



JULY 9, 2026

America's Potluck brings community together at Turtle Island Festival



America's Potluck and Turtle Island took place on Sunday, July 5 at the Chenango County Fairgrounds as part of the NY250 Commemoration. (Photos by Rebecca Laibowitz)

REBECCA LAIBOWITZ
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

NORWICH — On Sunday, July 5, an initiative aimed at bringing neighbors together to share in a communal meal took place nationwide. America's Potluck, an America 250 commission recognized event, happened alongside the Turtle Island Festival at the Chenango County Fairgrounds thanks to local sponsors and the Chenango County Historical Society (CCHS).

The idea for America's Potluck began in Utah and quickly expanded through America 250 to communities nationwide. Sunday, July 5, was chosen intentionally for this celebration to reflect on the tradition of Sunday dinners and give communities a chance to "slow down, serve others, and connect with one another" and the national organizers hope that "by bringing people together around the table, we can celebrate the freedoms we share

and strengthen the sense of belonging that holds us together" according to the potluck's official site.

51 states' commissions and territories had at least one America's Potluck planned. New York State had only one, America's Potluck and Turtle Island Festival at the Chenango County Fairgrounds. The totally free family event was made possible by the NY 250 commission, the Community Foundation for South Central New York's Racial Justice and Equity Fund, and UHS Chenango Memorial Hospital, along with local organizations the Chenango County Agricultural Society, Colorscape Chenango, Commerce Chenango, Live Event NY, and the Otselic Valley Fishing & Heritage Association.

Although a traditional potluck encourages guests to bring homemade dishes, the food at Chenango County's potluck was brought in by the Canasawacta Country Club, ensuring

that anyone could participate without preparation or cost. The food offerings were classic American barbecue staples: potato salad, coleslaw, hot dogs, barbecue sandwiches, chips, and more.

After the first performance of the Turtle Island show, the potluck opened up and the hundreds in attendance headed over for the communal meal. In the spirit of bringing neighbors together, at the tables were "America's Potluck Bingo cards" with prompts encouraging people to learn something new about the people around them and talk to people they might not otherwise meet.

America's potluck organizers emphasize that there is "no wrong way to gather," and that the heart of the event lies in connection rather than the food itself. At the fairgrounds the idea came through clearly with the meal and festival becoming a shared experience. The potluck also offered a moment



to reflect on the Turtle Island performances, many attendees used the time to think on what they had just watched, discussing the dancers, the inflatable turtle sculpture, and the themes woven throughout the show.

Throughout the performance the audience was invited to join in communal dances, including a corn dance as well as a dance representing the circle of life. This helped further

reinforce the festival's themes of connection, balance, and shared experience. Children, parents, and elders, stepped into the circle together with the Skywoman dancers as the inflatable turtle was moved throughout the rest of the crowd, drawing more in. The dances, like the potluck, created a moment where strangers became neighbors if even for a moment.

The free event served as an accessible and

meaningful commemoration of history and the community values that helped shape the country. The community came together for a shared meal and to hear an ancient story from a people whose influence is seen across founding documents. You can learn more about this component of American History by contacting CCHS or the Chenango County Historian's office as was said at the event.

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Congratulations to Unadilla Valley Central School’s Class of 2026
(Photo by Morgsn Golliver)

Norwich Summer Concert Series runs Thursdays until August 27

REBECCA LAIBOWITZ
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

NORWICH – A tradition in downtown Norwich has begun for another summer. The Chenango Blues Association has announced the lineup for the 2026 Summer Concert Series. Sponsored by NBT Bank they have brought these free musical performances to Chenango County for roughly three decades. The 2026 season kicked off on Thursday July 2 at 7 p.m. with a new musician each Thursday night until August 27 at Norwich’s East Park.

This year’s lineup spans bluegrass, soul, brass bands, Americana, roots rock, and New Orleans funk, a deliberate mix that organizers say reflects the spirit of the series.

“We want to represent a lot of different kinds of music,” said Eric Larsen, President of the Chenango Blue Association. “There’s so many different kinds of music that we like to try and get as many different kinds of things out there as we can.” He explained that to choose the musicians for the series they canvas other events and go to other shows, and says this year offers a lineup of big names on the festival circuit.

“Each year, we work to build a lineup that offers something for everyone while staying true to the spirit of the series,” said Rachel Flanagan, treasurer of the Chenango Blues Association. “It’s



The Chenango Blues Association presents the NBT Bank Summer Concert Series at Norwich’s East Park. The first concert begins on Thursday July 2 at 7 p.m. with a concert each Thursday night until August 27. All concerts in the series are free to attend. (Submitted photo)

incredibly rewarding to see East Park come alive with music and energy as people gather week after week to enjoy these performances together.”

2026 NBT Bank Summer Concert Series Lineup:

- July 9 – The Dirty Dozen Brass Band – Grammy Award-winning New Orleans ensemble celebrated for redefining brass band music with a fusion of jazz, funk and R&B.
- July 16 – Robert Randolph – Renowned sacred steel guitarist known for his high-energy performances blending rock, funk and gospel influences.
- July 23 – Sierra Hull – Acclaimed mandolinist and songwriter bringing a fresh, modern perspective to bluegrass music.
- July 30 – The California

Honeydrops – A returning favorite delivering dynamic, improvisational performances rooted in soul, blues and R&B traditions.

- August 6 – The Garcia Project – A crowd favorite recreating the music and spirit of the Jerry Garcia Band.
- August 13 – Eddie 9V – Rising artist delivering soulful, vintage-inspired rock and roll.
- August 20 – Chenango Blues Festival kicks off with a double-header starting at 6:00 p.m. and featuring Desoto Tigers Testimony and John “Papa” Gros, bringing a special evening of blues and New Orleans-inspired sounds.
- August 27 – Shinyribs – Known for their genre-blending sound

and engaging live shows that mix roots music with humor and energy.

The August 20 concert will serve as a “double-header” starting at 6 p.m. instead of the usual 7 p.m. Allowing for two artists to take the stage on the same night. Organizers say this will start off the annual Chenango Blues Festival that weekend. “It’s kind of the kickoff to Blues Fest weekend for us. A lot of people come into town, and a lot of them come into town early. So we like to kind of bring in a bigger show,” said Larsen.

Each Thursday throughout the summer, East Park transforms into a lively outdoor venue. Audience members bring their own lawn chairs, while organizers get there early in the morning to set up sound equipment, fencing,

lighting, signage, artist tents, merchandise, and more show aspects on concert days. Food vendors will also be on site every week. Larsen says East Park Place will be closed for each show to accommodate vendors, the beer garden, and touring equipment.

East Park offers a family-friendly environment within walking distance to all that Norwich has to offer. “It’s right downtown. Great to come down, eat at one of the restaurants, eat from one of the food trucks in the park. It’s just a great family night,” said Larsen. Concertgoers can choose to enjoy on-site food vendors, outdoor beverage area, and opportunities to connect with artists after they perform.

Larsen says the artists often remark on the number or children in attendance, something uncommon at many festivals and night venues. “We’ll always have tons of kids. And they’re the first ones to be right up front, Dancing around,” said Larsen “It’s an all-ages crowd. It’s 1 to 91. And as we always say, that’s not an expression. I will be able to find you somebody who’s 1 and somebody who’s 91 at the show. It’s an all-ages, everybody enjoys it.”

The Summer Concert Series remains free, thanks to support from NBT Bank and local Foundations including the Greater Norwich Foundation, the R.C. Smith Foundation and other local partners.

“We’re grateful for the support that allows us to bring nationally recognized artists to Norwich and keep these concerts free for the community,” said Flanagan.

“NBT Bank is proud to support a tradition that brings people into the heart of downtown Norwich and strengthens connections across the community,” said NBT Bank CEO Scott Kingsley. “Events like this not only create memorable experiences for residents but also help showcase the region and support local businesses throughout the summer.”

“We’re a 100% volunteer organization. With no overhead and generous support, that’s what lets us bring this kind of high caliber artist to town,” said Larsen.

The concerts happen at East Park rain or shine. They cannot be moved indoors because even with reduced crowds in bad weather, Larsen says that as they have brought in more high profile artists, there is no indoor venue nearby able to accommodate the audience that typically shows up. “Even the crowds that show up on a rainy day exceed the capacity of any venue in town,” he said, “We’re better off just to say, bring an umbrella, dance in the rain, and we’ll get through it.”

The first concert falls on Thursday July 2, just days before the U.S. Semiquincentennial, providing the community with live music to

National Weather Service confirms tornado in the Town of Pittsfield



OTSEGO COUNTY – The Otsego County Office of Emergency Services has been notified by the National Weather Service in Binghamton that a tornado has been confirmed in the Town of Pittsfield following yesterday’s severe weather.

The tornado damage path has been identified along County Highway 49 near Ketchum Road. Survey teams worked with Otsego County Emergency Services officials today, and also identified tornadic indicators in the Town of Laurens along Crawford Road near County Highway 10; however, damage assessments remain ongoing at this time.

Preliminary assessments indicate several homes and other structures sustained significant damage, with (four) structures considered a total loss, and a total of (six) residents displaced. Fortunately, there were no injuries during this weather event.

Emergency response and recovery operations remain very active in the affected areas. The Otsego County Office of Emergency Services is working alongside several State and local agencies as we continue clean up and recovery efforts.

As a reminder, a local State of Emergency remains in effect for the Town of Pittsfield and the Town of Laurens, along with Emergency Orders in place that prohibit any unnecessary travel.

Additional information will be communicated as it becomes available.

- Information from
Otsego County
Emergency Services

Butternut Valley Grange news and updates

GILBERTSVILLE - In cooperation with the Butternut Valley Alliance, the Butternut Valley Grange will play host to a public workshop on “Understanding Your Electricity Bill” on at 7 p.m., Thursday, July 9.

The Grange Hall is located at 7 Bloom Street, Gilbertsville. The public is invited to this informational forum.

At its last meeting, the Grange welcomed into membership Leonard and Becca Trillo, George Dempsie, and Scott and Cash Osborne.

Report of community interaction included the Share the Bounty meal that was prepared and served by the Grange to over 125 persons at Sacred Heart Church, Sidney. Member and Village Mayor, Aidan Woishnis discussed various plans for the community in celebration of the country’s 250th birthday. Several Grange members participated and helped construct a vintage piece, complete with floral arrangements that will grace the Front lawn until the middle of September in recognition of this milestone.

Keith Klingman reported on a number of projects at the Grange Hall that were submitted to the committee working on the proposal of the Town & Village’s application being developed for The NYS Forwarding Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant.

The Grange Hall was constructed in 1832 and the membership’s desire is to keep this historical building in excellent

order.

In the cookie contest, Anna Ritchey placed 1st in the regular group and Helen Ritchey placed 1st in the diabetic category. The pie making team members set up dates when pies will be baked with pre-orders over the next few months. Interested persons wishing to order pies, are directed to contact Roberta Halbert 607-783-2445 for selection of pies and dates when pickup can be arranged.

Victoria Gregory was re-elected to a three year term on the Executive Board. Delegates to the State Grange convention in October are currently Cathy Galley and Calvin Wilcox. The convention is held in Waterloo.

The second seminar workshop on “Come Grow with Us” a project co-sponsored by the Grange and Baptist Church, under the auspices of the National Grange will be given on Saturday, July 18 from 1 to 3 p.m.at the Grange Hall. Gardening techniques and skills in preservation of harvested produce will be shared for all attendees. There is no cost and it is open to the public.

David and Sandra Stoy and Lynne Porter will greet early arrivals with light refreshments at the July 13 meeting.

- From the Butternut Valley Grange

Norwich Summer Concert Series runs Thursdays until August 27 -

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begin the weekend. “It kicks off on the 4th of July weekend is the way we look at it,” said Larsen. “Everybody’s got the next day off. Great way to start your official summer.”

For newcomers interested in the Summer Concert Series, Larsen offers simple advice, “Get out your calendar and just put a big box around every Thursday night,” he said. “Because once you come to one, you’re going to want to come to all of them.”

The Chenango Blues Association is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to presenting live music experiences “by fans, for fans.” In addition to the NBT Bank Summer Concert Series, the group produces the annual Chenango Blues Festival, now in its 33rd year, taking place August 21–22 at the Chenango County Fairgrounds. Headliners include Booker T. Jones, the Record Company and Charlie Musselwhite with GA 20.

For more information on the concert series and festival, visit www.chenangobluesfest.org.

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PENNYSAVER

Outdoor Chenango: Is copper ammo a successful alternative to lead?



Eric Davis
Outdoor Chenango

About two years ago, I was invited to give a presentation on the NYS Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation at the New York Conservation Council annual meeting in Rome, NY.

When I got to the meeting, I took a seat in the back of the room to wait until it was my turn to present. I was supposed to go up right before lunch. The first speaker was Gordon Batchelor, who was the head wildlife biologist for over a decade for the NYSDEC, and he talked about different “controversial” topics in the hunting world. From the use of drones to recover deer to non-lead bullets for deer. His non-lead bullet talk was interesting to hear.

He explained meeting with non-game biologists

in the early 2000s who had bald eagle bloodwork showing high amounts of lead and it caused him to ponder if non-lead bullets for big game would be feasible.

Eagles were still on the Threatened and Endangered Species List at the time, which could have allowed for some big steps to be taken from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. So Gordon started testing non-lead bullets himself. His neighbor, conveniently, was a writer for a national shooting magazine so he got to pick his neighbor’s brain about the ballistics side of things before hand loading some ammunition.

Gordon’s main point was that the topic of non-lead ammunition should be led by hunters and not the anti-hunting community.

He encouraged everyone in the room to give non-lead bullets a try in their firearm to see how well it shoots. If it shot alright, to try hunting with it.

That way the hunter can be part of the conversation, even if it is to say “I tried it, but my rifle didn’t shoot it good enough compared to a lead-core bullet.” He went on to say there is a non-profit called Hunters

for Eagle Conservation that was offering up to a \$60 rebate to hunters to reimburse them for the cost of a box of loaded non-lead ammunition or a box of non-lead bullets for handloading.

So basically, you could try out non-lead bullets for next to nothing. I had bought a reloading setup to start handloading for my rifles, so I was intrigued by the non-lead bullet discussion and started doing some research.

I looked up the organization doing the rebate program and they would not include sales tax or shipping costs in their reimbursement for non-lead ammo or bullets. You also had to provide them with a copy of your hunting license, a picture of the ammo or bullets, a copy of your receipt, and agree to do a survey at the end of hunting season before they would send you a Visa/Mastercard type gift card as your rebate payment.

It was too close to regular season for me to buy some non-lead bullets and work up handloads in time for opening day so I figured I would start doing research on bullets and could focus on finding the best bullet/powder combination in the summer of

2025 for next deer season. This went me down a rabbit hole of reading online forums, watching numerous Youtube videos, and listening to podcasts all about different non-lead bullets.

Here are a few things that I have learned from my research. First is that because copper is less dense than lead, a bullet of the same weight has to be longer.

Therefore, sometimes bullets at the upper end of the weight spectrum for a given cartridge might not be an option in non-lead because they would make the loaded cartridge too long to fit in the magazine of the gun or possibly the chamber of the rifle. So if you shoot a 180-grain lead core bullet in a .308, you might not be able to shoot a 180-grain non-lead bullet.

However, non-lead bullets are harder than lead so they require more speed/energy to start opening up upon impact, so going a “step” lower in bullet weight allows for a close in size bullet to the original lead bullet to be shot faster. So drop the 180-grain lead to a 165-grain non-lead, and you get a bullet who has a similar shape to the 180-grain lead since it has to be bigger than a 165-grain

lead bullet, but the lighter weight allows it to shoot faster.

Second, non-lead bullets perform differently than lead core bullets. They still open, or mushroom, but they almost never separate. This results in a smaller “permanent wound channel” which is the hole left in the animal from the bullet going through it. However, non-lead bullets penetrate farther than lead bullets.

This means complete pass throughs, even on quartering shots. Therefore, blood trailing is better because 2 holes in an animal results in more blood loss, making it easier to track a shot animal. Animals shot with non-lead bullets typically make it another 30-50 yards after the impact of the bullet compared to lead bullets but they expire equally as fast.

The last thing to know is that technology has changed so drastically around bullets that even if you tried non-lead bullets 5-10 years ago, the latest bullets have a ton of science behind them combined with learning from early bullet flaws.

Barnes TTSX and TSX bullets have relief grooves cut into them to allow some material to move

into those voids as the bullet gets “squished” by the rifling of the barrel. Smooth sided bullets would bind up and cause erratic flight in early solid copper bullets. The lead core of most bullets allows the center of the bullet to squeeze in as the bullet engages the rifling. Hornady makes the CX, which is a copper alloy that is supposed to be softer than pure copper, so it opens on impact better and also has relief grooves in it.

To celebrate the 100 year anniversary of the .270 Winchester being introduced to the public, I decided to carry my .270 on opening day of deer season last fall. I had loaded up some cartridges with 130-grain Hornady CX bullets. A couple hours after sunrise, I had a deer give me a shot opportunity at around 75 yards. The copper alloy bullet performed exactly like all of my research had said it would. There was a good-sized exit wound and I had an easy to follow blood trail for about 40 yards from the point of impact.

I believe the rebate program is still going on, so if you are interested in trying lead-free bullets I would recommend participating in it.

SNB HORSESHOE CLUB:

Potter’s Tires and Kelly’s Flowers tied for the lead after week nine

SOUTH NEW BERLIN— The South New Berlin Horseshoe Club finished its ninth week of play on June 24. Billy Schermerhorn and John Edwards of Potter’s Tires and Lee Coon and Jess Sherwood are tied for the lead with a record of 30-6.

This move comes after Kelly’s Flowers was one game away from first last week.

Webster Paving, Carpet Protectors, and The

Stadium round out the top five teams that could move at any time with the season continuing.

Lee Coon and Kate Lloyd both swept the men’s and women’s lead-erboards. Coon had a high singles game of a 74 and a high series of a 191. Lloyd had a high singles game of a 55 and a high series of a 148.

Kelly’s Flowers swept all the team leaderboards for a successful end of week.

The South New Berlin Horseshoe Club meets every Wednesday night through now until September.

Full Standings as of June 24:

1. Potter’s Tires (Billy Schermerhorn/John Edwards) 30-6, 5416 points
2. Kelly’s Flowers (Lee Coon/Jess Sherwood) 30-6, 5299 points
3. Webster Paving (Ed Webster/Bob Wells) 26.5-9.5, 5260 points
4. Carpet Protectors (Brian Prentice/Chris Davis) 25-11, 5172 points
5. The Stadium (Al Bush/Al

Patten) 24.5-11.5, 5228 points

6. Fun Lovers (Tim Lidell/ Mike Grant) 24-12, 5211 points
7. Top Notch Timber (Keith Clark/Jim Bulger) 21-15, 5064 points
8. Aptitude Design Co. (Tresta Raymond/Kate Lloyd) 18-18, 5146 points
9. Old Skool Lawnmower Repair & Service (Larry Shaw/ Darla Smith) 17-19, 5213 points
10. Rustic Ridge (Ron Anderson/George Hanslmaier) 17-19, 5085 points
11. Roger’s Best Value Tire & Auto (Cindy Miller/Joe Miller) 16.5-19.5, 5126 points
12. Rhino Graphics (Ryan Lund/Bill Wetherbee) 16-20, 5038 points
13. RTG (Connie Barnes/ Darlene Conkling) 12.5-23.5, 5166 points
14. Pitch Perfect (Lisa

Webster/Brynn Grant) 11.5-24.5, 4995 points

15. Upstate Companies (Laura Pegg/Ashley Barrows) 11-25, 5081 points
16. The Retirees (Bob Aitken/Denys Meade) 11-25, 5081 points
17. Rolling M Stables (Jim Moffitt/Melvin Harvey) 8-28, 4982 points
18. Tuttle’s Hot Diggity Dogs (Sam Tuttle/Trevor May) 4.5-31.5, 4955 points

Men’s High Singles:

Lee Coon 74
Billy Schermerhorn 72
Al Patten 69

Women’s High Singles:

Kate Lloyd 55
Jess Sherwood 50
Cindy Miller 43

Team High Singles:

Kelly’s Flowers 123
Potter’s Tires 119

Webster Paving 114

Team High Singles Handicap:

Kelly’s Flowers 222
Rustic Ridge 216
Potter’s Tires 215

Men’s High Series:

Lee Coon 191
Billy Schermerhorn 184
Al Patten 179

Women’s High Series:

Kate Lloyd 148
Jess Sherwood 144
Cindy Miller 115

Team High Series Handicap:

Kelly’s Flowers 632
The Stadium 613
The Retirees 610



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South Otselic Post 973 falls to Oneonta Green Wave 259 12-2

BOBBY MERCILLIOTT
GAZETTE SPORTS INTERN

ONEONTA — The South Otselic Post 973 American Legion team traveled to Oneonta to take on the Green Wave on Tuesday, falling 12-2.

South Otselic was held to just two runs on two hits in the contest.

Oliver Marshall helped lead Otselic’s offense going 1 for 2 with a double, a walk, and recording a run scored. Lukas Schieferstein added a triple as well as a stolen base. Caleb Loomis and Troy Miller scored the team’s two runs. South Otselic showed great confidence at the plate, drawing five walks in the process.

Logan Lounsberry started on the mound for South Otselic, pitching five innings, allowing nine runs (six earned) on six hits, three walks, and recorded one strikeout. Troy Miller followed, allowing three runs (one earned) on two hits, a walk, and one strikeout.

South Otselic Post 973 (4-5) looks to split the series with Oneonta when they host them Thursday at 6 p.m.

The Early Files

by Peggy Finnegan

WEEK #27 TEN YEARS AGO July 1, 2016

With all the activities, we neglected to mention June 21st, the longest day of the year. We now start down the other side – SORRY!

TWENTY YEARS AGO July 7, 2006

Though some of New Berlin avoided the flooding which devastated most of the county, those who enjoy golfing felt the burn.

Colorscape Chenango announces festival lineup

A big thank you to Mr. Benson who came out with his backhoe and buried my little pygmy goat. It meant so much to me.

SIXTY YEARS AGO July 3, 1966

No rain has fallen since June 16 and, after two weeks of hot sunny weather, everything is very dry, including the air. The intense heat has been almost unbearable.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Bagg on the birth of a son, Scott Allen, born June 28th.

Paula Jeter is spending time with Mr. and Mrs. Horace Root and attending Bible School.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster Tice toured the New England states over the weekend.

Mrs. Mabel Spicer, 81, died at her home July 5, following a short illness. She was married to Bert Spicer, who died in 1926. Surviving are three sons: Elbert, Stuart and Ward.

William Ball will leave Friday by plane to spend several weeks in Ireland.

Mr. and Mrs. David Deal and son Jeffrey

camped at Gilbert Lake last week.

Mrs. D.G. Hayes had the misfortune to break her arm.

Donald O'Brien enjoyed a fine program of county music at Echo Lake Sunday.

Judge Frederick Loomis returned home from a fishing trip to Canada.

Taxpayers in New York took their usual beating in 1964 when it came to the distribution of federal funds under various "aid" programs.

FRESH MEATS: Ground beef 65c lb.; Ground chuck 75c lb.; Ground round 98c lb.; Cube steak \$1.05 lb.; Franks 99c/2 lb. Spicers Store

SEVENTY YEARS AGO July 6, 1956

Angelo Franco left to spend the summer as a counselor at Boy Scout Camp Tuscarora.

Florence Turnbull and Clyde Matteson Jr. married June 2 at the First Baptist Church.

Bernard Matteson received his Boy Scout God & Country Award at the Columbus Community Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Woolsey Ackerman announce the engagement of their daughter, Diantha, to Corp. David Spicer.

EIGHTY YEARS AGO June 25, 1946

Ballard Miller left Monday for New York City to meet his bride, who will arrive from England on July 2.

Corrine Runion, 2nd grade, Margaret Runion, 7th grade, and Gladys Runion, 11th grade, each had perfect attendance at school last year.

Mr. and Mrs. Elwell

Mowry and son attended graduation at Syacuse University. Lyman Hale Jr. graduated from Syracuse Univ. Medical College and will intern as a 1st Lieutenant in the Medical Corps.

Miss Doris Akin and Capt. Norman Davis married June 29 at the First Methodist C church, New Berlin.

NINETY YEARS AGO July 4, 1936

A detail of 14 state troopers arrested 51 men at a cockfight on the Raymond Barnes' farm, about two miles east of North Brookfield. Forty birds were taken in the raid and later auctioned off, bringing \$40 which was given to the Brookfield poor fund.

Several farmers have finished cabbage setting and begun haying.

Mrs. Bertha Tice and family moved to the Welch Bros. tenant house, vacated by Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Lockerbie, who moved to the Miss Carrie C. Towne house, recently purchased from her. Mr. and Mrs. William Brook have moved from the upper apartment to the lower apartment vacated by the Tice family, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Janaki and child moved into the upper apartment.

The Chesebro reunion met at the Park School Sunday. About 70 were present and greatly enjoyed the day.

It is with much regret that our people see the Major's Inn closed, the lawns growing up to grass and weeds and everything in a neglected state. It was reported early in the season that the premises had been sold to an experienced

hotel man and we hoped to see the Inn opened and doing a prosperous business. The Inn was built 35 years ago and this is the first season that it has been closed since it first opened.

Uncle Ab says if you think present styles are funny, take a look through the family album or high school annual.

C.C. Houk is having his residence on South Street painted. Bert Talbot and Earl Potter are doing the work.

By the way, what has become of Emperor Haille Selassie?

Irving Reed left Sunday to join other 4-H boys at Sherburne for a trip to Ithaca where they will attend the 4-H club congress.

A.C. Bingham bought about 600 broilers of Clarence Coman. Prices are from 15 to 16c per pound, depending on size and dealer.

Organizations of bird-lovers and promoters of wildlife have started an agitation for the belling of all cats in cities and towns throughout

the country.

The whitewash outfit was here and did the barns of Jay Sholes and Frank McQuade.

Linn Axtell was ill the last of the week.

Eugene, little son of Leon Johnson, was sick last week.

Randallsville and Columbus played a 7-inning ball game Sunday; score, Columbus 8 & Randallsville, 6.

Mrs. Ward Elliott and children were in Little Falls on business.

Twin sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Garre Crandall at So. Edmeston July 2nd.

Charles Simonton, who has been painting at his house on Hill street, fell from a ladder and badly bruised his face and head.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Mitchell, Richer and Ann, leave for New York City. Friday they will sail on the Ile de France for Europe, returning in August on the Queen Mary. John Spurr will accompany them to New York.

UNEXCELLED FIRE WORKS: Full line, 1c,

5c, 10c, 15c, 25c. Spicer Bros. Phone 139 – We Deliver

HUNDRED YEARS AGO July 4, 1926

You can buy your July 4th fireworks at the Fern Restaurant. M.R. Angell, prop.

Annette Friederick, Mrs. Starr Angell, Francis Buttrick and Marion Jacobson left for Boulder, where they will attend summer school at the Univ. of Colorado.

The annual Ketchum Community Picnic will be held July 8th in EA. Mumbulo's grove.

Beatrice VanWarner and Marion Eddy left for Bosin Harbor, Vermont, where they will spend summer vacation.

A good attendance was present at the IOOF meeting for the installation of officers by H. Lee Matteson, DDGM and staff.

2nd Summer Concert by Smyrna Citizens Band to perform on library's outdoor balcony July 13

SMYRNA - The second Summer Concert for the season for Smyrna Citizens Band will be performed from the bandstand above the Library at 7 p.m., July 13.

The performance, as usual, will begin with The Star-Spangled Banner followed by: Washington Post March, Country Garden,



Suite From Hamilton, Reverie, Trumpet Voluntary, Fleur-de-lis Overture, Aces High

March, Latin Winds, Fascination, Journey In Concert, and Smyrna Citizens Band March.

Enjoy this special evening from your lawn chair or your car. Thanks to the Town and Village of Smyrna for sponsoring this summer series of concerts.

- Information from Smyrna Citizens Band

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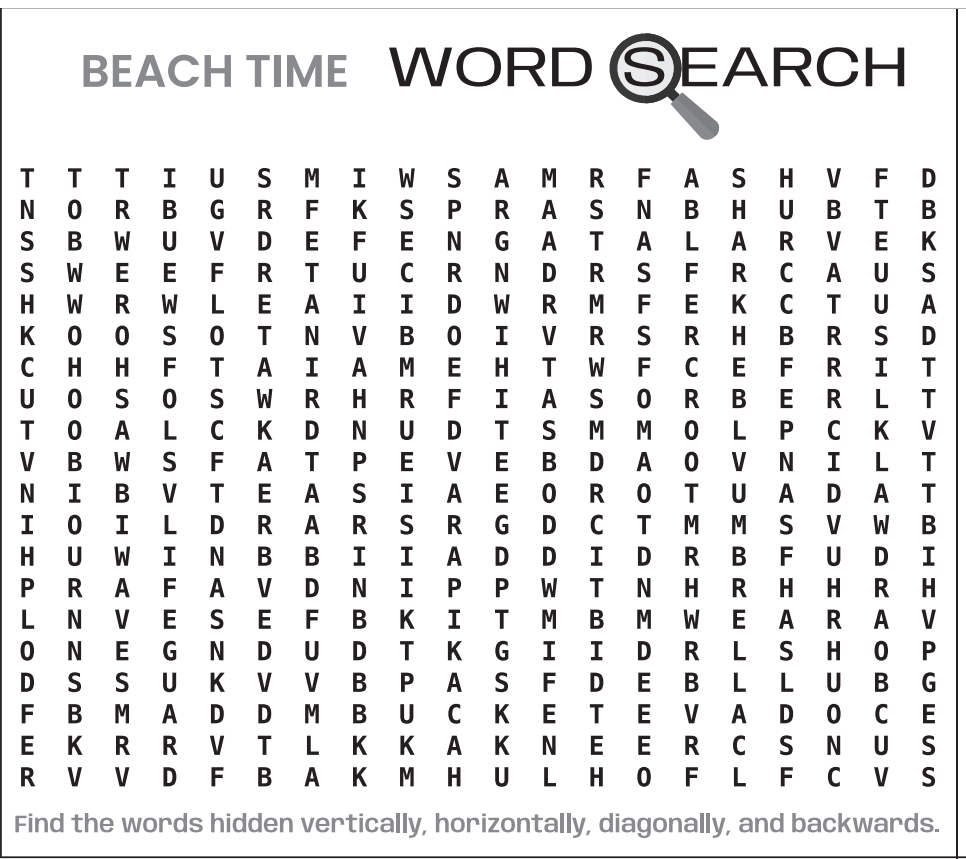
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WORD SEARCH



- | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|
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| BEACHCOMBER | LIFEGUARD | SURFBOARD |
| BERM | RIPTIDE | SWIMSUIT |
| BOARDWALK | SAND | TAN |
| BREAKWATER | SANDBAR | TIDES |
| BUCKET | SEASIDE | TOWEL |
| COAST | SHARK | UMBRELLA |
| COOLER | SHORE | WAVES |

SUDOKU

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	7	3	5	1	2	4		
			6	8				
	8		4		7		6	

Level: Beginner

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to the beach.

L A Y S T

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Salty

GUESS WHO ?

I am an actor born in New York on July 5, 1954. I have a strong background in dancing, martial arts and bodybuilding. I've had various roles, but I'm best known for playing a character on a show that takes place in the 1970s.

Answer: Don Stark

H	E	A	L	E	D		P	S	A	L	M	S	
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7	5	6	3	4	1	9	8	2
3	2	4	9	7	8	6	1	5
9	1	8	2	5	6	7	3	4
6	7	3	5	1	2	4	9	8
1	4	9	6	8	3	2	5	7
5	8	2	4	9	7	1	6	3

EOH opens newly expanded courtyard with Rusty Pickup Band

EARLVILLE - Earlville Opera House (EOH) is opening its newly expanded outdoor Courtyard on July 11 from 4 to 7 p.m. with a Summer Tailgate FUNdraiser featuring Rusty Pickup Band.

Join EOH and Commerce Chenango for a ribbon-cutting at 4 p.m. right before the band kicks off.

Construction of the outdoor courtyard has been a two-year endeavor including the construction of a new performance platform, patio and landscaping design, lighting, a new concession stand, and a historic mural depicting the 1892 Landmark Theater.

As stated by EOH Executive Director, Michelle Connelly, "This is a heartfelt project driven by matching funds from local Foundations, dedicated community volunteers and local contractors who are all sincerely invested. These people are the backbone of this meaningful new addition to our history and understand the impact of increasing the size of this civic asset for greater communal gathering so important to rural circumstances. Come celebrate this



Earlville Opera House (EOH) is opening its newly expanded outdoor Courtyard on July 11 from 4 to 7 p.m. with a Summer Tailgate FUNdraiser featuring Rusty Pickup Band. Join EOH and Commerce Chenango for a ribbon-cutting at 4 p.m. right before the band kicks off. (Submitted photo)

expansion which allows EOH to continue growing its legacy of enriching our region through music and arts."

Join the Rusty Pickup Band, a rowdy band of favorite local musicians, as we open the new Courtyard and raise money to support the Opera House's mission. Come and learn about the details of this new multi-use space and enjoy the Rusty Pickup Band who will bring some of the greatest hits of Folk-Rock and

Country from the 70's and onward, covering bands like the Eagles, Merle Haggard, Little Feat, Hank Williams, Grateful Dead, Crosby Stills & Nash and many more! With John Crespi and Bruce Ward on vocals and guitar, Steve Skollar on mandolin, Carl Pickett on bass and Mark Shiner on the drums, you'll be transported back in time with these favorites. Pump up the tires on your rusty pickup and join the fun! Tickets are \$25

in advance and \$30 at the door and include a free beer or soda/water and two slices of pizza. Additional snacks (salad, chips, watermelon, ice cream) are included, and additional beverages including adult drinks are on sale in the new concession stand.

Founded in 1972 as a non-profit community service organization, EOH, Inc. offers programs of cultural, educational and historical significance. Programs include a range of

diverse visual and performing arts programs represented by rotating gallery exhibits; live performances; arts workshops; arts education opportunities; and administering Statewide Community Re grants. EOH's dual mission to enrich the area through the arts includes preserving the architectural and historic integrity of EOH, a unique 2nd story historic Landmark Theater constructed in 1892, for future generational use. EOH was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 and continues its dedication to contributing to positive and meaningful impacts on our region.

Upcoming Courtyard performances feature Maximilian Eyle & John Driscoll on July 25, 7pm; Opus Black on August 15, 7pm; and a "SAMMYS Celebration" including a Q&A clinic with SAMMY award winners Nate Gross, Jess Novak & Tom Rasely on August 29.

Visit www.earlville-operahouse.com to get your tickets, call (315) 691-3550, or just stop in!

Thank you to the hospitality sponsors of our Courtyard open-

ing event: Clyde's Little Red Barn, Gilligan's Ice Cream, Huff Brau llc, New York Pizzeria aka "Slices", and Hamilton Harvest Winery. Special thanks to our 2026 Summer Courtyard Series sponsor Sideny Federal Credit Union.

Earlville Opera House Arts Center is located at 18 East Main Street in the quaint Village of Earlville, NY. At EOH we believe accessibility and inclusion are critical to everything we do. Our historic Opera House has been upgraded to ensure accessibility throughout the building, including a hearing loop system in our 1892 theater provided by Hamilton Hearing LLC.

Please join us on Facebook and Instagram, view our website at www.earlville-operahouse.com for the latest programming, and stop in for a visit.

EOH events are made possible in part by the New York State Council on the Arts with support from the Office of the Governor and NYS Legislature, and through the generosity of EOH members.

- Information from the Earlville Opera House

Loomis Hay Loft memories event set for July 12 in North Pitcher

NORTH PITCHER - The Otselic Valley Fishing & Heritage Association, in cooperation with the North Pitcher Community Heritage Society, invites the public to share and listen to stories about the historic Loomis Hay Loft at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 12, at the North Pitcher Church, 1069 State Highway 26.

For nearly 40 years beginning in 1934, the rural dance hall drew visitors from throughout Chenango County and beyond for round and square dancing to the music and calls of the musicians who performed there.

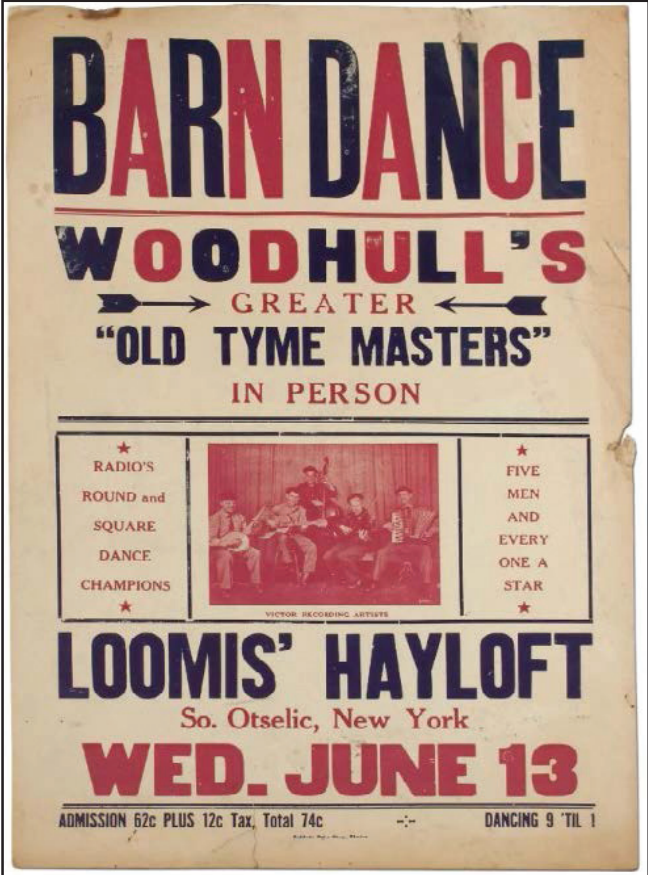
Attendees are encouraged to bring photos, documents and other historic items celebrating the venue's role in the northwest Chenango County community.

For more information about this event and other upcoming programs, visit www.ovfish.org.

- Information from the Otselic Valley Fishing & Heritage Association



Hear stories about the historic Loomis Hay Loft at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 12, at the North Pitcher Church, 1069 State Highway 26. (Submitted photos)



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New Berlin Library Corner



Fourth of July Family Art Program at the New Berlin Library

NEW BERLIN - The New Berlin Library held a Patriotic Art Program on June 29. Individuals and families looking for a fun and creative way to celebrate the upcoming Independence Day holiday were invited to attend a special patriotic art program on Wednesday, June 29, at 5:00 p.m.

During the event, participants created festive Fourth of July door hangers featuring red, white, and blue stars displayed on twine and accented with patriotic beads. The colorful decorations were designed to add a touch of holiday spirit to homes while providing an enjoyable hands-on activity for children and adults alike.

The program was open to people of all ages and offered an opportunity for participants to spend quality time together while expressing their creativity. All materials needed to complete the craft project were provided.

Patriotic cupcakes and drinks were provided to participants. The program was an evening of creativity, fun, and community fellowship as attendees prepared for the nation's 250th birthday.

The Summer Reading Program officially began on July 1 and runs through August 31. It will offer participants opportunities to track their reading, attend special programs, and earn prizes. Activities throughout the summer will focus on exploration, discovery, and the excitement of uncovering new adventures through books.

In addition to the children's program, adults will also have a chance to participate in summer prize drawings. During July and August, adults who visit the library will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win a themed gift basket. The drawing will take place September 1.

The adult gift basket includes a black Stanley IceFlow 2.0 Flip Straw Tumbler with Handle (14 oz.), 50x60 fleece blanket, fuzzy socks, a dinosaur ceramic mug, an xl dinosaur T-shirt, a dinosaur tote bag, a Jurassic World Cookbook, & a \$25 Gilligan's gift card.

The three week summer "Dino Camp" for children 12 and younger takes place July 27-August 13, Monday – Thursday, 9– 12:30. Unadilla Valley Summer Feeding Program will provide breakfast 9-9:30 and lunch 12-12:30 for children a8 and younger. The library will hold dinosaur themed activities between 9:30-noon. This program is sponsored by the Community Foundation of South Central New York and The New Berlin Library Art Forum.

Some great new additions to the library include: D is for Daisy (Amish ABCs) by Shelley Shepard Gray, Mad Mabel by Sally Hepworth, Death on the lanai (A Golden Girls Cozy Mystery) by Rachel Ekstrom Courage, The Viper (A Zig and Nola Novel) by Brad Meltzer, Land by Maggie O'Farrell, Into the Blue by Emma Brodie, and The Pup Days of Summer (Cloud Puppy Graphic Novel) by Kelly Leigh Miller.

The New Berlin Library is located at 15 South Main Street, New Berlin. The Library is open Monday and Wednesday 10AM-8PM; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10AM-5PM; and Saturdays 10AM-noon. The web address is <http://libraries.4cls.org/newberlin/>. Please contact us at 607.847.8564 or like and message our Facebook page New Berlin Library and Museum (<https://www.facebook.com/newberlinlibrary.newberlinny>) with any questions.

- Information from the New Berlin Library

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NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL

(Pursuant of Section 516 (1) of the Real Property Tax Law)

Notice is hereby given that the Assessor of the Town of Morris, County of Otsego, State of New York, has completed the final assessment roll for the current year and that a certified copy has been left with the Town Clerk at the Municipal Building, 93 Main St., Morris, NY, where it may be seen and examined by any interested person until the first day of October.

Dated this 1st day of July, 2026.
Matthew S. Lippitt,
Assessor
(t1GZ 07/09)

To place a legal/public notice contact:
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607-334-3276



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10.	11.	12.
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16.	17.	18.
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liquidation sale continues thru
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off on many items throughout
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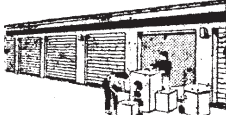


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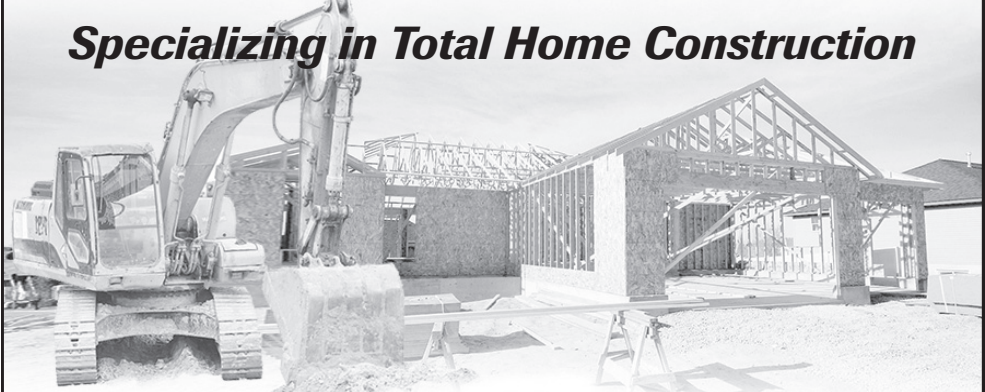
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Saturday, July 11 at 9:30 AM
5279 State Highway 23, Norwich, NY

Collectibles, Antiques & Misc.: SPECIAL: 100 oz. silver bar, Norwich & Oneonta history, WWII: Red Cross motor service & pins, badges & buttons, First Aid book, Lincoln Bank w/500 Lincoln pennies, hat pins & holder, post cards, metal tractors & toys, machinery literature, Mad's Greatest Artists book, milk bottles, cream separator (as is), metal signs -State Farm, Harold Leach (double sided), adv. cans, lg. qty. 78 records & record albums, puzzles, vases & glassware (pattern glassware set & cocoa set), lg. qty. prints, paintings & frames to include local artists Chandler, Dick & Lanette Daniels, Golden & Nutting, hanging wheel lights, crocks & jugs, yard deco. items, marble mantel back, diner tables, 2 kitchen ceiling lights, Smalley theater metal seat ends, blanket box, green cabinet w/shelves, Army field table, glass display case & 2 portable display cases, wood cupboards, wood shutters, printer drawer, 1976 Fireman's Convention shirt, cobblers tools, sleds, collect. wood iron boards, Zenith console stereo/radio, washer & dryer, benches from White Store Church, 3- 8' tables, etc., etc...
Antique Equipment, Tools & Misc.: Single Horse power (complete - good condition) Messinger Mfg. Co., Tatamy, PA., 1 horse plow, neck yokes & whiffletrees, log bob w/tongue, handmade bob sled, walking scoop, buggy seat, implement seat, JD running gear, single axle trailer, lime sower, corn sheller, litter carrier, cast iron pig trough, cast iron lye pot, hog scalding trough, wood water trough, barrels & kegs, barrel dolly & caddy, wood tool chest, hand tools, power tools, tool boxes, **150# anvil & cast iron anvil**, deco. cast iron, cross cut saws & blades, line shaft w/pulleys, wood pulleys, iron wheel pulley, metal pulleys, hay track & car, vise, hop bars & farm hand tools, JD hyd. cyl., wood & coal stoves, work benches, collect. hardware, square nails, 16' metal gate, ladders, qty. lumber, qty. pipe, chicken feeders, steel garbage cans, tires, box fans, etc., etc...
NOTE: Still digging - expect surprises!!! Come have a fun day at the auction!

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Now 35% OFF Scopes, Optics & Cameras All & more

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Now 30% OFF All Boots

Now 50% OFF Yukon Coolers

Now 30% OFF All Archery Accessories

Now 50% OFF Augers & Skimmers

Now 25% OFF Fishing Rods & Reels

Now 25% OFF Lures, Lines & Accessories

Now 30% OFF Holsters

Now 40% OFF Deer Scents

Now 20% OFF Tree Stands

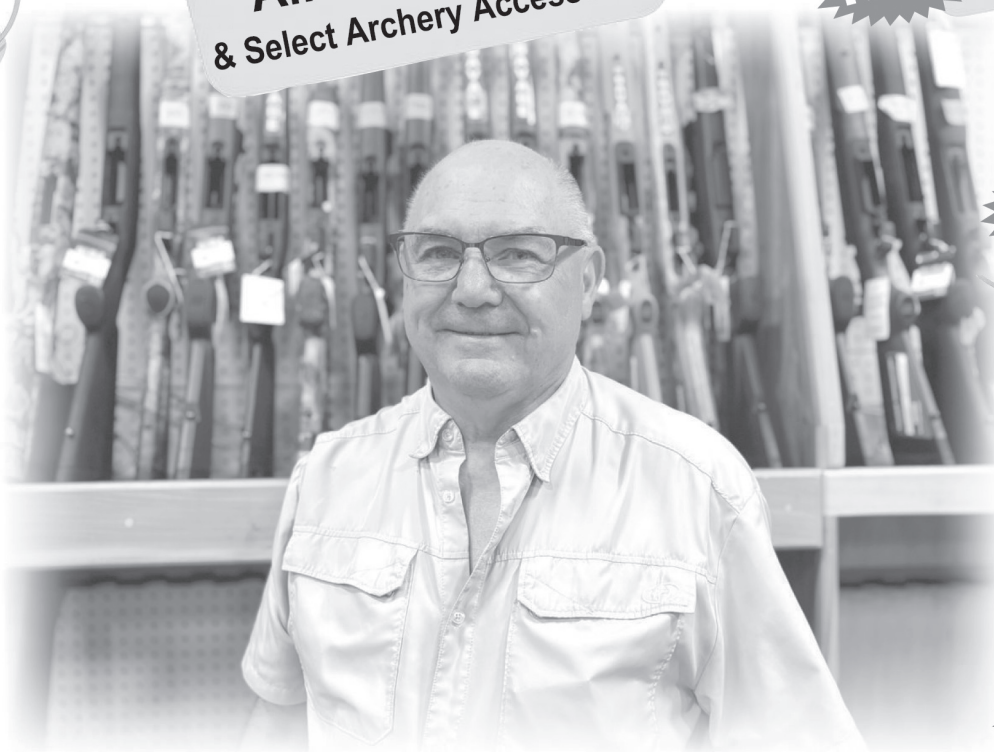
Now 30% OFF Big Shot 350 Target

Now 25% OFF Turkey & Steel Shot

Now 10% to 50% OFF Buck Shot & Deer Slugs

Now 40% OFF All Trapping Supplies

Now 50% OFF All Broadheads & Select Archery Accessories!



After nearly 60 years of loyal support from so many friends and customers, near and far, I have decided to retire. The store is listed for sale, however if the business does not sell soon, operations will end July 31, 2026.

We kindly ask that all Gift Cards & Layaways to be handled by that time.

Mike Mayhood
Owner

*ALL SALES FINAL - NO RETURNS OR REFUNDS. NO PREVIOUS SALES OR LAYAWAYS INCLUDED
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This cartoon is alarming.



10-QBG

Shortcuts

by jeff harris

This edition of Shortcuts is sponsored by Stop, Drop and Roll.

Don't play around with fire safety.



KEEPING UP WITH Fire Trucks

Fighting fires has been a necessary job throughout history. From the hand operated wooden pumps used by the Egyptians 2,000 years ago to the bucket brigades of the 1800s, people have always sought out new and better ways to fight fires.

Today, the frontline weapon used in fighting fires is the fire truck. Some modern fire trucks can blast more than 10,000 gallons of water per minute and even reach high enough for firefighters to rescue people from the top of a 20-story building. So, even though we'll never extinguish the problem of fires, the powerful, useful and beautiful fire truck is here to help us.

Not all fire trucks are red. Researchers are split on whether it is better to paint fire trucks bright colors (such as yellow) so they are easily seen or to keep them red because people are used to that color.

For more information on fire trucks, go to your local library and check out these books:
 "Fire Truck - Mighty Machines" by Caroline Bingham (Dorling Kindersley Publishing, Inc.) or
 "Fire Truck" by Jerry Boucher (Carolrhoda Books, Inc.)

ENGINE OR TRUCK?
 Firefighting is divided between two groups - engine companies and truck companies. While both have rescue as a top priority, they do have different roles. The engine company deals mainly with extinguishing the fire, and the truck company deals with almost everything else.

SNORKEL BOB
 Robert Quinn of Chicago came up with the idea of putting a hose and a firefighter on top of a commercial cherry picker truck creating the world's first snorkel truck.

HAZMAT
 trucks deal with hazardous materials such as acids, fuels and other dangerous chemicals.

More than half of a fire truck's duties involve emergency medical calls.

Some ladder trucks have two drivers. The driver in the back is called the "filler man" and his job is to steer the back wheels so the truck can maneuver around tight corners.

Fire trucks stay in service for around 20 years before they are retired.

KEEP ON TRUCKIN'
 In large cities, specialized fire trucks are located at different firehouses to provide overlapping coverage and mutual support.

Water cannons in fire trucks can shoot water over 150 feet.

Some ladder trucks have two drivers. The driver in the back is called the "filler man" and his job is to steer the back wheels so the truck can maneuver around tight corners.

Fire trucks stay in service for around 20 years before they are retired.



What is a fireman's favorite tool?
A fire drill.

What did the fireman say as he was leaving?
See you ladder.

BUCKET BRIGADE
 Before there were fire engines, people used bucket brigades to fight fires. The people of the town would form two lines between a water source and the fire. One line passed buckets of water to be dumped on the fire and the other returned the empty buckets for refilling. Most households were required to have their own buckets.

OLD FLAME
 The Newsham engine, patented in 1725 by Richard Newsham of England, was the first hand-pumped engine that could create a reliable stream of water.

The first steam fire engines were developed in England.

In 1864, Dr. F. Carlier of France invented the chemical fire engine that used the principles of acids and bases to extinguish fires.

What do you get when you cross a fire truck with five cents?
Pumper-nickel.

How do you wake up a fireman?
With a fire alarm.

Many people believe that only a pumper truck can be called a true "fire engine."



WORD SEARCH

Can you find the hidden words? Search carefully because some words are backward or diagonal.

BRIGADE	BUCKET	QUINT
HAZMAT	WATER	HOSE
PUMPER	ENGINE	FIRE
STREAM	STEAM	BOB
GALLON	TRUCK	HOT
LADDER	BLAST	RED

E B R I G A D R E T A W A
 N G A L L O N H O S D O B
 G Q U I B L A S T T A Q E
 I B O B L U W A T E L U D
 N D F M A E R T S A T I A
 E E I H D K H E I M E N G
 B R O E D H C A P U K T I
 L S R H E O L U Z M C A R
 E I U Q R T U P R M U R B
 F O H A Z M A T E T B P O

CHARIOTS FOR FIRE

Some tanker trucks carry a large portable tank that looks like a swimming pool. When they arrive at a fire which has no nearby water source, they empty the water from their truck into the portable tank and then leave to get more water.

The maze of different fire hoses at a big fire is called "spaghetti."

Knock, knock.
Who's there?
Water.
Water, who?
Water you doing?

Ladder trucks carry many different ladders and specialized rescue tools.

A triple combination pumper truck can pump water from its own 500-gallon booster tank, a fire hydrant or a nearby lake or stream.

A quint truck does the work of both a pumper and a ladder truck.

Email us at: info.jeffharris@gmail.com

HOT UNDER THE COLLAR

Can you help this Dalmatian find his way to the fire station?

