State of the Union dinner

By Bill Williams
Co-Owner of Columbia Greene Media

CATSKILL—A grand jury will hear the case of a Greene County Volunteer Fireman’s Association’s officer accused of stealing more than $130,000 in funds from the non-profit’s 2020 convention account, the Greene County District Attorney’s office announced Wednesday.

State police charged Harold Rivenburgh, 52, of Catskill, with third-degree grand larceny, a Class B felony; 54 counts of offering a false instrument for recording, a Class D felony; and 54 counts of grand larceny, a Class B felony. According to state police, Rivenburgh was arrested on January 11. These charges are related to funds that were supposed to go toward a mobile clinic project for people struggling with opioid addiction.

“This is a big, big case,” noted District Attorney William F. Kunkel, III. “This is a man who had been a volunteer firefighter for 20 years. He was trusted with many, many, many dollars, and we believe he was stealing from Greene County to provide Narcan to those people in need.”

Rivenburgh, who is the firemen’s association’s treasurer and a former Catskill fire company chief, is accused of stealing $36,000 from the association’s treasurer and a former Catskill fire company chief, according to a state police report. The Rivenburgh was arrested on January 11, which is more than 300 days after the alleged theft. He is due to be arraigned on February 19.

The Greene County Volunteer Fireman’s Association (GCVFA) is a non-profit organization that provides fire, emergency medical services, and rescue to communities across the county.

On Wednesday, March 11, the Greene County District Attorney’s office announced that a grand jury would be hearing the case against Rivenburgh.

According to the DA’s office, Rivenburgh was accused of stealing funds from the GCVFA’s convention account in 2020. The funds were supposed to be used to purchase a mobile clinic to distribute Narcan, a medication that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

The DA’s office said that Rivenburgh used the funds to pay for personal expenses and to make payments to other individuals.

In a statement, the DA’s office said that it is committed to holding those who wrongfully use public funds accountable.

“The law is clear: if you are accused of a crime, you will be charged with it,” the DA’s office said.

The DA’s office added that it is committed to ensuring that public funds are used for their intended purpose.

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Letters to the Editor

A crossroad of lifelong learning

To the editor:

The Greenville Library is not a ‘place‘. It is a very active agent in our Community of Greenville.

The library is a crossroad of lifelong learning. It brings resources to bear on local concerns and lends programs for all members of the community.

It is the source of information for young and old. It provides computers and wireless for the public to use in the meeting place for many of the town’s organizations, such as the children for adults and children of learning.

The library is also a source of community services and learning by supplying a wide selection of DVDs, books, magazines and information material than can be borrowed free of charge. There is also a large selection of newspapers and magazines from the public’s view.

The members of the staff are very knowledgeable and helpful. They are ready to assist patrons when needed. They can offer material and material that helps in furthering a personal and social push.

The Friends of the Greenville Library is a philanthropic group of individuals who work diligently to support the library by holding fund raising events and activities. This group also provide supplementary money for the program’s officers and members.

Public and cultural organizations that work to make certain that the Greenville Library is the very best that it can be. They make the library important to us, the people who live in the city, and it is the continued support and knowledge that has and will continue to support the library.

Public and cultural organizations are important to our community.

The staff, Friends, of the Greenville Library and trustees believe that the Greenville Library is continued to support the library.

We would not support the library.

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**Obituaries**

**Lawrence H. Evers**

CATSKILL – Lawrence H. Evers, 93, formally of Earlton, passed away peace-fully on Wednesday February 19, 2020 at Greene Meadows Nursing Home, Catskill, NY. He was born in Patterson, NJ on April 26, 1926 to the late Lawrence and Rebecca Van Vleet Evers.

Larry joined the US Navy in 1944, where he became a Machinist Mate, 3rd Class on a tanker that fueled warships in the Pacific. He was in Japan during the aftermath of Hiroshima. After he was Honor-ably Discharged in 1946, he ran his own upholstery and ma-nufacturing business before working for Wright Aeronautical Corp., where he worked on aircraft engines.

Larry’s early life began in North Hollywood, CA, and after marrying his wife, he built their first home there. He and Edna resided in North Hollywood from 1951-1959 before moving to Greene County, New York State where he worked first for the NYSDOT and then for Hannay Reels as a machin-ist, retiring in 1989.

Larry was a kind, generous man who, with no hesitation, was always willing to help oth-ers with any project, without any thought of praise or re-wards. His true enjoyment was always building projects, and helping his family. He was a skilled carpenter, having built four homes for himself and more like a Dad than a Step-Dad, helping his family with their homes. In earlier years, Larry enjoyed fishing, bird watching, feeding the birds and gardening. Later on, Larry and Edna enjoyed traveling in their camper. In addition to his par-ents, Larry was predeceased by his wife of 58 years, Edna L. Sutton Evers, in 2009; and by his three sisters, Isabel, Maude, and Ruth.

Larry is survived by his step-sons, Wayne (Vonnie) and Kenneth (Charlene) Mabey; grandchildren, Erin (Bruce) Hawks, Michael (Lu) Mabey, Sean (Urs) Mabey, Gen (Tony) Brians, and Thomas (Tene) Mabey; 10 great-grandchildren; and his 2 great-great grandchildren. The family extends a special thanks to the Greene Meadow-ows staff for their compas-sionate care.

All services will be conduc-ted privately with burial at the Frearson Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to either the Town of Coxsackie Ambulance, PO Box 135, Coxsackie, NY 12055 or to the Earlton Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 187, Earl-ton, NY 12058. Condolences can be posted at acaruningen-hamth.com

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**Jan’s Country Cuts**

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Department, PO Box 187, Earlton, NY 12051 or made to either the Town of Greene. Donations may be made to the Earlton Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 187, East-tern, NY 12058. Condolences can be posted at acaruningen-hamth.com
NEW SHOP FEATURES ALL THINGS CATS

Cat on the Corner owner Kira Goldfarb will now have a new market for cat toys and treats for your furry friend. Owner Kira Goldfarb is a lifelong animal lover and has always been drawn to the charm that is all things cats. Her four furbabies—Monti, Lily, Dottie and Mishu—require a lot of attention and care, and Goldfarb is always looking for ways to support this passion.

Goldfarb said of her new shop, “I have a good handle on what people like to see in the village,” Goldfarb said. “And with the cat status bringing more tourists here every summer, I thought a cat-centric shop would be a great little addition to Main Street.”

For the past 13 years, the fleet of Catskill Association has been displaying distinctive animal art creations throughout Catskill decorated by local artists. The cats are sold at auction with the funds going toward improvements at Dutchman’s Landing.

Saturday’s opening was a success, Goldfarb said, with more than 100 people in attendance. Village President Vincent Seeley, Village Trustee Joseph Kozloski, Greene County Legislator Matthew Lorenz, R-Catskill, and local children’s author Hud-sak business that will be opening across from Mountain T-Shirts along the Catskill Creek later this year, Kozloski said. The LDC has been giving out small business loans for about 15 years, Kozloski said, with Project 90 starting up about three years ago.

“Over the last year-and-a-half we’ve been doing a lot for businesses,” Kozloski said, naming Hill’s, the New York Restaurant, Commons Bowery, The Juice Branch, Bittersweet Catskill and Mamad Cae.

The LDC approved a loan to a kate-ak business that will be opening across from Mountain T-Shirts along the Catskill Creek later this year, Kozloski said. The LDC has been giving out small business loans for about 15 years, Kozloski said, with Project 90 starting up about three years ago.

“We ask for a business plan,” Kozloski said. “If we deem it’s a viable fit for the village, we go ahead with a Project 90 or a Community Loan.”

Many owned by women, from across the globe, including California, Texas, Uni-ted Kingdom, Australia, Thailand and the Ukraine, she said. “I love cats so that was her major thing,” Catskill Local Development Cor-poration President Joseph Kozloski said and Goldfarb. “We take a chance helping out an entrepreneur and hopefully they will suc-cceed. Our goal is to fill every storefront on Main Street and West Bridge Street.” Taibutt believes the store will be a hit. “It’s a very charming store,” she said. “I think it’s unique. It’s definitely unique.”

Cat on the Corner owner Kira Goldfarb is among the business-nesses to receive financial support from the village’s Local Development Corporation, Kozloski said.

Two ways the LDC supports local busi-nesses is with small business loans or with Project 90, where the LDC pays for the business’s first three months of rent, he said.

“The first three months of opening is some of the worst months,” Kozloski said. “You don’t have the clientele coming into the shop until you build that clientele.”

Goldfarb opened her store in the winter, Kozloski said, when people aren’t going to the shops as much.

“The LDC looks for businesses that will be great additions to the community, Taibutt said.

“We’re happy to help them get their doors open.”

ATTENTION RCS CLASS OF 1970!

We have put together a committee to begin planning the Ravena-Coeymans-Seleirk Central School’s 50th Class Reunion. The current committee members are, Richard Spoor, who so graciously offered to chair this committee, Hope Van Nuis Weidman, Joe Tracey, Anne Marie Vadney, Larry Walley, Mary Losavio Hathaway, and Terry Castle.

We have made an executive decision on the weekend and it will be August 21-23. We hope to have a banquet/dinner on either Friday, August 21st or Saturday, August 22nd, followed by a picnic the next day.

We need to know your phone number and e-mail so we can communicate with you about our upcoming reunion. If you have anyone else’s phone numbers and/or e-mails, please forward to Richard Spoor.
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Salon 255 LTD is a state of the art salon offering a full menu of services in a warm and luxurious atmosphere. Our professional, friendly staff are trained in the latest trends and are always advancing their education. In an industry that is forever changing, it is our priority to always provide a superior experience!

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NEW YORK—Starting March 1, a bag waste reduction law will take effect in New York State where more than 23 billion plastic bags are typically used each year.

The Bag Waste Reduction Law applies to more than just grocery stores. When you go to the pharmacy, the drugstore, the gas station, or the small supermarket, you must bring one of your reusable bags in hand. Some bags are exempt under specific circumstances, such as a bag used by a pharmacy to carry prescription drugs, and a few specific circumstances, such as bags for carryout food purchased from a restaurant.

Exempt Bags:
- Any type of bag including film plastic—note that there are any type of bag, including your reusable bags.
- A bag used by a pharmacy to carry prescription drugs, and a few specific circumstances, such as bags for carryout food purchased from a restaurant.

The information Porter used for the survey came from legislators and diaries left by Almera Moore, who kept meticulous records about every expenditure to make the house. On April 1, 1885, the family moved from the old house into the new one. Several old buildings, I couldn’t even pretend to want to buy the property and want the realtor’s time looking at it, but still I thought about it when I drove by.

Looking though a 1975 copy of The Catskill’s magazine, I was excited to come across an article about the house written by Porter Wright. Porter wrote: “The house, now owned by Mrs. Phillip Gerencs, was built in 1885 for Almera Moore, my wife’s paternal grandfather. "Grandpa Moore was born in 1861 about 2 miles from the farm that was to be the homestead and birthplace of his children. At the age of 14 he became the sole support for his mother and himself. He had a yoke of oxen that he had raised, one cow, and two turkeys.”

Moore was hard working and careful with money. By the spring of 1885 he had enough money to build a new house to replace the old house that had been built in 1800 on his farm. On March 2, 1885, when it was still too cold to work outside, John Burhans and Ed Scott “started in an empty room of the old house to make window frames, brackets, corner cornices, etc. All of the cold blustery days they worked inside planning and fabricating the decorative trim that would eventually be used in the new house. On fair days they cut and mortised timbers for framing.”

On April 1, 1885, the family moved from the old house into what would become the family’s home. A few months later, the new house was finished. Moore wrote: “On the Sunday following April 1st the family moved to Israel Ur’s home in the morning, and there three children were born to snow, and I shall never forget how I felt on my return about the house written by Porter Wright to share it.

The Greenville Pioneer • Friday, February 28, 2020

Leadership Development Events

The Greenville Central School District is conducting its annual survey to get feedback from members of our school community. Faculty, staff, and students were asked to complete a survey to gain their perspective in recent weeks. Parents/guardians are an integral part of this process as well and GCS is looking for parent feedback.

This old house

To be a judge, you do not need to have experience with any area of agriculture or public speaking, as we will be sure you are aware and comfortable with your context as you assign judges. Dispute Resolution begins at 3:15 p.m. and contests start at 9:30 a.m. Lunch and snacks are provided. For more information contact Carmen Fagnani at 518-696-9070 x422.

Looking for judges at FFA Leadership Development Events

VENUE

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To be a judge, you do not need to have experience with any area of agriculture or public speaking, as we will be sure you are aware and comfortable with your context as you assign judges. Dispute Resolution begins at 3:15 p.m. and contests start at 9:30 a.m. Lunch and snacks are provided. For more information contact Carmen Fagnani at 518-696-9070 x422.
Sun, Feb 27 - Clear. A fine day! In more ways than one! Mother M. Gene Joyce & I went to Church. Pearl absent. At 2 P.M. went to Ada’s for practice for funeral. Aunt Reba Nolan & Lynn called. Don Gurtie & the girls came. Joyce went back to the Movies with them. Chuck hopes to bring her back. Gene & Stanley at Litta this P.M.

Mon, Feb 28 - Snow. Snow all day. Washed & got Joyce off to Albany with Guerdon. She left her glasses in Chuck’s car. Huck was supposed to leave them at Mrs W. Lilebecks. Went to Mrs Mann’s funeral. Rode down with Millie & back with Louise. I played for two hours.

Tues, Mar 1 - Clear. Wind. Did some part of the work & read a little. Harry came home from Alamont. Gene got a new permanent at E. Durham. Quite a bit of snow. 6-8 in.

Wed, Mar 2 - Clear. A fine day. Read & put out the rest of the clothes & they dried. Did reports for P.M. Crocheted on Joyce’s silk cloth. Winter Aconite covered with snow. Have a beautiful white daffodil. Heard nothing from Delite yet.

Fri, Mar 4 - Clear. Cleaned bed-rooms etc. Crocheted. Sent letters.

Sat, Mar 5 - Clear. Did Gene & did every work. Don brought Joyce up in the A.M. P.M. I went to “Boricova’s” Beauty Shop E. Durham & had my hair done. Am tired tonight.

Sun, Mar 6 - Clear. All we went to Church. After dinner Philip, Luc & Janet came & Aunt Reba. Rose & Joyce are at the Movies. Chuck came down to go with her. Expect Don & Gurtie & the girls with the wash sometime. Later: Don, Adelle & Adrienne came.

Mon, Mar 7 - Clear. Washed & started cleaning the bed-room closet in Harry’s room. Joyce went back with Guerdon. Gene helped Wally then paper at Millie’s. Lent Mary Goff my M. Gomery Ward wall paper book.

Tues, Mar 8 - Clear. A fine day. Did our ironing & Gurtie’s & the mending. P.M. finished cleaning the closet of Harry’s room. Mother M. went to Ladies Aux.

Wed, Mar 9 - Clear. Another fine day. Cleaned the hall closet this A.M. Harry came in the P.M. I went canvassing, got $55 smackers. Evening went to Church. Had to play. We practiced some for Sunday night at a local Rabbi preaches. Thurs, Mar 10 - Cloudy. Cleaned bedrooms & Harry’s bureau drawers. Found 25 pairs of socks. Crocheted etc. Stanley & Gene went to Hudson to Dr. Little. Missus Ferry called.

Fri, Mar 11 - Clear. Snow squalls. Chuck called in the P.M. to take a dance but no one showed up so we came home.

Sat, Mar 12 - Clear. Snow squalls. Did Gene etc. Joyce came up from Greenville with Rachel. Papa came from Knox. Chuck called in the P.M. We go to Pearl’s for the Card Party tonight.
The Greenville Pioneer • Friday, February 28, 2020

SAWYER, from page 1

dy designated the month of May as Senior Citizen month. Later
in 1980, President Jimmy Car-
ter changed the name to Older
Americans month. The theme
for Older Americans Month 2020 is “Make Your Mark” to
encourage and celebrate count-
ties.

Did you know? Did you know?

“The appreciation and friendship families have is nothing but
amazing, even in their despair,” LaRosa said.

The Helping Hand bags in-
cude a variety of hygiene items
such as soap, shampoo, tooth-
brush, toothpaste, laundry de-
fends, a comb and de-

DOVERDE, from page 3

Takes A Community Facebook
residents can reach out to the It
or their neighbors to let them
know there’s help out there. Not
just people who want to get
addiction. “What kind of drug
would make you want to see
babies? People need to know
that there’s help out there. Not
just people who want to get
away from something, no matter
what it is.”

“The group’s latest project is to
make two different types of care
bags: The Ur Not Alone bag for
families that lost a loved one and
the Helping Hand bags for
individuals who may be home-
less, in transition or waiting for
a bed, LaRosa said.

The bag for grieving families
includes a hand-written card,
tee, a candle, tissues, pamphlets
on local services such as coun-
teling and funeral homes and
a book on grief. Additionally,
the family will receive a home-
cooked meal delivered to their
door.

“Some people have family
and they bring over a lot of food,
but many don’t,” LaRosa said.
“They can turn to their friends
and neighbors,” LaRosa said.

Meals in Cairo are delivered
by the Cairo Police Department,
LaRosa said, while she and her
father deliver meals and care
bags to the rest of the county.

The funeral homes or police
departments may notify LaRosa
or her family in need, she said,
or residents can reach out to the
It Takes A Community Facebook
page directly.

In addition to monetary don-
ations, the group will have
drop boxes for items at its
locations, the group will have
monthly meetings, which are
ded about 10 months ago, LaRo-

Did you know? Did you know?

A grand jury will be empaneled to
hear the case, Greene County District
Attorney Joseph Stanzione said.

Greene County officials entered the
case when they became concerned that
the stolen funds included $10,000 that
the county contributed to the associa-
tion, Stanzione said. They were assured
that the $10,000 county contribution was
keenly separate and was not involved in
the theft, Stanzione said.

Following his arrest, Rivenburgh re-
cived an appearance ticket for future
court dates, according to state police.

The case remains under investiga-
tion.

STASHED, from page 1

the association’s account and forged
checks and ledger pages to cover up the
theft, state police Senior Investigator
William Fitizmaurice said.

Authorities launched an investigation
on December 19 when state police were
contacted by an association committee
member, which led to Rivenburgh’s ar-
test, according to state police.

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The case remains under investiga-
tion.
Diversity march coming to Catskill

By Sarah Tafton
Community for Change holds Fierce Love Fest
CATSKILL—Residents of all ages will come together in the name of diversity and anti-racism for the first Fierce Love Fest on Saturday, March 28.

Organized by Catskill resident Eli Matos, Catskill’s inaugural Diversity March will begin at 3 p.m. March 7. Matos will gather at the county parking lot behind 411 Main Street and take Main Street to Briar Street, with activities to follow.

“I am very encouraged by this diversity march and hope to see new residents as well as old timers participating,” Village President Vincent Suarez said. “As a growing community, our strength lies in us embracing our differences and working to geth-er for the greater good of Catskill and Greene County.”

Village Trustee Natalie Law, who helped Matos bring the march to fruition, believes it will be a good addition to the community. “It’s about celebrating everybody, no matter what your culture or what issues you may have,” she said. “You are part of this.”

Matos, who works as a medical driver interacts with people from all walks of life, said. “As a medical driver, I am always meeting people from different demographic groups, who don’t have a voice, who aren’t able to advocate for themselves,” he said. “I wanted to do something to shed light on the diversity in Catskill.”

After the march, all-ages dance party will begin at the Catskill Community Center at 5 p.m., with local DJ Gab. There is no charge for the dance party.

The dinner will include corned beef and cabbage, Shepherd’s pie, Irish Soda bread, and dessert. Coffee and non-alcoholic bever-ages will be provided.

Tickets may be ordered online for $32 (to cover administra-tive fee) by visiting our website at www.greenelandtrust.org or by check to Catskill & Greene Land Trust 270 Mansion St. COXSACKIE, NY 12051. For more information call 518-731-3544.

Since 2004, the Greene Land Trust has been dedicated to pro- tecting the lands that make Greene County special, scenic vistas, agricultural lands, and open spaces that provide habitat for an abundance of wildlife and an array of recreational opportu-nities for current and future generations. For more information about the Trust visit our website at www.greenelandtrust.org.

It’s a maple sugarvasion! Baskets like these pictured on maple trees can be seen around the clatskill region. It's a maple sugarvasion! Baskets like these pictured on maple trees can be seen around the clatskill region.

ACRA—Join Cornell Cooper-ative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties during Maple Weekend in New York Maple weekned to learn about the remarkable world of maple.

All are welcome at the Route 23 Agroforestry Research Cen-ter on April 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event will take place at the New York Maple sugar shack, tap trees, and learn all about back-yard and large-scale produc- tion. There will be music, farm-friendly games with prizes and more during our highly anticipated annual Maple Food. Come taste the treat! All sorts of maple crepes and prod-ucts; learn about and try newly sortes of maple syrups and prod-ucts. Vendors with locally-owned snacks. Exciting demonstrations and displays will be ongoing such as learning how to grow ginger and a hands-on activity to create your very own Shirley mix. Or just come hang out and enjoy the first day of spring in Catskill! Don’t miss it!

For further information call Elision at 518-721-2718.

Celebrate the season of maple

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St. Patrick’s Day dinner

COXSACKIE—Get a head start on St. Patrick’s Day on Sat-urday, March 7, 2020 with the Greene Land Trust. Join them at 6 p.m. for an evening of Irish food and music by “Lawson, Traditional Music of Ireland,” will provide entertain-ment at the 1788 Willows at Brandow Point.

The dinner will include corned beef and cabbage, Shepard’s pie, Irish Soda bread, and dessert. Coffee and non-alcoholic bever-ages will be provided.

Tickets may be ordered online for $32 (to cover administra-tive fee) by visiting our website at www.greenelandtrust.org or by check to Catskill & Greene Land Trust 270 Mansion St. COXSACKIE, NY 12051. For more information call 518-731-3544.

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It’s a maple sugarvasion! Baskets like these pictured on maple trees can be seen around the clatskill region.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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“Everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but his own opinions.” —Daniel Patrick Moynihan

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Healthy and Fit has to include matters of the “emotional” heart as well. We sometimes get so caught up in pushing away stuff like breaches in relationship, whether it’s family or friends, only to find that the longing to rekindle those attachments remains very deep seated within us. Face to face communication being replaced by texts and emails that are devoid of true emotion and with honesty accountability for one’s actions being at an all-time low point, I'd like to explore why friendships do matter.

Here’s a sweet little list that will make you smile to be sure. You know all this anyway, but having recently reconnected, it needs re-emphasis.

Friendships just make you healthier. Having someone look after your well-being simulates feel good hormones that create inner peace rather than anxiety. Having a companion in your life, just helps you to live longer, feel stronger and want to be happy for yourself and others. Socializing actually heightens the quality of your sleep time and boosts your brain power during wakeful hours. You’re earning not only for yourself, you’re throwing that net of love and connection out there to let someone you care about know you’re there for them. Friendship will enable you to celebrate your emotional resilience not just by a breach in friendship you would do.

Friends actually teach you about yourself. Personally, I have learned patience, limiting judgement and extending more compassion to my companions and like looking at a mirror, it then reflects back on me and to everyone in my world. A recent rekindling of a very significant friendship in my life taught me so many valuable lessons. I had begun to assume, incorrectly, a different story of the events that took place that caused the breach from what it actually was. Having been reached out to, I felt the immediate release from the stress and sadness that I had been feeling for far too long. It was as if I were able to see things more clearly now that I wasn’t looking through that veil of hurt, frustration and sadness. We finally took the necessary steps, together, allowing us to set up these events to benefit the CDE main office at 518-622-3231.

Cairo—Dozens of “hygiene kits” were assembled by members of the Cairo-Durham High School Interact Club and Student Council after school on February 11. The kits contain health and hygiene products such as hand sanitizers, toothbrushes, shampoos, soap, body wash, lotions, deodorant and underwear. Each kit contains three 5 rupee coins, toothpaste and toothbrushes, wet wipes, deodorant and tissues.

To receive additional information on the upcoming orientation and what is required, or to ensure your child is on the incoming Kindergarten list, please contact Joanne Cleary in the CDE main office at 518-622-3231.

**Why Friendships Matter**

**Cairo-Durham Central School District Kindergarten orientation and screening dates**

**Cairo—** Kindergarten orientation and screening dates for the Cairo-Durham Central School District have been scheduled.

To sign up for the fall kindergarten program at Cairo-Durham Elementary School, a kindergarten orientation and screening appointment has been scheduled Monday, March 4 at 6 p.m. Get general information about kindergarten at CDE, registration packets and schedule your “kindergarten screening” appointment (required).

Kindergarten registration and screening at CDE will take place Monday, March 16 to Thursday, March 19. Appointments can be made at the orientation on March 4.

To be eligible for kindergarten this fall, children must be five (5) years of age on or before Dec. 1, 2020 and reside within the Cairo-Durham Central School District. A birth certificate must be presented at the screening. Each registrant must also present proof of the following immunizations: 5 DPT; 3 oral polio, 2 measles, mumps and rubella and 3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine, and proof of residence.

For more information, contact Joanne Cleary in the CDE main office at 518-622-3231.
I want to wish George Story a very happy birthday. George (the founder of Story’s Nursery in Freehold, Greene County) turns 100 years old on Feb. 22.

George was a pioneer in the nursery/greenhouse business and he built his business. Initially, from the ground up. Originally, in the late 1940s and early 1950s, he sold vegetables that he grew at a roadside stand, but he soon recognized there was an emerging market for ornamental plants as World War II soldiers returned and started building homes.

After graduating from Cornell University, George began selling nursery stock that he grew in the fertile, well-drained soil on the floodplain of the Catskill Creek in Freehold. Most of these field-grown plants were sold as “bare root” or “balled in burlap.” It is hard to imagine that something as ubiquitous as root would be issued a monthly credit on their utility bills that provide financial assistance to help pay heat, air conditioning, or low-income families using electric or non-heating gas bill.

His granddaughter Kelly, who is also a former president of Story’s Nursery, credits her grandfather with these fuels, as well, “This technology is truly a gift of life made possible through the generosity of community members who contributed to the diagnosis, treatment.”

Breast cancer is a significant problem in our region. It is a topic of conversation for days at a time. Many young people today don’t imagine that something as ubiquitous as root would be issued a monthly credit on their utility bills that provide financial assistance to help pay heat, air conditioning, or low-income families using electric or non-heating gas bill.

Happy 100th birthday George Story!

Reach Bob Beyfuss at rb14@cornell.edu.
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Jeremiah Gurney — New Baltimore native and America’s First Photographer

Some time ago I received an email from someone on Long Island, requesting assistance in finding the graves of Jeremiah Gurney. I had never heard of Jeremiah before so decided to do a Google search on him, hoping to get some clues to the possible burial location

To my surprise, I found pages and pages of this. Jeremiah was one of the most famous photographers in North America in the 1850s. I also found that most online biographies of him stated that he died in 1885 or 1886. The Catskill Recorder, however, reported that Jeremiah Gurney had died in Cairo on April 21, 1895. How more than one Jeremiah Gurney? Time to untangle this mystery!

We all take for granted the ease with which we take photographs. These days, with digital technology, taking pictures has become a breeze! This was not always the case. Photography, for all intents and purposes, became commercially viable with the invention of the first daguerreotype in 1839 in Paris, France by Louis Daguerre.

Daguerreotypes were one-of-a-kind pictures, such as the Prince of Wales, Prince Albert, and Franklin Pierce. He focused on taking portraits of the rich and famous. As his fame grew, he moved his studio to 770 Broadway. This studio was a showcase where he placed four daguerreotypes on a mirrored surface of the metal plate. In 1853, he was awarded the Anthony Pitcher for the best full-plate daguerreotype taken before November 1853. This 20-inch silver plate was decorated with portraits of Louis J.M. Daguerre and Joseph nicey, the true inventors of the daguerreotype. This prize was awarded only once, photography was already moving on to paper processes, such as the carte d’ visite.

Jeremiah’s contribution to photography is not just the exquisite photographs he took, it is the monetary resources, could get a picture of themselves, their family members, their pets, or their surroundings. Having one’s picture taken gripped the imagination of the public throughout Europe and North America. So many, it was a rage.

Various from Europe migrated to the new invention to America. It did not take long for the first American daguerreotype studios to open its doors. Jeremiah Gurney is credited with being the first photographer in North America to take photographs commercially. But who was he?

Jeremiah Gurney was born in New Baltimore on October 17, 1812 to Quaker parents Benjamin Gurney and Martha Bedell. Benjamin’s parents, John Gurney and Sarah Bedell are first recorded in the Town of Coxsackie in the tax assessment for the year 1788. The family came from the Nine Parts of England to the Catskills in 1768. The family was typical of this era of Dutchess County. Jeremiah was the third son in a family of nine children.

The Coeymans Meeting Minutes show the Gurneys removed themselves to North Carolina in 1819. Online birth records show that Jeremiah was born in Saratoga Springs, NY in 1819. Quaker meeting minutes record that Jeremiah was a member of St. Peter’s Quaker Meeting in Saratoga Springs, NY, from where he bought a camera in exchange for a horse in 1839. Shortly thereafter, Jeremiah moved to New York City and opened up a jewelry shop at No. 189 Broadway.

In his showcase he placed four daguerreotypes, two per day, he had one other, then the next day, and two he had never looked back.

He charged $5 per photograph. Daguerreotypes were one-of-a-kind pictures. According to Wikipedia, daguerreotypes were images that were “expelled directly onto a chemically-prepared surface of silver coating of silver halide particles deposited by soda vapor. In later developments bromine and chlorine vapors were also used, resulting in shorter exposure times. The daguerreotype is a negative image, but the metallic surface of the metal plate reflects the image and makes it appear positive in the proper light.

Jeremiah’s business grew exponentially. He moved his studio to 770 Broadway. This establishment consisted of nine spacious rooms, devoted exclusively to taking pho- tographs. He focused on taking portraits of New York City’s elite and traveling digni- ties, such as the Prince of Wales, Charles Dickens and Mark Twain.

In November 1853, Jeremiah was awarded the Anthony Pitcher for the best full-plate daguerreotype taken before November 1853. This 20-inch silver plate was decorated with portraits of Louis J.M. Daguerre and Joseph nicey, the true inventors of the daguerreotype. This prize was awarded only once, photography was already moving on to paper processes, such as the carte d’ visite.

Jeremiah’s contribution to photography is not just the exquisite photographs he took, it was also the knowledge he shared with his protégés. Matthew Brady was a journeyman in the jewelry case manufacturing house of Edward Anthony & Co. (who awarded the Anthony Pitcher and made the cases for Jeremiah’s daguerreotypes). Jeremiah trained Brady in the craft of photography and in time, Brady became Jeremiah’s greatest rival. Brady, however, gained worldwide and star- tlesen for his photographs of the horrors of the Civil War battlefield.

Jeremiah’s photographs are still highly collectible. What made him stand out was his incredible skill at creating a clear, lifelike portrait. Jeremiah took the only known surviving photographs of the famous President Abraham Lin- coln. He had been given the exclusive rights by New York City’s mayor to photograph Lincoln as he laid in state at New York City Hall on April 24th and 25th, 1865. The secret service, however, was instructed to seize all the plates and destroy them, as permission had not been obtained by the family. One print, however, survived.

Jeremiah married Phoe Ann Dunbar and had two children, Leroy and Benjamin. The 1892 State Census of New Jersey shows Jeremiah living with his daughter Mattie Faris in Cairo, Greene County. The Cairo Historical Society’s records of the Jeremiah who died in 1895, identify the surviving children of Jeremiah as Benjamin Gurney and Mattie Faris.

I could find no record of Jeremiah’s burial place on my website, tracing your Roots in Greene County, nor at the Veider Library in Cairo, so I thought that he may have been buried with Phoe who died in 1899 and was buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn. A call to the cemetery proved that he was not. Phoe and Benjamin are all buried in the family plot, but Jeremiah is the only one buried in St. Peter’s Cemetery, in hopes of locating his grave.

To my surprise, I found pages and pages of this. Jeremiah was one of the most famous photographers in North America in the 1850s. I also found that most online biographies of him stated that he died in 1885 or 1886. The Catskill Recorder, however, reported that Jeremiah Gurney had died in Cairo on April 21, 1895. How more than one Jeremiah Gurney? Time to untangle this mystery!

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Daguerreotypes were one-of-a-kind pictures, such as the Prince of Wales, Charles Dickens and Mark Twain. In November 1853, Jeremiah was award- Jeremiagurney, Natural Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution; gift of Larry J. West. Hosts wanted in the Catskills GO BNB.rentals

The Catskill Pioneer • Friday, February 28, 2020

Sylvia is a Hudson Valley historian, lecturer with more than 22 years experience. She is also the President of the Catskill Historical Society.

The Greeneville Pioneer • Friday, February 28, 2020

THE PUBLIC NEEDS THE REAL NEWS

#SupportRealNews
New Beef Roll
Recipe courtesy of the North American Meat Institute on behalf of the Beef Checkoff
Yield: 2 rolls (16 pieces)
Hand Vinegar:
1 cup water
1/4 cup rice vinegar

Main Components:
2 sheets nori
4 thin slices Swiss cheese, sliced into rounds

To make rolls:
Lay a sushi mat on clean surface. Moisten hands with hand vinegar and shake off excess.
Place one nori sheet on mat, shiny-side down.
Cover half the rice crosswise with three slices corned beef. Spread corned beef with 1/8 cup celery leaves. Squeeze gently to shape roll.
Cover half the rice closest to you. Sprinkle with 1 1/2 cups rice across pastrami, leaving 1 inch empty at farthest end. Sprinkle rice with caraway seeds. Turn nori over so rice side is down. Press firmly on roll.
Lift top of mat and roll firmly until tight and round. Squeeze gently to shape. Press sides in carefully to secure loose rice. Remove mat and set roll aside.
Repeat to make second roll.

Use thin, sharp knife to cut each roll into eight slices. Arrange on multi-colored plates and serve with Reuben dressing.

Mexican Dishes
Recipe courtesy of the North American Meat Institute on behalf of the Beef Checkoff
Yield: 2 rolls (16 pieces)
Hand Vinegar:
1 cup water
1/4 cup rice vinegar

Main Components:
2 sheets nori
4 thin slices Swiss cheese, sliced into rounds

To make maki:
Lay a sushi mat on clean surface. Moisten hands with hand vinegar and shake off excess. Press one nori sheet down on mat. Drive fingers into nori and spread corned beef with 1/8 cup celery leaves. Squeeze gently to shape roll.
Press firmly on roll.
Lift top of mat and roll firmly until tight and round. Squeeze gently to shape. Press sides in carefully to secure loose rice. Remove mat and set roll aside.
Repeat to make second roll.

Use thin, sharp knife to cut each roll into eight slices. Arrange on multi-colored plates and serve with Mexican Dishes.

Muffarolletta
Recipe courtesy of the North American Meat Institute on behalf of the Beef Checkoff
Yield: 2 rolls (16 pieces)
Hand Vinegar:
1 cup water
1/4 cup rice vinegar

Main Components:
2 cups mixed olives, pitted dry and chopped
2 teaspoon capers, pitted dry and chopped
1 clove garlic, minced
3 cups unsalted rice

To make hand vinegar:
In small bowl, mix olives, capers, garlic, and rice with fingers, use thumbs to push end of mat up and over filling until edge of nori meets rice on opposite side. Press firmly on roll.
Lift top of mat and roll firmly until tight and round. Squeeze gently to shape roll. Press sides in carefully to secure loose rice. Remove mat and set roll aside.
Repeat to make second roll.

Use thin, sharp knife to cut each roll into eight slices. Arrange on multi-colored plates and serve with Muffarolletta.
March 17. St. Patrick’s Day turns the Chicago River green, and too many livers cirrhosis-damage-brown. (You’l want to check out these St. Patrick’s Day “facts” that are actually false.) And on this day in 1973, Pink Floyd’s “Dark Side of the Moon” first hits the Billboard Top 200 chart at number 95. A mere 14 years later (736 chart weeks, to be exact) it finally leaves the top 200 for the first time, setting a still-unbroken world record. (You’ve got a long way to go, Adele.)

March 20: The sun shines on the equator for the Vernal Equinox, giving us a near 50-50 split of day and night.
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WHITTLING AWAY
by Dick Brooks

By the time you read this, I hopefully will have survived another Valentine’s Day. The “sad” part of the holiday seems to have disappeared, which saddens me a bit. It’s one of those events that like Topsy just kind of grew.

I started in a spring celebration called Lupercalia, which involved animal sacrifices where men dressed as mole gods and ran through the village slapping women with strips of the sacrificial animal’s skin. This was to ensure fertility for the coming year. This just looked too much fun for the early Christians who tried to turn it into a Christian holiday honoring St. Valentine.

St. Valentine had been put to death by Claudius, the Roman Emperor who, believing that single men, married men, banned marriage. Local priests, continued to marry young lovers. Claudius threw them into prison and sentenced them to death. One of the many versions of the story says that Valentine fell in love with the jailer’s daughter and on the day he was executed, sent her a love letter which he signed “Your Valentine.” The execution date was February 14.

I learned to dread Valentine’s Day as a small child. It was right early on when the only one I needed a Valentine for was my mom. Moms are easy, any piece of semi-clean paper, a red crooked crayon heart, something vaguely resembling the word “Love” and your signature and your yearly responsibility had been met. Fathers didn’t need a Valentine. Hearts and Flowers and stuff like that just aren’t a dad kind of thing. Most men made better soldiers than married men, banned marriage. Girlfriends brought my dad flowers and candy she likes, it’s a comfortable kind of thing and I like it. Men are often reminded that Valentine’s Day didn’t get popular until school started. The first few years weren’t too bad since at that age you don’t know what’s going on anyway. Moms bought the bag of Valentines, filled them out and all I had to do was put one in each kid’s envelope which was taped on the front of their desk, cupcakes with sprinkles, onto the bus and it was over—easy. About fifth grade, things started getting sticky. I learned that these yucky people in class were called jobs. Mom said he had a Valentine to catch and every one of my classmates—every last one.

He made an yearly journey to Kinney’s Drug Store to pick up our cards for the occasion. There wasn’t much of a choice. No cool super hero or nasty ones, most of them were of the Disney variety, they came in sheets with a bunch of envelopes that had tear-off flaps. I would make a list of all the kids in my class and after tearing the cards carefully apart, I tried to match the cards to names. The guys ones weren’t the problem, the poor cow was ugly enough to give to a girl, the problem was that there weren’t enough of them. That left Minnie, who was just too cute. I was forced into being creative and at an early age developed my artistic talents by drawing a moustache on Minnie. For about four or five years, Minnie with a Moustache got me through. I sometimes wonder if any of them survive to this very day. Girls got less yucky with each passing year and in high school the stress increased even though the number of Valentines decreased. One or two carefully chosen or crafted Valentines with no signature were slipped through locker seams. Girlfriends brought my dad flowers and for a time every day was Valentine’s Day. Finally, I met, wooed and won my fair lady. Valentine’s Day is less stress now, I know the kind of flowers and candy she likes, it’s a comfortable kind of thing and I like it. To keep from becoming boring and every one of my classmates—every last one. The “Saint” hopefully will have survived another Valentine’s Day. Finally, I met, wooed and won my fair lady.

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