

BRIEFLY

Beekeepers To Meet Thursday

The Chautauqua County Beekeepers Association will meet on Thursday at the Frank W Bratt Agricultural Center, 3542 Turner Road, at 7 p.m. The meeting is open to new and experienced beekeepers, as well as those interested in learning about beekeeping. Monthly CCBA meetings provide an opportunity to meet people from throughout the region who are involved in keeping bees, including large-scale beekeepers, as well "sideliners" and hobbyists. Topics for discussion will include: preparing for winter, harvesting honey, an update on demonstration apiary, and planning for upcoming extraction workshop and announcements of related events. All are welcome to attend.

Food Bank Truck Visit Planned

ASHVILLE — The Food Bank of Western New York Food Express Truck from Buffalo will be at the Asheville United Methodist Church Tuesday. Open hours are 9 a.m. to noon and 3-5 p.m. The truck brings fresh produce and some stable items. To receive this free food, proof of address showing you reside at one of the following zip codes is required: Asheville, 14710; Bemus Point, 14712; Celoron, 14720; Lakewood, 14750; Niobe, 14758; Panama, 14767; and Stow, 14785. Please bring your own bags or boxes. If you have any questions call Martha at 763-9252.

Barbecue To Be Held At Moose

FALCONER — The Kiwanis Club of Falconer is hosting a chicken barbecue on Saturday at the Falconer Moose Lodge from 5-7 p.m. Dinners will be available at the door for \$10 while supplies last. Proceeds will go to Kiwanis Service Leadership programs at Falconer Central Schools. These programs include Key Club, Builders Club and Key Leader. Through its Service Leadership programs, Kiwanis enables its youngest leaders to serve their communities. Kiwanis International is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time. Kiwanis and its youth-oriented Service Leadership Programs serve communities in more than 80 countries and geographic areas. New members are always welcome. For more information contact Gaylene Lindell at 483-6682.

Library Hosting Genealogy Class

FREWSBURG — Myers Memorial Library will be holding its Introduction to Genealogy class on Thursday, Oct. 1 and 8 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Registration is required for this class due to the number of computers available. Registrants should let the director know whether they will need to use one of the library's computers, or if they will bring their own computer. The class focuses on online resources available but also shares other resources available. Call the library at 569-5515 to register. The library is located at the corner of Ivory and Falconer Streets in Frewsburg.

Family Holds 101st Reunion

GERRY — Descendant of Walter and Camilla Shepardson recently met at the Gerry town park for the 101st reunion, picnic and meeting with 41 family members in attendance. Traveling the furthest were Bruce Thompson of California and Richard and Patty Shepardson of New Mexico. Larry and Carol Barmore were re-elected presidents for 2016 and Judy Barmore was re-elected secretary/treasurer. The next reunion will be held at the Gerry park on the fourth Saturday of August 2016.



Sue Seamans, Falconer Public Library director, and Brenda Cavallaro display a photo of the circus in Falconer, circa 1930s, to residents of Hultquist Place.

Submitted photo

Informational Visit

Falconer Public Library Officials Visit Hultquist Place

BY MALLORY DIEFENBACH
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FALCONER — On Tuesday, Falconer Public Library representatives visited Hultquist Place on the Lutheran campus to share Falconer's history with the residents.

Last spring, the Falconer Public Library presented its annual Selborne classes to Falconer Central School classes. While there, a parent of a student, an employee of Hultquist, was so impressed with the pro-

gram that she contacted Hultquist management to suggest the library and Hultquist bring it to the campus.

After Candra Roach, activities director at Hultquist Place, contacted the library, the two worked together to bring the program to the campus.

"We made our first visit to them this summer in July," said Sue Seamans, Falconer library director. "We go every other month. We pick different topics."

On Tuesday, the library gave a mini-lecture on the history and evolution of the circus and the start of Quality Markets. Residents also received circus tickets from the 1970s as mementos.

"Next time, in November, I think we're going to talk about the history tree," Seamans said, referring to a Christmas tree the library decorates with memorabilia from Falconer.

"I'm going to take a large basket of books with me and give everyone a choice of a book and a bookmark," she said.

City Officials Receive 2014 Year-End Audit Report

BY DENNIS PHILLIPS
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Jamestown officials received the accountant-inspected proof that 2014 wasn't a good year for the city financially.

Last week, Jamestown City Council heard the 2014 year-end audit report from John Trussalo, certified public accountant. The audit report includes sections

like the management discussion and analysis, which compared 2013 and 2014 financial information; the unmodified independent audit report; the statement of net position, which is the balance sheet for the city as a whole; and statement of activities.

Trussalo discussed several issues with city officials, including the trouble with the constitu-

tional tax margin. The constitutional tax margin is a state law stating each municipality has to have a tax levy that is less than 2 percent of the five-year average of the full valuation of taxable real estate in the community. The city's constitutional tax margin at the end of 2014 was 91.25 percent. He said the city is within \$1,173,000 of its constitutional tax margin.

In 2014, city officials planned a \$305,000 deficit in preparing the 2014 budget. However, financially, the year was worse than city officials had planned with a \$756,000 deficit by the end of the year.

The city had a year-end debt of \$451,000 more than city officials had planned for when preparing the 2014 spending plan.

JPS Board Talks Student Achievement

BY KATRINA FULLER
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"We have a lot of work ahead of us," said Jessie Joy, director of curriculum, at a recent meeting of the Jamestown Public Schools Board of Education.

She gave a presentation on the recent state assessment and Regents exam scores to the board, telling the members the level of proficiency wasn't as high as they'd hoped.

However, Joy said the proficiency numbers from state testing for third-through eighth-graders are low across the state.

"Unfortunately, we have not seen the change we had hoped to see in three years," she said. "Statewide, we're not seeing an upward trend."

Joy explained the Class of 2022 is the first class that the state has set a goal for in terms of college and career readiness upon graduation. In sixth through eighth grades, scoring a level two or above shows students are on track for graduation, which is not so for those in third through fifth grades.

Scores of level three and above for the English language arts exams for third-through-eighth-grade assessments remained at 20 percent for 2015, while the math scores of level three and above remained at 22 percent for 2015. Students scoring a level two in ELA dropped three percentage points from 2014 to 30 percent, while there was a slight increase of one percentage point for math assessment scores to 32 percent.

Joy said the older students tend to perform better on the ELA assessments, which is encouraging.

"The Scholastic Reading Inventory was administered in the fall and only one-fourth of third-grade students scored in the lexile range that is considered proficient or advanced."

• **Jessie Joy**
JPS director of curriculum

"We're seeing a slightly more positive trend in the upper grades," she added. "Grades sixth through eighth have demonstrated a higher proficiency (in ELA)."

In math, Joy said the district saw the opposite with higher grade levels.

Overall, she said the assessments are an important tool, but they are a snap shot of a specific time.

"We do use a number of other assessments to help us monitor whether students are on track in their learning as they get to those state assessments," Joy said, adding one such assessment is the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills, or DIBELS.

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Unemployment, Lack Of ID Major Contributors To Recidivism

BY A.J. RAO
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MAYVILLE — For the majority of inmates transitioning out of the county jail and into the community, the lack of a job or any personal identification remain the leading causes of recidivism.

CodyAnne Weise, employment and reentry facilitator at the jail, said at the county's recent reentry task force meeting in Mayville, that the ability of inmates to sustain themselves post-release gradually deteriorates over time — and unemployment is the chief culprit.

"If you don't have a job, you're coming back (to jail)," Weise said. "Many employers aren't willing to hire ex-offenders. Even if they say they are, they really aren't."

Part of the reason, she said, is inmates tend to "burn bridges" before their incarceration and garner a debilitating reputation within the community.

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