their sacrifice. They have suffered insurmountable losses so that future generations will be afforded new opportunities in building a world that will never need to know the bitter realities of warfare.

Our veterans, both standing and those who have fallen, carry the hymn of hope that calls for better tomorrow. Today the hymn is sung proudly amongst the halls of our American Legion posts. But it can still be heard across the fields of Gettysburg and the beaches of Normandy. It is loud at Yorktown and shakes the streets of Berlin. At the top of Mount Suribachi in by the waters of Pearl Harbor, the song of hope rings. From coast to coast and from sea to sea our veterans look toward a brighter future, born from a past of sacrifice. With a last hope that history written will never be history forgotten.

This is dedicated to my Pop-Pop Milton Lord, who served the United States Navy proudly during WWII.

JOHN SONSALLA

Thanks Community for Successful Fish Fry

Editor,

The ladies of the St. Stanislaus Rosary Society would like to thank the community for helping to make the fish fry on May 29 an outstanding success.

Whether they bought an ad on the placemat, made a donation of an item, donated baked good or made a monetary donation, it was all greatly appreciated.

Once again, much thanks to all.

MARRY ANN PASON, DORIS TOMZAK, TERESA YANOSH, JULIE CUTLER & FATHER JOSEPH TOKARCZYK

We Should Cherish Our Freedom & Equal Rights

Editor,

Why aren't Warwickians leaning out of their windows screaming, "I'm mad as hell, and I'm not going to take it any more?" We've had plenty of good reasons to be screaming.

Our current village justice circumvented the established, fair voting process by ambushing Warwick Village with a shady write-in voting scheme. Now, we have a Village Justice who has started her career by corrupting the office. Why don't I hear the screaming outrage?

Recently, our Assembly-woman had the colossal hubris to think she speaks for all of us by suggesting some Warwickians are less equal than others when it comes to what ought to be their basic civil rights. Well, she doesn't speak for me, and she shouldn't speak out in a way that divides us rather than unites us. This issue has nothing to do with religious values. It has to do with American values we all cherish; that is, freedom and equal rights. Why don't I hear the screaming outrage?

How on earth did Liberty Greens on Grand St. get built? How did we wind up with that hideous thing in our midst? Why don't I hear the screaming outrage?

Don't let these issues die of neglect. Do something!

JERRY ZIMMERMAN

'Thank You' to Mr. Ed Hodas & All The Veterans

Editor,

As my Eagle Scout project for Boy Scout Troop 45, I chose to help the veterans with placing flags on the graves for Memorial Day. The veterans were concerned that as they got older, this tradition would continue to be carried on. It was my task to computerize the names and help organize the list to make it easier for anyone to find the graves. Many of the graves are very old and some are unmarked and illegible. The wars went back as far as the French/Indian War all the way up to the Gulf War. I want to thank my parents, the scouts and leaders of Troop 45 and veterans who came out to help make my project a success. To date, the volunteers have logged over 400 hours in this project and there is still more to be done.

There is one man in particular I wish to thank for his support throughout the project, and that is Mr. Ed Hodas. Mr. Hodas was the veteran I could call if I needed assistance. He spent many hours, with the help of his wife, finding graves nobody else could find. He has been doing this for 15 years and knows by heart where many of the graves are. He was even able to uncover and find some footstones that had been completely covered with grass. Throughout my project I appreciated his gentle guidance and unending commitment. He was determined that each and every veteran that we could identify would have a flag for Memorial Day. I think when I started I did not fully understand the commitment these veterans had to making sure everyone was remembered. Over time and through working with Mr. Hodas and the other veterans it all became clearer. When one veteran from the Iraq War came out to help us because he had a friend who died in the war, I could see it didn't matter what war or how far back it was, they all were honoring their comrades. It was a brotherhood and it was important to each man there that we never forget the sacrifice these men and women made.

I wish to thank you all, and especially Mr. Hodas for your help and for the many lessons learned throughout this project. I could not have done it without all your help. Thank you.

ANDREW WENMAN

County Swine Flu Update

The "Swine Flu" or "Novel H1N1" virus, rapidly making its way around the world, has now been recognized as a pandemic, but in actuality, has caused relatively mild illnesses. Pandemic refers to worldwide spread, not the severity of the illness.

Influenza-like-illness (ILI) is widespread in many states throughout the USA, including New York and in Orange County. Most areas are now seeing a decline in cases, and the Tri-State area seems to be at a plateau, but not yet not decreasing.

The CDC reports a mixture of seasonal flu strains and Novel H1N1 (Swine Flu) and a lower proportion of people over 60 years being affected. Research is being performed to test the hypothesis that exposure to a prior H1N1 strain could be providing some protection.

Work continues to produce a vaccine against the Novel H1N1. Anti-viral medication may be prescribed to help shorten the course. Adults and children with symptoms of influenza-like illness are advised to stay at home and contact their medical provider. Those with ILI should stay home for seven days or 24 hours after all symptoms have resolved (whichever is the longer) per CDC guidelines. Those with underlying medical conditions may be at highest risk for complications and should be monitored for early signs of illness.

The impact on primary care providers and parents is noted. It is hard for a parent to keep a child home sick for a week at the end of the school year, and especially hard for working parents. However, sick children should be kept home from outings, camp trips and school activities for the benefit of their friends and classmates.

Visit www.orangecountygov.com for the latest guidelines on swine flu. Information is also available by calling 291-4300.

Send Your Letters To
Editor@wvdispatch.com

Scouts & Veterans Remember Fallen Heroes



In early May, Boy Scouts from Troop 45 assisted veterans in placing flags on the graves of fallen service men and women as a Memorial Day remembrance. Eagle Scout candidate, Andrew Wenman put together a computerized location system, which significantly cut down the time taken to perform the arduous task. Pictured at St. Stephen's cemetery are (kneeling, from left): Brandon Sultana, Sean Rice, Conor Riley, Skip Ronne, Mark Haney, Andrew Wenman, and Julian Stuart. Standing (from left) are: Andrew Brown, Peter Wajda, Jared Olson, Clayton Eurich, Bruce Sutton, Fred Houston, Ed Hodas, Thomas Hansen, Paul Haney (crouching), and Jimmy Hennelly. (Photo submitted by Andrew Wenman)

Ball & Business Leaders Seek MTA Solution

Assemblyman Greg Ball and Assemblyman Marc Molinaro have been working with their legislative colleagues on the state and local levels across both sides of the river to bring together members of the business community to discuss forming a taxpayer resistance in the

"King George himself could not have come up with an idea as cruel, or as atrocious, as the MTA payroll tax. This is the final straw on the Hudson Valley's already overburdened back." - Assemblyman Gregory Ball

hopes of defeating the MTA payroll tax.

Recently, Ball brought together representatives of the various businesses and not-for-profits, along with some of the region's non-profit leaders, to lay the groundwork for a solution to the new tax. The coalition came to a consensus regarding moving forward, through a series of meetings in the following weeks, to attempt to find an equitable solution in lieu of this new tax.

"If this issue is allowed to die, this tax hike is going to be the final nail in the coffin for the State of New York. Voters and taxpayers across this state must join this grassroots attempt to hold this Governor and this

legislature accountable. Majority members, even those who voted 'no' on the floor but who were otherwise silent, need to join our fight," said Ball, who is the Ranking Minority Member of the Assembly Corporations, Authorities and Commissions Committee, which has oversight of the MTA.

Molinaro and Ball, who have cosponsored legislation authored by Assemblyman Mike Spano to conduct an immediate forensic audit for the MTA and immediately reimburse schools for the mobility tax, also have launched a website, along with the entire Mid-Hudson GOP senate and assembly delegations, called www.auditthemta.com.

"If we do not take a stand on this latest and most revolting tax, and I mean take a real stand toward tax resistance, then NYC will continue to tax and kill the suburban and upstate economy with indignation and impunity," Ball said. The payroll tax, a primary component of the transit authority bailout, is being paid by employers in the twelve counties served by the authority.

"King George himself could not have come up with an idea as cruel, or as atrocious, as the MTA payroll tax. This is the final straw on the Hudson Valley's already overburdened back, and we have to send this Governor, this legislature, and tax-and-spending leaders even beyond Albany the message that we are beyond the point of writing letters to the editor," Ball said. "If the business community is up to the task, and I believe they are, I can assure them that as elected officials we will stand by them and say, 'Enough is enough, we have reached our breaking point, and will be abused no longer!' King George wanted 10% and we had a revolution; we are now giving nearly 50%, and the time to act has come and gone a thousand times. Today is the day for the historic Hudson Valley to take a stand."

The Warwick Fire Department Reports

By Captain Michael Contaxis & E.F. Kevin Columba

Monthly Total Calls

For May 2009, the Warwick Fire Department has responded to 45 calls. Of those, one was a structure fire; ten for automatic alarms (A/A); nine motor vehicle accidents; seven smoke investigations; three brush fires; three carbon monoxide; three outside burns; three mutual aid; two transformer fires; one gas leak; one vehicle fire; and two other calls.

Recent Major Incidents

Warwick firefighters were dispatched to a structure fire in the Village of Warwick on May 24. First Chief on scene, Asst. Chief Smith, confirmed a fully involved garage fire spreading to the house with heavy smoke conditions. Firefighters quickly knocked down the fire in the garage and the house, preventing further damage to the residence. Mutual Aid from the Chester Fire Department along with their FAST Team was called to the scene. The Florida and Greenwood Lake Fire Departments were on standby in Warwick stations.

Public Meetings/ Events

The WFD Board Meeting will be held at Station #1, Tues., June 16 at 8 p.m.

The Warwick Fire Department will be hosting the annual Firemen's Carnival from June 24-27. Come out and enjoy the rides and games as well as fireworks display on Saturday. Wed., June 24, opening night, will run from 6- 11 p.m. Buy a wristband for \$15 and ride all night. The Carnival is open on Thurs., June 25 from 6 - 11 p.m. Fri., June 26 is Emergency Services night. Wear fire, ambulance or police apparel and get a wristband for \$15; carnival is open 6-11 p.m. The carnival is open on Sat., June 27 from 5 p.m. - 12 a.m. with wristbands available for \$20. Fireworks will start at 10 p.m.

Fire Prevention

Each July Fourth, thousands of people, most often children and teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks. Despite the dangers of fireworks, few people understand the associated risks - devastating burns, other injuries, fires, and even death.

Here are some facts. According to the NFPA in 2006, fireworks caused an estimated 32,600 reported fires, including 1,700 total structure fires, 600 vehicle fires, and 30,300 outside and other fires. These fires resulted in an estimated 6 civilian deaths, 70 civilian injuries and \$34 million in direct property damage. With this in mind and the Fourth of July around the corner, more U.S. fires are reported on that day than on any other day, and fireworks account for half of those fires, more than any other cause of fires.

Merchant's Guild Sidewalk Sale July 10-12

The Warwick Valley Merchant's Guild will host their annual Sidewalk Sale Fri., July 10 through Sun., July 12, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Participating merchants, restaurants, and additional area vendors will display their merchandise along Warwick's Main Street as well as Railroad Avenue. Many stores will also be running sales and other promotions on overstocked and end of season items inside and outside their stores.

On Sat., July 11 at 7 p.m. the benefit performance and reception for the Summer Arts Festival will be held.

All non-profit organizations interested in participating, should contact Tim at 986-9588.

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Florida Village News & Notes

Village of Florida

This article is my way of communicating with you, the residents of the Village of Florida, on a regular basis. Any opinions expressed are strictly my own.

We love our Village and want to keep it beautiful, so the Board has recently directed our Building Inspector to remove all of the illegal signs that are hanging out, sticking up, tattered, torn and completely out of date. Honestly, is anyone really looking for a Christmas tree this time of year?? Do we need to greet visitors to our community with ragged signs hanging from every pole on Main Street? Our sign law is fairly specific, with few exceptions, so if you post a sign for a yard sale, please remember to remove it after the sale. And if you are advertising a business with an illegal sign, be forewarned, we will track you down and issue a fine or court appearance ticket.

Summer is upon us, or will be when the weather cooperates, so if you are



By Mayor
Jim Pawliczek

considering the purchase of one of those inflatable, self-setting pools, you should know that a current building permit is required. And any pool holding more than two feet of water also requires a barrier, as those soft walls are easily climbed by curious children. If you have any questions about pool regulations, please contact the Building Department at 651-7626. Don't risk receiving a violation notice, or more importantly, don't risk the life of a child or pet.

Kudos to our Department of Public Work and Water Department personnel for the great job they did on the two exceedingly difficult water main breaks on Randall Street in recent weeks. That pipe is over a century old and buried several feet beneath layers of concrete and asphalt. Those gentlemen worked grueling long hours to fix those breaks and deserve a round of applause for a job well done.



Florida Library Programs

Programs are open to residents of the Florida Union Free School District. To register for programs at the Florida Public Library, located at 4 Cohen Circle, call 651-7659.

WEDNESDAYS: ANIME CLUB – drop in program at the Florida Library every Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. for teens 14 & up. View & discuss Anime. Teens under 16 must have signed parental permission.

JUNE 10: CAR SMARTS FOR GALS – on Wed., June 10, 6 – 8 p.m. at the Florida Library. Mechanic Tom Folino will demonstrate some basic auto procedures that every girl should know. The program is for adults & teens only. Registration required.

JUNE 21: READ AROUND THE WORLD – the Summer Reading Program for adults at the Florida Public Library begins on Sun., June 21. Stop in for a “passport” and rules. Earn prizes & attend summer book club activities. Call Annmarie at 651-7659 for more information.

JUNE 22: SUMMER PROGRAMS REGISTRATION- begins for all ages. Reading Club registration is in person only. Sign up for summer programs can be in person or by calling the library at 651-7659.

JUNE 29: MAGICIAN JIM VAGIAS – at 2 p.m. for all ages & audience participation is encouraged!

THANK YOU• THANK YOU• THANK YOU• THANK YOU

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make our EMS DAY a success. I would like to thank the following businesses who donated food and other necessities for the day's events.

They are the following:

ORMC, THANK HEAVEN FOR CUPCAKES, WERNER'S TRUE VALUE, QUIK CHEK, QUAKER CREEK, SAM'S MEATS, CAMPBELL HALL GENERAL STORE, PRICE CHOPPER, SHOPRITE, HANNAFORDS, CENTRAL DELI, ENTENMANN'S, CHUMLEY'S, JACQUELINE TOBIN and AMSCAM

I would also like to thank the following for being there for us. They are:

WARWICK VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORP., ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT. (safe child program), EXCEL URGENT CARE and ST. ANTHONY'S HOSPITAL

Most of all, I would like to thank my fellow EMS Personnel who helped out for the day. They are:

LONA OLEJNICZAK, TOM ANDRYSHACK, CHRIS DYEKS, MIKE DYMON, SAMANTHA KENNY, BETTY ZACHAREWICZ, KAY RUTKOWSKI, LIZ AMES, MARY GRAHAM and MIKE COLEMAN

Also a special thanks to -

JOHN AUGUSTYN, KATHY SICINA and JOHN & MELANIE BILANCIONE

Their input helped me to be able to put together this day.

Thanks again for everything, from

1st LIEUT. JOYCE FOULKES of the Florida Fire and Rescue Squad.

THANK YOU• THANK YOU• THANK YOU• THANK YOU

Father Joe Honored By Village of Florida Board

By Lisa Rice



Father Joe

At the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Florida on Wed., June 10, the board unanimously voted to declare June 14, 2009 as “Reverend Father Joseph Tokarczyk Day.” The motion was made to honor Father Joe's 30th Anniversary as a priest, as well as his service to the community. A mass was held at St. Joseph's Church, where Tokarczyk is Pastor, on Sun., June 14 at noon to commemorate the occasion, followed by a reception.

Motions Approved & Tabled

A motion to close or continue the public hearing on Local Law #4, 2009, amending Chapter 95 (sewers) of the Village code, which included standard recommended wording for the municipal ordinance to make it more enforceable, was again tabled. This time, however, it was not solely due to public comment, but also due to the fact that several members of the board felt they needed more time to review the proposed changes to the original ordinance. The motion was tabled to be discussed at an upcoming work session.

Public comment for a motion to add stop signs at intersections on Lincoln and Washington Avenues in the Village was unanimously approved, and shortly after the board voted to approve the addition of the signs. However, a motion to add a “caution, children at play” sign on Farries Avenue and Susan Court was tabled for a work session discussion. According to the Superintendent of Public Works, Timothy Brunswick, the signs are not necessarily a deterrent. “All the courses I've taken, all the instructors say that such signs give a false sense of security,” said Brunswick when asked his opinion on putting up the requested sign. Trustees also questioned whether approving the one sign would lead to various requests for more; and then, whether too many signs would defeat the purpose altogether, causing drivers to ignore them. Currently such signs are located around the schools and playgrounds in the Village.

Jayne Street Water Main Replacement Open for Bid

A motion was made and approved to open bidding for the Jayne Street water main replacement. Bids must be received by Wed., July 1 at 2 p.m. at the office of the Village Clerk where they will be open and read aloud. Additional information can be found in the legal notice published in the *Warwick Valley Dispatch* on June 17.

Financial Expenditures Approved

The board approved the allowance of non-union employees who currently have health benefits to utilize the Health Reimbursement account for the purchase of eyeglasses in an amount not to exceed \$130 per year; the bid of \$1,100 by Pro-Line Enterprise for a used storage container to replace one that is currently in disrepair was approved; and a future expenditure of \$13,000 for one of three electric vehicles to be purchased in the Town of Warwick for use in the Village of Florida was also approved. Where the funds for the purchase of the vehicle will be drawn from will depend upon which department will be granted use of the vehicle. It will be determined at a later date where the vehicle will be the most effective, in hopes that not having to purchase gasoline will eventually recoup the expense; and a proposal from Ketcham Fencing, Inc. in the amount of \$16,752 for fencing, posts and gates around the park at Edward J. Lempka drive was accepted.

Additionally, the board voted unanimously that the Village continue to act as its own assessing unit, rather than adopting the town rolls for tax purposes.

Trash Talk

Rosemarie Schreibeis, a Florida business owner, questioned the amount of recycling and trash allowed for Village pick up. It was explained to her by Mr. Brunswick that the DPW will pick up any amount of plastic and cardboard recycling (the cardboard needs to be properly bundled) without limit. Trash, for regular pick up, is limited to two trashcans, however, he added that the DPW is willing to come and pick up anything, even large items, as long as it's scheduled.

The next Village of Florida board meeting will be held on Wed., July 8 in the Florida senior center.

Florida School Board Monthly Meeting - June 18

The Board of Education of the Florida Union Free School District will hold a regular meeting on Thurs., June 18 at 7:30 p.m., at S. S. Seward Cafetorium. The topic of the meeting will be Spartans of Excellence.

Golden Floridians to Meet

The Golden Floridians are having a business meeting on Wed., June 24, at 1 p.m. in the Florida Senior Center, Cohen Circle. Guest speaker, Hugo Visconti, will discuss the topic: Model Ship Building.

Eggsciting News! Kids & Chicks



Kindergarten teachers from Golden Hill Elementary, Ann Sloat, Dora McBride and Linda O'Connor had their students watch over 15 chicks over a period of 21 days. Once the chicks were hatched, the students studied, fed and took care of them. After 21 days ended, the students returned them back to Cross Creek Farm in Middletown.

Leah held the chick close, excited to be taking care of these adorable chicks. (Photo by Marie Adams, Teacher Aide)

On The Tip of Your Tongue

“We hear conflicting reports about economic recovery everyday. Do you think the economy is turning around or are things still getting worse?”

By Simone and Stella Rose Schneeberg
Photography by Ben Schneeberg



“I think the economy is turning around because I think people want it to turn around. All day I listen to AM radio, mainly WOR from New York City. I’ve been hearing a lot of things lately that show things are changing for the better.”

Amy Ludlow
Warwick
Account Director

“I think it’s starting to turn around and get better. I see more people out shopping. I see lines in stores are getting longer. This and some of what I see on CNN and MSNBC make me think it’s starting to improve.”

Bob Rockwell
Warwick
Communications
Engineer



“It’s turning around slowly. You can see certain things are changing financially. It’s not so much on a downturn anymore even though the job situation has not changed. It’s always like that: the market has to go up first. The stocks are going up a little now, but we have at least another few years before we see it in the job market. I’m

from the Reagan era and Reaganomics was the same way. It was bad. When we had the Bush era things got worse again. Everything grew in the financial sector and computers. But now, a lot of those jobs are obsolete or outsourced outside the U.S.”

Tony Ragland
Warwick
Electronics

“Right now, I don’t think it has turned around. I watch CNN, read newspapers, and listen to public radio and all the reports are too uncertain to know for sure if it’s getting better. But I don’t think we’ve turned the corner yet.”

Sally Pellegrini
Warwick
Librarian



Volunteers Join Forces to Beautify Warwick



Heavy-lifters, Mike Sweeton (in truck) and Bob Scheuermann load the planters for delivery to various locations throughout the town. (Photo submitted)

Each spring the forsythia bloom in early April, tulips and daffodils follow in May, and in June volunteers from Warwick in Bloom and the Warwick Valley Gardeners quietly work at Scheuermann Farms preparing the dozens of planters that decorate the Village of Warwick. Warwick in Bloom is an independent non-profit group of volunteers interested in beautifying our community. One of its goals is to spearhead a town-wide effort, with the hope that all the communities in the Town of Warwick will join them in entering the “America in Bloom” national competition in 2010. The group entered this same competition on behalf of the Village of Warwick in 2003 and won at that time.

The Warwick Valley Gardeners also volunteer their time to maintain seven public gardens throughout the Town of Warwick. Two of the volunteers, specializing in the heavy-lifting detail, Bob Scheuermann and Mike Sweeton, co-owner of General’s Garden, were excited about this year’s array of flowers. “Each year we make extensive notes about what varieties thrive and which ones suffer, so that we can improve on next year’s selection,” noted Supervisor Sweeton. “It’s like an experiment. We try and balance the overall design, with the need for maintenance,” added Scheuermann.

Maureen Charde, owner of High Meadow Flower Farm, and Sharon Williamson, plant artist and enthusiast, were on the Warwick in Bloom committee to select this year’s assortment.

“We chose a new group of flowering plants this season,” said Charde, “that combine a new color palette (blue and gold to honor New York’s Bicentennial) and seasonality.” According to Williamson, “this year’s planters will represent a different assortment each season, including plants for spring, summer, and evergreens during fall.” There are different planter groupings for Main Street, South Street, as well as bridge plantings and hanging baskets.

Warwick in Bloom welcomes volunteers. To donate time, leave a message on the website, become a member of the Busy Bees Watering Committee, and download a copy of the 2009 Planting Brochure at www.warwickinfo.net/wib. Donations in any amount are greatly appreciated and may be sent to: Warwick in Bloom, P.O. Box 519, Warwick, NY 10990. All funds are put right back into the community.

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Arts & Entertainment

Summer Solstice Show & Tell

The Orange County Arts Council will celebrate the beginning of summer by hosting a *Summer Solstice Show and Tell*, as part of its Creative Contacts series, on Thurs., June 25 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Artists are encouraged to bring examples of their work to share during the networking portion of the evening.

This event will take place at the Orange County Arts Council Offices, 23 White Oak Dr., Sugar Loaf. The cost is \$10 for the general public, or free for artist and organization members. For more information about Creative Contacts or the Orange County Arts Council, call 469-9168 or e-mail info@ocartscouncil.org.

'Visions of Sugar Loaf IV' June 25 – Aug. 30

The Wallkill River School Plein Air Painters will be exhibiting their "Visions of Sugar Loaf IV" show at Bertoni Gallery from June 25 through Aug. 30. The exhibition will be held as a two-month long silent auction, so people can bid at their own convenience. Many of the starting bids are set at a very affordable price range, allowing everyone the opportunity to own an original piece of art at a reasonable price. Fresh new paintings of the black dirt region, including Chester and Sugar Loaf areas, are done en plein air by local artists. The artists work in a variety of mediums including pastel, oil, acrylic and watercolors.

The opening reception will be held on Sat., June 27 from 6 - 8 p.m. There will be a "meet and greet" with the artists. Guests can also enjoy a brief history of Sugar Loaf, and the importance of buying and eating local.

Auction winners may pick up their paintings on Aug. 30 between 12 noon and 6 p.m.

Warwick Atelier Offers Plein Air Tuesdays

The Warwick Atelier is now offering plein air (outdoor) painting classes led by Susan Hope Fogel, June through September. Morning and sunset classes are now forming. For more information, call 986-0986 or e-mail susanhopefogel@gmail.com.

Humane Society Announces Winners

Humane Society.

continued from page 1

Molly, who is owned by the Burnett family of Sugar Loaf, NY, won the Best Puppy photo; and Lizzie, owned by the Wander family of Sugar Loaf, won Best Overall photo.

There was a tie for Best Senior photo, between Popcorn, owned by the Citelli family of Goshen and Max, owned by the Pedersen family of West Milford.

Winners received their photo back in a lovely "doggie" frame and a gift basket of goodies for their canine companions.

Dick Wells Big Band to Perform at Railroad Green



The Dick Wells Big Band will perform at Railroad Green on Sat., June 20 at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy.

Greenwood Lake Holds Art Exhibition



The Greenwood Lake Public Library hosted a successful Junior Jubilee 2009, A Student Art Exhibition, on May 31. The event drew people of all ages and was a colorful tribute to the talent of our young student artists. The students were honored at this event for their achievement and artistic talent.

Outstanding Student Artist, Gabriella Fiore, shows off her artwork, "Clay & Weaving."

Excellent Workmanship at an Honest & Fair Price

By Lon Tytell



Clint Foxwell (on left) and John Tasaro, co-owners of Majestic Windows and Exterior and Majestic Remodeling, treat their customers like royalty. (Photo by Lon Tytell)

In August 2008, despite the economic downfall, John Tasaro and Clint Foxwell decided put their years of experience together and start their own company. Four months later, in December, Majestic Windows and Exteriors started business, operating out of Tasaros' living room.

Majestic Windows and Exteriors firmly believes the best thing homeowners can do in today's economy is invest in their home. The duo began by installing windows, doors, siding, and roofing. Later, responding to the needs of

their customers, they expanded into interior design and opened Majestic Remodeling. After one month, Tasaro and Foxwell realized they needed a place where customers could seek out professional advice. So, they opened an office on Main Street in Florida.

Tasaro and Foxwell like to keep overhead costs down so they can give customers the best price and customer service possible. They do not employ any salespeople; customers always deal directly with the owners. Majestic loves the referrals received from their customers and even have a referral program, where the person who referred them gets paid.

With the help of their seven local employees, Majestic has been able to expand their business from Orange to Dutchess, and Westchester Counties. Recently Majestic was awarded a 30-townhouse job. "In today's economy, where credit is unavailable, Majestic realizes people are using money saved for years and feel it is an honor to be chosen to do the work," commented Tasaro.

John and Clint make the extra effort to reach out to the community. At Christmas and Thanksgiving, Majestic donated dinners to the Florida School District Food Program. Majestic is also a sponsor of the Hudson Valley Renegades.

Majestic Windows and Exteriors and Majestic Remodeling use a wide range of materials to fit any customer's needs. All of their windows, doors, and siding products qualify for the new tax credit laws. Customers are encouraged to visit the showroom to see all Majestic has to offer. Stop in to see them at 62 N. Main Street, Florida, NY, or call 508-6377 to get a free estimate.

Majestic Windows and Exteriors lives by the slogan, "Where you're treated like royalty."

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Warwick Valley Gardeners Spruce up Newark Garden



Ten members of the Warwick Valley Gardeners joined with students from St. Vincent Academy in Newark, NJ and employees of the New Community Corp., to weed, plant and mulch the Meditation Garden in Newark, NJ. The garden features a sculpture by Warwick's Dr. Fredrick Franck entitled 'Seven Generations.' Dr. Franck wanted to put art where it was least expected and where hope was needed. There are a total of four of his sculptures in Newark. Pat Reinhardt, a WVG member and a teacher at St. Vincent Academy, organized the project, which was recognized by the Federated Gardeners of NY at its recent awards luncheon. (Photo submitted)

Sugar Loaf Vacation Bible School

The Sugar Loaf United Methodist Church is gearing up for another fun-filled Vacation Bible School program. This year's theme is "Camp Edge" (Experience and Discover God Everywhere) and features a week of awesome adventures, fun music, games and crafts. Children from preschool through grade 6 are invited to an adventure-filled week of fun from Mon., June 29 – Fri., July 3 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. The church is located on Kings Highway in Sugar Loaf. To register in advance, call Charlotte Mifsudat 469-8605.

Schervier Pavilion Residents Celebrate Senior Prom



Dorothy Anderson recently celebrated her 99th birthday.

Dispelling many age stereotypes, Schervier Pavilion residents, wearing suits and gowns, joined their families and staff members on Thurs., June 4 to celebrate a "Senior – Senior Prom."

Schervier Pavilion, a skilled nursing facility, shares the Warwick Campus of Bon Secours Charity Health System with St. Anthony Community Hospital and Mount Alverno Center Adult Home and Assisted Living Program.

"It was a great opportunity for our residents to recall and share fond memories with this traditional school days event," said Senior Recreational Therapist Kelly Fedrizzi. "And every employee in each of our departments from housekeeping to nursing to accounting participated. There wasn't one employee who did not get involved."

The idea for a "Senior – Senior Prom" was born earlier this year when Fedrizzi offered to revive the same fun event that she had once organized at Schervier Pavilion 11 years ago. Director of Recreation Kari Call liked the idea and encouraged her to put the plan into action. Fedrizzi then enlisted the help of other employees, all of whom readily volunteered, and solicited donations from local Warwick businesses.

John Christison, owner of Yesterdays, supplied all the tablecloths. Amy Sliter, owner of Corwin Florist & Greenhouses, provided flowers for the gentlemen and ladies who would enter the prom "ballroom" through a colorful archway.

Invitations were sent out to the families of residents requesting that they also bring their loved ones suitable "prom" clothing. The response was enthusiastic and some family members even attended the event wearing tuxedos and gowns.

On the day of the prom the staff prepared a buffet table complete with appetizers, punch and other refreshments. DJ Octavius, a popular local entertainer, was on hand to sing and play music for dancing while also clowning to the delight of his audience.

The "Senior – Senior Prom" also featured a father/daughter and mother/son dance and a chance to cast a vote for prom king and queen as well as prince and princess. The winners were then presented with sashes and crowns.

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