



All the news in a small town

THE HANCOCK HERALD

VOLUME 148, NO. 1

HANCOCK, NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2020

PRICE 75 CENTS

AROUND TOWN —

Tractor Parade Canceled
Another COVID casualty — A major fundraiser for the Hancock Community Education Foundation, the annual Fall Festival and Bob Ray Memorial Tractor Parade is canceled.

Parish Priest Reassigned
Members of St. Paul the Apostle RC Church bid farewell to Fr. Daniel Quinn as he begins his new parish responsibilities at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament in Albany, NY.

Moon Float 2020
Participate in a moonlit paddle down the Delaware River on Saturday, October 31 at 7:30. Proceeds to benefit Michelle's Mission, a local not for profit providing comfort bags for cancer patients. See page 4 for details.

Build a Scarecrow
Saturday, October 17th from 9-3 at the Robert Nichol Nature Science Center the Hancock Community Education Foundation is hosting a build a scarecrow contest. \$10.00 fee, materials provided. See page 5 for details.

Free Meals
As of October 1, ALL students attending the Hancock Central School District will be eligible to receive one free breakfast and one free lunch per school day until December 31, 2020.

Chicken 'n Biscuit Dinner
Saturday, October 17th 4:30-6:00 (or until it's gone!) @ Hancock Emory United Methodist Church Parking Lot. FREE!!! — a gift to the community from Emory.

Halloween . . . Stay tuned
The Village of Hancock will make final plans for Halloween festivities at the next board meeting (Oct 12). The Herald will post that information on our Facebook page. Trunk or Treat is canceled. HCS announced that the costume parade and class parties are canceled.

Date Change for Board Mtg.
Due to election day, the next meeting of the Town of Hancock Town Board will be rescheduled for Wednesday, November 4th at 7 PM.

UDC Meets October 20
The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) will hold the next monthly meeting of its Water Use/Resource Management Committee on Tuesday, October 20 at 7 pm in the UDC office, 211 Bridge St., Narrowsburg, NY. Contact ashley@upperdelawarecouncil.org for questions about in-person or teleconference options.

Book Sale
Manchester Community Library in Equinunk, PA will hold its monthly Book Sale on Saturday, October 17 from 9 a.m. until noon. With more books than shelf space, the library discounts sale books to .50 for hardcovers, and .25 for paperbacks. Buy by the bag or box - we have a long winter looming. The library is located at 3879 Hancock Highway, (a.k.a. Route 191) about two miles south of the center of Equinunk. Turn in at the Manchester Township / Library sign and keep to the left. Call 570-224-8500 for information.



John W. Podbelski, 92, passed away October 8, 2020, at R. W. Johnson Hospital in Rahway. Born in Sayreville, he was a longtime resident of Hancock, NY and South Amboy, NJ before moving to Cranford 24 years ago.



Smaller groups make social distancing in classrooms easier. Middle school students using their chrome books during class receive instruction

Wildcat Reset Hancock Central School Reopening Plan

"Protecting the health, safety, and welfare of all of our stakeholders are and always will be our top priorities when reopening school in the face of COVID-19," said Hancock Central School (HCS) Superintendent Terrance Dougherty.

The United States is dealing with its most serious health crisis in more than 100 years. In the midst of this health crisis, our students need to be educated.

Tightly aligned to CDC, NYSDOH, NYSED and NYSPHSAA guidelines, HCS reopened on September 10 with many policies and procedures in place that are quite different from a typical first day back.

As per the New York State Department of Education mandates, schools in New York State could implement one of three plans: (1) In-Person: All students return to school for in-building instruction; (2) Remote: All students stay home for digital/virtual instruction; (3) Hybrid: Combination of In-Person and Remote instruction.

The HCS district is utilizing a Hybrid Plan with students in grades PreK-6 attending school in-person each day on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Students in grades 7-12 will be assigned to either Group A or Group and are expected to attend school in-person on Monday and Tuesday OR Thursday and Friday. Students in grades 7-12 will remotely follow their daily class schedule on the off-days when they are not attending in-person instruction.

This plan will change based on COVID-19 spread, developing health conditions, state and county requirements, and practical experience with the plan. It is possible that all three learning scenarios may need to be utilized throughout the school year. "Change is the only constant," said Dougherty. "We must remain flexible in our approach." He emphasized that changes and updates will be communicated with immediacy.

As required by the New York State Department of Health the health and safety plan includes mandatory health screening for all staff, students, and visitors entering any school building; isolation protocol for any student or staff who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms upon or after arrival at school; and safety protocols for student transition between classes, controlling student daily arrival and departure, and regular training for students and staff in established safety procedures.

This means maximizing social distancing, frequent hand washing or use of hand sanitizer, face coverings that completely cover the nose and mouth and enhanced cleaning and disinfection of spaces/surfaces. Every student will be issued an iPad or Chrome book depending on grade level and the school district will provide Internet connection for any student without access. This may include increasing frequency of attendance to four days per week.

(Continued on page 4)



Meet the family . . . Front: Gunner Davis and Margaret Schaefer Middle: Lin Schaefer, Michael Davis and Brayden Davis Back: Lonny Schaefer, Nicole Pietronisanti, Nichole Anderson, Brian Davis and Sandra Davis

Welcome Back, Readers! New Owner Restarts Publication of The Hancock Herald

By Ann Kozak



Cindy Ray is the new Editor & Publisher of The Hancock Herald.

The Hancock Herald, the area's weekly newspaper that has been absent from local stores and newsstands since April, restarts publication on October 14, 2020.

Cindy R. Ray of Hancock has purchased the paper from Sally Zegers, who served as editor and publisher of the Herald from 2003 until this past April when the paper suspended publication due to the pandemic.

A Hancock native, Ray is well aware of the vital role small town newspapers play in fostering community spirit and involvement by keeping readers informed of the local issues and events that affect them. The paper is especially important to local advertisers, and can help attract new residents, businesses and industries to the area.

Ray will be assisted in the transition by Louise Botsford who will continue to serve as advertising representative.

A graphic designer, Rachael Agiros, has been added to the staff, enabling the Herald to offer graphic design services to advertisers and general public.

Ray, whose recent corporate experience includes business development and management, spent more than twenty years teaching high school history, journalism and photography. She has a bachelors degree in history from SUNY Cortland, and a masters degree in secondary education.

In addition to the print version of the Herald, a new online version of the paper will be launched soon.

The Herald staff welcomes reader input in the form of ideas, articles, and letters to the editor. The Hancock Herald office is located at 102 E. Front Street. Cindy Ray can be reached at 637-3591 or by email at hancockherald@hancock.net.

Local EMT Deploys to NYC

Assists with COVID Outbreak

By: Sally Zegers

One of the factors helping New York City struggle through the worst days of the COVID 19 pandemic was the use of EMTs from across the country, some of whom had received their training in Broome and Delaware Counties, including Kaitlin Gorton, a young woman with local ties. She is the daughter of David and Judy Frankskevitz Gorton of Greene, and the granddaughter of Doug and Jill Gorton of Hale Eddy and the late Edward and Mary Frankskevitz of Hancock.

Kaitlin, who graduated from Greene Central School, got her EMT-Basic card through a class held by Delaware County in 2018. "I soon realized how much I enjoyed doing volunteer EMS for Delhi Fire Department and decided to apply to go to paramedic school at SUNY Broome," she tells the Herald, choosing an "accelerated path" which consisted of doing the two year degree program in one year. When the Covid-19 pandemic hit, her classes went online, and she took the opportunity to deploy to NYC.

"I deployed to NYC and brought my laptop and was able to do my classes in the ambulance between 911 calls," she said, even taking her midterms while deployed. She received an A.A.S. in Para-medicine this summer as well as a Certificate in Para-medicine. After you successfully complete the program you take a New York State Skills exam and a New York State written exam. When you pass both of those you receive your New York State EMT-P card.

Kaitlin, who works for the

Cooperstown branch of American Medical Response (AMR), deployed to New York City in the last week in March, staying until the first week in May, a total of 35 days. AMR has a contract with FEMA for national disasters.

The company deployed seven employees in the beginning, including Kaitlin: Mark Rossley, who was Kaitlin's partner for the duration of the 35 days, Nathan Owens, Nick Marquez, Nick Keever, Brad Darling, Mike Nelson. "We did switch some employees during the deployment and Amanda Leffingwell came down to work as well," Kaitlin says. She was housed at a Hotel in Queens.

The City had one official case by March 1, a health care worker who had returned to her home in Manhattan after a visit to Iran. However, genomic tests have shown that the virus was already in the City in February. By April, New York City had more confirmed COVID cases than were reported in China. By April, NYC accounted for 25 percent of all the COVID 19 deaths in the United States. Refrigerated trailers were parked around the City for use as makeshift morgues to handle the number of dead, and television sets across the country brought the apocalyptic scenes into everyone's living rooms.

At first I was terrified of catching the virus . . .

"At first I was terrified of catching the virus," Kaitlin says, but she quickly adjusted to the new normal. "After a few days it became routine and natural with the PPE."

(Continued on page 4)

LOCAL FARM PRODUCE FINDS ITS WAY TO SCHOOL CAFETERIAS

DEPOSIT, NY — Catskill Cattle Company is a 4th generation (soon to be 5th!) family-owned agricultural business. "We are a fourth-generation dairy farm family with a fifth generation on the way," said Lonny Schaefer, one of five siblings, who own and operate the Catskill Cattle Company in Deposit, NY.

Family, friends, and volunteers scurried to husk, clean and pack the fall harvest of sweet corn for delivery to local farmers markets and schools in the Broome/Tioga BOCES district on Saturday, October 3.

Schaefer explained that their family farm participates

in the NY Thursdays Program. The program was launched in 2017 under the guidance of State Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball and brings locally sourced foods to five school districts in Broome and Tioga Counties. "We know that by feeding our students well, right from the start, we're helping to educate them on the benefits of a healthier diet. We're also making sure they know where their food comes from and introducing them to the farmer who grew and produced the fruits, vegetables and dairy products on their plates," said Ball.

(Continued on page 4)

Village Board Holds Election

Village Elections were held on September 15, 2020. Incumbents Dorothy Picozzi and Charlene Caramore ran unopposed and each were elected to another 2 year term.

The board meets every second Monday at 7 pm at the Village Clerk's Office.

Town Board Talks of East Branch Water Project and Preliminary Town Budget

By Kristin Barron

The Town of Hancock Town Board heard an update on the ongoing East Branch water system project and approved the town's tentative 2021 budget during the regularly scheduled board meeting on Tuesday, October 6th.

Bill Brown, project engineer for the East Branch initiative, of Delaware Engineering, D.P.C., Oneonta, reported on the Three Phase project.

"The bulk of the work is done," Brown said regarding the project's Second Phase which will be completed later this fall.

During Phase Two, water line construction was completed, and new mains and services were installed from O&W Road to the reservoir at the southern

end of Main Street. A new liner was also installed in the water reservoir. Paving of sections of Fish Road, Main Street, and O&W Road is currently underway.

The board approved a change order and invoice in their agreement with RB Robinson Contracting, Inc. of Candor, NY, who is doing the Phase Two project, for additional grading and carpentry work around the reservoir as well as purchase of valves and additional water service piping in the amount of \$46,993. Revised contract total is \$451,293. Funding for the project is through a New York State Office of Community Renewal grant. (NYSDOH)

The East Branch water project was begun in 2019. Work for Phase One, which including

(Continued on page 4)

Delaware County COVID-19 Report

The known active cases in the County as of October 11 is now 8. To date there have been 132 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Delaware County, with 91 people now under mandatory quarantine and no one under precautionary quarantine. As of October 11 no one is isolated in the hospital, 8 people have died and 116 have fully recovered and are no longer isolated or receiving care.

For more information about SUNY Delhi, SUNY Oneonta

or any other NY College or University you can access their dashboards at: <https://www.suny.edu/covid19-tracker>

For information regarding your local school districts please refer to the dashboards at: <https://schoolcovidreportcard.health.ny.gov/home>

For information about guidance for business reopening please refer to: <https://forward.ny.gov/>

Delaware County NY COVID-19 Update					
Date	Lab Reports Received Today	New Positive Cases Today	Active Positive Cases Today	Hospitalized Cases Today	Number in Mandatory Quarantine Today
10/11/20	204	1	8	0	91
Total Lab Reports		Total Positive Cases	Cases Discharged/Recovered	COVID-19 Related Deaths	
20731		132	116	8	
Information will be updated daily by Delaware County Public Health Services. Due to limited testing capability, the number of positive cases does not reflect current illness.					
If you have any questions please call Delaware County Public Health Services at 607-832-5200					



Local EMT Deployed . . . (Continued from page 1)



EMT Kaitlin Gorton in PPE gear. She volunteered for deployment to NYC - a COVID-19 hot spot.

health calls/injuries to basic life assist." It was different than EMS in Delaware County because of call volume, which ran to 10+ calls in a 12-hour shift. As for the PPE, Kaitlin says she was never short of the life preserving items. "We had access to PPE and I never fell short of it. FEMA had a truck for their local fire departments and ambulance squads, saying they will get a lot out of it."

During the pandemic the city was a ghost town, she recalls. "There was no traffic, minimal people in the streets. At one point my posting spot in NYC was in Bronx directly in front of Yankee Stadium. It was empty and quiet."

If the city itself was quiet, the caseload was not. "In the beginning of the deployment we handled an overwhelming amount of people experiencing Covid-19 symptoms," she says. "The first two weeks I spent in NYC I was covering South Bronx, the last weeks spent there I was covering Queens. We handled everything from Covid-19 symptoms, mental



Left to Right: Nick Marquez, Brad Darling, Nate Owens, Kaitlin Gorton, Mark Rossley, Nick Keever and Mike Nelson

Delivering Rural Broadband Is a Must

By Rep. Antonio Delgado



Congressman Delgado has represented New York's 19th Congressional District since January, 2019.

Every day, I hear from folks across my district in upstate New York about their inability to access basic broadband. These conversations range from students who are unable to reach the virtual classroom, to seniors in search of telemedicine services, to small business owners looking for new ways to connect with customers in the digital age.

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it abundantly clear that affordable high-speed coverage cannot be a luxury for the few. Instead, it must be treated as a basic utility and made available to every American. Just as housing and education are critical to

where she was taught by Margaret Wilson. "The opportunities I was given through Delaware County is the reason I became a paramedic. Shawn Kauffman and Dan Endress helped me learn and are the reason I wanted to continue my pre-hospital education." Kaitlin urges people to volunteer for their local fire departments and ambulance squads, saying they will get a lot out of it.

"The end wall boards were food for the beavers," said Brown. During the meeting, the board also approved a change order and invoice in their agreement with BH Decker in the amount of \$11,083.66 for required masonry repairs. The revised contract amount is \$40,833.66. The final phase of the project will commence in the spring of 2021. The town was awarded a \$749,875 grant from NYS-DOH for completion of Phase Three. Plans are currently being finalized for submission to NYS-DOH. During Phase Three, remaining water mains will be installed as well as a backup well and generator.

"There are a lot of unknown things right now," said Brown, noting that grants may be subject to a 20% reduction. Finally, the second of two required public hearings to con-

Town Board Meeting . . . (Continued from page 1)

a new well, well house, and piping, was completed in September by BH Decker, Inc. of Delhi NY. A new roof was also constructed on the water reservoir and work was done to repair the tank walls and rotted gables.

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Moon Float 2020 Moonlit Paddle Down the Delaware Benefits Michelle's Mission

Michelle's Mission is the vision of Michelle Callan who succumbed to skin cancer on September 20, 2019 at just 46 years-old. The project provides first-time chemotherapy bags to patients at local hospitals.

The bags are stocked with items for men and women including cozy socks, chemo caps/baseball caps, a painted rock, playing cards, tissues, gum, chap stick, antibacterial lotion, word search and pens, nail polish, water bottles, and many more items. Michelle knew how scary the first day of chemotherapy could be and wanted to provide comfort, hope and inspiration to others.

"Building off this amendment, I've since introduced a legislative package designed to close the digital divide. The first bill, the Broad-band Speed Act, will require Internet services, electrical co-op owners, and people throughout our region about how the scarcity and cost of rural broadband impacts their businesses and day-to-day life. Even a year ago, before the pandemic, it was clear that the digital divide was holding back our rural communities."

In conjunction with these concerns, I have been laser focused on addressing flawed broadband maps, a key first step when it comes to tackling this issue. For too long, the federal government has relied on "census block mapping" when collecting data to determine where to allocate funding for broadband projects. The approach assumes that if one house in a census block has broadband access, then every house in the

duct a performance review of the Phase Two work has been scheduled for the next town board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 4th. The Board also reviewed the tentative Town of Hancock budget for 2021. Bookkeeper Monika Noble noted that the town is "Trying to keep taxes down as much as possible." There will be a 9% increase in expenditures, said Noble, which translates to a tax increase of 52 cents per 1,000 for residents outside the village and 46 cents per 1,000 for village residents. Total tentative expenditures amount to \$3,684,120.00. Tax rates are based on the town's overall assessment of \$54,189,585, said Noble.

The Board approved the tentative budget and will hold a budget hearing and vote on final approval of the preliminary budget at 7:15 PM during the November Board meeting on Nov. 4

In Other Matters: The Board approved an agreement with Sansara for \$11,599 a year for installation and upkeep of new GPS systems for 15 highway department vehicles.

HCS Reopens (Continued from page 1)

The board heard a presentation from Shannon Cileto, the new Resources and Land Use Specialist at the Upper Delaware Council. Cileto, distributed the new Project Review Workbook to the town and offered her assistance with any future projects.

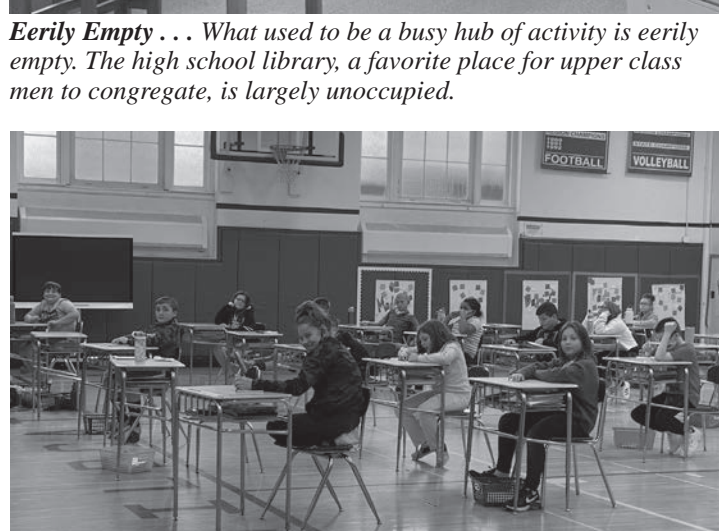
"The execution of this plan has been outstanding. Our staff, students and community are to be commended," said Dougherty.



Photo by C. Ray Music continues . . . band rehearsals are held in the auditorium where the vast space and soaring ceilings provide adequate ventilation and opportunity to practice social distancing.



Ererily Empty . . . What used to be a busy hub of activity is eerily empty. The high school library, a favorite place for upper class men to congregate, is largely unoccupied.



New use of space . . . Some classes have been moved to alternative areas to adhere to safety protocols. Here, a fifth grade class receives instruction in the gymnasium.

Catskill Cattle Co. (Continued from page 1)

This is the third year that Catskill Cattle Company has participated in the program. "The program allows children to eat the livestock and produce that they see growing in fields on their way to school," said Schaefer. "Our family is proud to be part of that."

They currently have a large variety of pumpkins and gourds available for purchase - individually or "cheaper by the dozen."

For more information go to: www.catskillcattle.com or facebook.com/catskillcattle.

Mid-term progress reports for the FY 2021 grants will be due by February 26, 2021. The deadline to complete their projects and submit documentation for reimbursement is August 20, 2021.

The UDC board approved a resolution at the Oct 1 UDC monthly meeting to award the three grants.

Technical Assistance Grants are available on the competitive basis to the UDC's eight member New York towns, five Pennsylvania townships, and their encompassing five river corridor counties. Buckingham and Manchester Townships in Wayne County, PA would be eligible to receive this member benefit if they joined the UDC.

To access a directory of the UDC's Technical Assistance Grants from 1988-2020, review program guidelines, and download forms, visit www.upperdelawarecouncil.org

Please contact UDC Resources and Land Use Specialist Shannon Cileto at (845) 252-3022 or shannon@upperdelawarecouncil.org with any questions about the TAG program.

Service with Dignity Henderson - Biedekapp Funeral Chapel

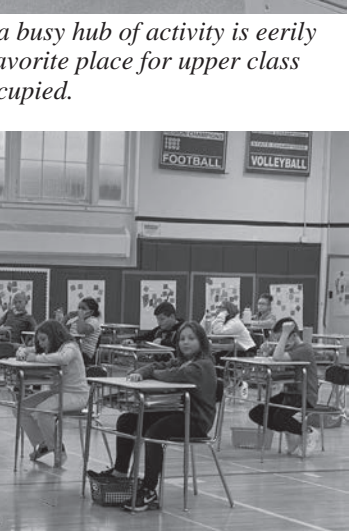
For more information about the Wildcat Rest, visit HCS's School Reopening page on-line at https://www.hancockstier.org/SchoolReopening.aspx.



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Service with Dignity Henderson - Biedekapp Funeral Chapel

Classifieds

Rates: \$4.50 for the first 25 words, 5 cents a word for every word over 25.

"Card of Thanks" and "In Memoriam" same price. Poetry or photos with classifieds: Additional \$2 charge.

Deadline: Display & Classified Ads - Monday 10 AM. Display ads \$4.20 per column inch.

102 E. Front Street, Hancock 607-637-3591

Send Town of Hancock Ambulance Donations to PO Box 733, Hancock NY 13783

HELP WANTED Customer Service Specialist

Busy office in search of candidate who will: Respond to customer needs maintaining good rapport Demonstrate proficiency/familiarity with Microsoft Office Products Multitask in detail-oriented environment Conduct business in a professional manner

Please send resume care of: The Hancock Herald PO Box 519, Hancock, NY 13783 or email to custsvapp@yahoo.com 4xHH/11/4

POSTED LANDS

The Bambi Rod & Gun Club, Inc., Town of Hancock, at Cadonia, NY is legally posted. Trespassing for hunting, fishing or any other purpose is strictly prohibited. Violators will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Bambi Rod & Gun Club, Brookhyn, NY 12/18p12x

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WANTED - Real Estate Listings: Having depleted much of our inventory (we sold them), we would like to discuss with you the possibility of selling your house or land. We are frequently contacted by buyers for all sorts of property. Over the years, thousands of individuals and companies, large and small, have trusted Upper Delaware Real Estate to sell their home, land or business. We are licensed to sell in New York and Pennsylvania. Please call or stop in anytime and we look forward to speaking with you. Since 1997 - your local real estate expert - Upper Delaware Real Estate

Peter J. McDade Real Estate 44 Oak St., Deposit NY 607-467-3706 www.mcdaderealestate.com LISTINGS NEEDED MEMORIES OF DAYS DOWN ON THE FARM - 98+/- acre farm. 59 acres on one side of the road, 39 acres on the other side of the road. Ample road frontage and over 3,000 feet on Oquaga Creek. Many ponds. Farm House and Pole barn. A must see! \$198,000 13 UNIT MOTEL FOR SALE [Family Business] \$395,000

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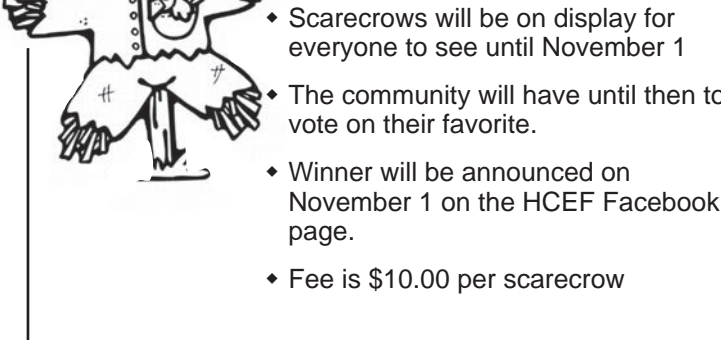
Woodland Creek Real Estate Katie Zegers DuBois - Broker 50 West Main Street, Hancock NY Phone: 607-637-HOME • Cell: 570-575-1414 Fax: 607-637-3755 • www.woodlandcreekre.com

COME JOIN US CAREFREE LIVING SPACIOUS ONE BEDROOM APARTMENTS FOR ACTIVE SENIORS 62+ READ MEMORIAL Located in the Cobble Bluestone, Read Memorial has been recently awarded to accessible individuals 62+ or disabled of any age. With a small town atmosphere, Read Memorial Senior Apartments is situated in the center of the town offering outdoor, the shared neighborhood amenities. Our spacious one bedroom apartments will have you calling Read Memorial your next home. 266 LEONARD STREET HANCOCK, NY 13783 readmemorial@conifer.com www.readmemorialapartments.com a conifer community

WIST LUMBER 13 Leonard Way, Deposit NY (607) 467-5900 Hours: Mon. - Fri.: 7:30 am - 5:00 pm Sat.: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm "Full-Line of Building Materials" Warm Front Wood Pellets Valspar Paint • Cabot Stain Pressure Treated Lumber • Rug Doctor Owens Corning Insulation • Sheetrock Kiln Dried Framing Lumber Plywood • OSB • Advantec Moulding • Concrete Blocks Electrical & Plumbing Supplies Steel Roofing • Masonite Doors GAF Timberline Shingles Hardware & Tools • Siding Materials Window and Screen Repairs Haun Welding Cylinder Exchange

Build A Scarecrow Contest

Saturday, October 17 from 9 - 3 at the Robert Nichols Science Center Materials for your very own scarecrow will be provided Winner receives a gift certificate for a free rental of the Nature Center. Scarecrows will be on display for everyone to see until November 1 The community will have until then to vote on their favorite. Winner will be announced on November 1 on the HCEF Facebook page. Fee is \$10.00 per scarecrow



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WANTED - Real Estate Listings: Having depleted much of our inventory (we sold them), we would like to discuss with you the possibility of selling your house or land. We are frequently contacted by buyers for all sorts of property. Over the years, thousands of individuals and companies, large and small, have trusted Upper Delaware Real Estate to sell their home, land or business. We are licensed to sell in New York and Pennsylvania. Please call or stop in anytime and we look forward to speaking with you. Since 1997 - your local real estate expert - Upper Delaware Real Estate

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United Country Joanne McGibney Real Estate 676 N. Sanford Rd., Deposit, NY 13754 Sharon (Dennis) Gordon Lic Real Estate Salesperson in NY & PA 607-778-9954 sharond@hancock.net Website: www.depositnyrealestate.com No One Knows The Country Like We Do! Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated I am happy to announce that Sharon (Dennis) Gordon has joined me at United Country Real Estate! We are combining our years of experience to better serve you in all real estate transactions in Ny & PA. Thank you for your continued business! We look forward to hearing from you!

We are pleased to announce that Jim Serio's Real Estate office in Hancock NY is now officially THE JAMES SERIO TEAM OF kw UPSTATE NY PROPERTIES KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY The exceptional service, professionalism and knowledge of the local NY & PA real estate market that has always been synonymous with James Serio Realty, now enhanced by the strength, vision, leadership and state-of-the-art systems and processes of Keller Williams, puts us in a much greater position to empower or agents to deliver the highest level of value to our clients and customers! We look forward to assisting you with any and all of your real estate needs!

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On the Spotlight

By James Kilgore



Wild apple trees spread their branches across a land that was once a farmstead filled with history of farming, fur trapping and tailoring. It is a special place where a random grove of 2,500 wild apple trees provide each year a harvest that now is captured and naturally processed by two apple farming pioneers in East Branch.

Red Kill Mountain Homestead Farms is the dream, the love, the business of partners Matthew Trattner and Ashley Rossi both transplants from northern New Jersey who together have brought the wild apple back from decades of oblivion. They have reintroduced products of a by-gone age by embracing the challenge of wild apple farming or as they call it "wild apple stewardship", a trade they further refer to as "permaculture", organic farming with a twist which they call farming by "utilizing the patterns and resilient features observed in natural ecosystems."

On an old farmstead that spreads across a high ridge of Red Kill Mountain near Roxbury sits an apple grove first planted some 150 years ago, a

grove that expands naturally in time. Each fall the apples are picked by hand and gathered to make products rarely available elsewhere. All made from wild, natural, left-to-nature apples with different tastes, sizes and colors. Apples in season are sold at the Red Kill Mountain Homestead Farm store and processing plant and kitchen on Burnwood Road in East Branch. In their kitchen and processing plant Trattner and Rossi make magic and produce apple molasses, apple spread, apple sauce and dried apples.

A bite on a piece of dried wild apple will bring a taste of a lemon-like tartness with complex flavors of cinnamon, mixed fruit with an apple base. It awakes your every taste bud, like tasting a very fine wine.

I have yet to taste the other products but know from the makers that their care and creativity have produced something very special, a taste not experienced by many and a taste once cherished by the earliest settlers of the Catskill Mountains.

Apple Molasses, also known as cider syrup, is the flagship product of Red Kill Mountain Homestead Farms. "We hand-select and hand-harvest our wild apples and press them into sweet cider. The cider is then boiled down into a delightful apple molasses," says Rossi. Apple molasses, Rossi points out is listed as an "endangered food" by Ark of Taste an international catalogue of "endangered" heritage foods.

Homestead Farms' apple spread is made in small batches

from hand-selected apples "with the skin on and then hand-blended with the farm's apple molasses," adds Rossi.

In wintertime Rossi and Trattner produce maple syrup from a sugarbush the couple cares for on their Red Kill Mountain apple farm. The syrup is aged in old bourbon barrels producing a sweet, mellow taste.

We want to be good stewards of the land . . .

"We want to be good stewards of the land that is under our care," says Trattner of the couple's approach to wild apple farming practices with its "stewardship" twist, all totally natural and driven by what nature brings. "We have as part of our mission to educate others through our products that this food source - wild apples - needs to be preserved and protected," adds Rossi.

Red Kill Mountain Homestead Farms products come attractively packaged and come in 10 to 7-ounce jars or in the case of dried apples in a 7/10 ounce specially-sealed harvest-brown bag. Products may be purchased on the Red Kill Mountain Homestead Farms website at www.redkillmountainhomesteadfarms.com. Products including fresh apples now in season can also be purchased at the farm's "Milk House", the official retail store located at 3432 Burnwood Road, East Branch, NY 13756. Store hours are Friday, Saturday and Sunday by appointment. For more information email redkillmountain@gmail.com or call Ashley at (845) 674-3535.



Business Partners and Entrepreneurs . . . Ashley Rossi and Matthew Trattner at their Red Kill Mountain Homestead Farm store on Burnwood Road in East Branch.



Orders are shipped country-wide . . . Ashley Rossi showcases items for sale at the farm's "Milk House" - the official retail store located at 3432 Burnwood Road, East Branch, NY



Wild Apple Products . . . Apple Spread, Apple Molasses, and Dried Apples are just a few of the items featured at the farm store.

Annual Chili Sale

Equinunk Historical Society

EQUINUNK, PA — The Equinunk Historical Society in Equinunk, PA will hold its annual Chili Sale on Saturday, November 14.

Important Note: Orders MUST be received by Friday, Nov. 6!

Ordering is easy - Call 570-224-6722, (the Equinunk Historical Society) and leave a message. You can also call Carol Ann at 570-224-4466, or send an email to ehs22@verizon.net.

The sale is TAKE-OUT only, and pick-up hours on the 14th are noon to 4 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 for 1 quart of chili, plus two rolls and two brownies. You'll have dinner for two for only \$10.00! You can also specify vegetarian if that's your choice.

EHS is located at the junction of Rte. 191 and Pine Mill Rd. in the heart of the village. The address for your GPS is 1972 Pine Mill Rd.

Many not-for-profit organizations are struggling this year as their profit generating activities were all cancelled due to the pandemic. The chili sale is a way to help make up for lost income that benefits us both! Place your order now - we'll be glad you did.

DEC Forest Ranger Highlights

Recent Forest Ranger Actions

Town of Middletown Delaware County

Wilderness Search: On Oct. 3 at 7:45 p.m., Delaware County 911 contacted Forest Ranger Seeley regarding two hikers lost in the Dry Brook Ridge Wild Forest. The couple, from Otego and Unadilla, were hiking the Huckleberry Loop Trail when it became dark and lost the trail due to not having a light source.

Ranger Seeley arrived on scene at 8:50 p.m., along with two New York State Troopers. Utilizing his handheld GPS unit and the provided coordinates, Ranger Seeley and the Troopers were able to locate the hikers at 10 p.m., slightly off the trail.

Ranger Seeley provided the hikers with food and water before they proceeded back down to the trailhead. The couple was back to their vehicle at 12:30 a.m.

U.S. Postal Service Announces New Prices for 2021

No Increase in Forever Stamp - Remains 55¢
Price increase for additional weight and postcards

James Serio Real Estate Joins Keller Williams Upstate NY Properties



Back: Cathy Van Mater, John Rajoppi, Jim Serio, Nancy Lear Front: Rosie Hubbs and Yma Sherry

HANCOCK, NY — Keller Williams Upstate NY Properties is proud to announce that James Serio Real Estate has affiliated with Keller Williams to become the James Serio Team.

Serio's decision to affiliate with Keller Williams Upstate NY Properties enables his team to remain the local real estate experts in Hancock, NY. "I have seen how real estate continues to evolve nationally as technology plays a larger role" said Serio. "I wanted to be at the forefront of what I think is the future of real estate for Hancock. I want to be able to take care of my clients and agents in the best way that I can, and I believe that Keller Williams will empower us to do that with their powerful tools, technology, and referral network."

For more than two decades, Jim Serio and his team have amassed an impressive real estate sales record -- from land, homes, sportsmen retreats, commercial properties and second homes. Beyond the sales transaction, Jim and his team are passionate about bringing additional value to their clients, including clean-out services, educational seminars, and tax as-

essment grievance services. Serio first came to the area in 1990 and successfully developed one of the premiere fly fishing resorts in the country at West Branch Angler in Hale Eddy, NY. Serio established JSRE in 1998 to help sportsmen and their families find their ideal property. An environmental enthusiast at heart, Serio played a key role in a 20 year effort that continues to improve the ecological health of the Upper Delaware River in particular, and the wild trout fishery in the Hancock area.

"We're excited to welcome the James Serio Team to the Keller Williams family and provide the resources they need to sell more properties, more efficiently, at higher prices" said Deb Dolan, Team Leader of Keller Williams Upstate NY Properties.

"We are in a robust seller's market, and there is a shortage of properties for sale. If you're thinking of selling - NOW is the time! Contact us today!" said Serio.

The James Serio Team, located at 116 E. Front Street and can be reached at (607) 637-2992 or jimserio@hancock.net

Bowling Results

Friday Couples League 10/20

Moo's Drop Inn 18-6, Fox Bowling Center 16-8, Twisted Sisterz 16-8, Bass and Son's Loggin 15-9, Conklin Logging 14-10, Go in' Postal 12-12, Deposit Sanitary 12-12, Mike's Hauling 10-14, Card Logging 10-14, I'm Lovin' It! 9-15, Team Brandon 6-18, Dirig Construction 6-18.

High Scores

Andy Bullis 684, 223, 256, 205, Samantha Card 184, Shawn Card 645, 223, 238, Dale Conklin 683, 204, 226, 253, Shane Dirig 624, 211, 216, Mike Duff-ton 206, Janet M. Ellis 504, 189, Scott Ellis 643, 216, 216, 211, Linda Ferris 192, Gino Jones 210, Hope Jones 199, Dan Koch 221, Dennis Leonard 225, Carol McGraw 190, Brianna Meres 520, 201, Brooke Rosengrant 577, 233, 183, Kathy Smith 181, Alea Tiffany 200, Scott Wahl 225, Jay Wormuth 620, 226, 201, Jeremy Wormuth 637, 238, 243.

Thursday Night 3 10/8/20

Scott's Auto Body 28-4, Patche's Place 22-10, Dirig's Hammer 21-11, Cornwell Construction 19-13, Conklin Logging 16-16, S&S Auto 16-16, Fox Bowling Center 14-18, S and S Auto 1 12-20, Sonny and Sons Stone 10-22, BYE 2-30.

High Scores

Dale Conklin 607, 236, 211, 607, Kenny Cornwell 537, Ray Cornwell 648, 213, 223, 212, 648, John Fish 201, 564, Gino Jones 607, 207, 214, 607, Dan Keessler 611, 234, 611, Joel Keessler 203, 502, Dennis Leonard 531, Rick Mills 555, Cole Newman 216, 500, Dick Price 204, 565, Mike Robinson 201, 206, 564, Paul Siegler 549, Natasha Tuttle 571, 222, 189, Scott Winans 208, 576, Dan Wormith 761, 237, 278, 246, 761.

No Independent League due to Power Outage

Regal to Temporarily Suspend U.S. Theater Operations

Decision Driven by Ongoing Theatrical Calendar Delays and the Continued Closure of New York and Other Key U.S. Markets

Article Provided by Regal

In response to an increasingly challenging theatrical landscape and sustained key market closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Cineworld, parent company of Regal, announced that it will be temporarily suspending operations at all of its 536 Regal theaters in the U.S., as of Thursday, October 8, 2020. "This is not a decision we

made lightly, and we did everything in our power to support a safe and sustainable reopening in the U.S. - from putting in place robust health and safety measures at our theaters to joining our industry in making a collective commitment to the Cinema Safe protocols to reaching out to state and local officials to educate them on these initiatives. We are especially grateful for and proud of the hard work

our employees put in to adapt our theaters to the new protocols and cannot underscore enough how difficult this decision was," said Mooky Greidinger, CEO of Cineworld.

As major U.S. markets, mainly New York, remained closed and without guidance on reopening timing, studios have been reluctant to release its pipeline of new films. In turn, without these new releases, Cineworld cannot provide customers in both the U.S. and U.K. - the company's primary markets - with the breadth of strong commercial films necessary for them to consider coming back to theaters against the backdrop of COVID-19. These closures will

impact approximately 40,000 employees across the U.S.

Greidinger added, "Despite our work, positive feedback from our customers and the fact that there has been no evidence to date linking any COVID cases with cinemas, we have not been given a route to reopen in New York, although other indoor activities - like indoor dining, bowling and casinos were already allowed. The prolonged closures have had a detrimental impact on the release slate for the rest of the year, and, in turn, our ability to supply our customers with the lineup of blockbusters they've come to expect from us. As such, it is simply impossible to continue operations in our

primary markets."

Regal will continue to monitor the situation closely and will communicate any future plans to resume operations at the appropriate time, when key markets have more concrete guidance on their reopening status and, in turn, studios are able to bring their pipeline of major releases back to the big screen.

Regal, a subsidiary of the Cineworld Group, operates one of the largest and most geographically diverse theatre circuits in the United States, consisting of 7,076 screens in 536 theaters in 42 states along with the District of Columbia and Guam as of September 30, 2020.

Robert W. Nichol Nature Preserve and Science Center Student Workshop Schedule

October 17 Handmade Paper Making
October 23 DIY Harry Potter Wands for Halloween
October 31 Halloween Book Bingo

All workshops are limited to 10 students with one accompanying adult. Please pre-register at [607-637-5262](mailto:hcef@hancock.net) or email hcef@hancock.net

Walking Trails are open from Dawn to Dusk Daily

Hancock Central School Menu

Wed 10/14	Thurs 10/15	Fri 10/16	Mon 10/19	Tues 10/20	Wed 10/21
Popcorn Chicken, Dinner Roll, Fruit, Vegetable	Rotini w/ Meat Sauce, Broccoli & Fruit	Cheese Pizza, Garden Salad, Fruit	Chicken Fajita w/ toppings, Rice Pilaf, Assorted Fruit	Hot Turkey Sandwich, Fruit & Vegetable	Turkey Sandwich, Fruit, Vegetable
Bagel, Fruit, Juice, Milk	Egg & Cheese Muffin, Fruit, Juice, Milk	Cereal, Fruit, Juice, Milk	Pancakes, Fruit, Juice, Milk	French Toast, Fruit, Juice, Milk	Bagel, Fruit, Juice, Milk

Rabies Clinic Set

Delaware County Public Health will hold a free Rabies Vaccination Clinic for dogs, cats and ferrets on Thursday October 15, from 5PM - 7 PM, at Heart of the Catskills Humane Society, 46610 NY-10, Delhi, NY 13753. For questions or more information call 607-832-5200 or visit www.delawarecountypublichealth.com

**** Appointments ONLY call 607-832-5200, no walk-ins ****

- All attendees (humans, not pets!) must wear masks or face coverings at the clinic.
- To manage crowds and allow social distancing, preregistration is required!
- It's the law! Every dog and cat must be vaccinated against rabies.
- Cats and dogs can get their first rabies vaccine at 3 months of age.
- Please bring the previous vaccination record to verify if your pet is eligible for 3-year coverage.
- Dogs must be on a leash and under proper control. Cats and Ferrets should be in a carrying case.
- Local organizations have volunteered their facilities for your convenience. It is your responsibility to clean-up after your pet. It's the law, you can be fined.
- Vet only available at the advertised clinic time — no earlier!

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