

OLEAN TIMES HERALD


AFFIDAVIT

ADVERTISER: NYSEG EV TARIFF REVISION 2021

(COUNTY OF CATTARAUGUS)

I, Julie Keim, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is a clerk of Bradford Publishing Company, publishers of the Olean Times Herald newspaper, a newspaper published in Olean, New York, having a general circulation in Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties, and that the advertisement was publish (4) time(s) on the following dates:

3/2, 3/9, 3/16 AND 3/23, 2021


Julie Keim

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 26^{NO} day of MARCH, 2021.


Lesli Whitney
Notary Public

LESLI L. WHITNEY
Notary Public, State of New York
NO. 01WH6025284
Qualified in Cattaraugus County
My Commission Expires 05/24/2023

Austin Lawton

Franklinville



Dr. Anthony Evans, executive director of the Cattaraugus County Youth Bureau, announced this week's featured Youth Citizenship Award recipient is Austin Lawton.

Austin is the daughter of Meagan and Chad Lawton and is a senior at Franklinville Central School. Austin has done much for her community and school. She has volunteered at the Olean YMCA for four years, the Franklinville Maple Festival for three years and has helped at the Maple Festival Pancake Breakfast for five years. Austin has participated in community-wide yard work for four years and has been a member of the Student Council for four years having served as vice president. Additionally, she has been a member of the Future Farmers of America for four years, holding positions of president, vice president and reporter.

Austin has participated in several sports. She has been the boys wrestling team manager for four years, has participated in the NYWAY Wolverine Den Wrestling and has been a member of the varsity girls swimming and diving team for one year. Austin has participated in competitive gymnastics for 10 years, including the Bradford YMCA, USAG G2 Gymnastics and the Lakewood YMCA Stars.

Academically, Austin has worked hard. She has been on the high honor roll throughout high school and has earned the President's Award Essay Contest. Austin's future plans are to attend Gannon University of Erie, Pa. after graduation with hopes of pursuing a career in physical therapy. She is described by the School Resource Officer as "a shining example of how to treat others and as someone who is always willing and happy to help others."

Nominations for the 2021 graduating class are open. If you know an outstanding member of your community who is a senior in high school, you may nominate them for a Cattaraugus County Youth Citizenship Award. For more information, contact: Alison Crosson, Youth Bureau Program coordinator at (716) 938-2617.



POLICE REPORTS

Wellsville Police

■ **Thursday, no time reported**, Ervin I. Tomb Jr., 37, of Wellsville, was charged with fourth-degree criminal mischief and endangering the welfare of a child, both class A misdemeanors. He was released with an appearance ticket.

New York State Police

■ **WELLSVILLE** — A two-vehicle accident was reported at 5:13 p.m. Sunday on Truax and Proctor roads. Charles A. Buchholz, 35, of Hornell, was identified as a driver. No information was reported on the second driver. No injuries were reported.

■ **ANGELICA** — A one-vehicle accident was reported at 6:33 p.m. Sunday on Interstate 86 and State Route 19. Robin R. Tolle, 19, of Rochester, was identified as the driver. No injuries were reported.

■ **BELMONT** — A one-vehicle accident was reported at 6:48 p.m. Sunday on South Street and Whitney Place. Michael J. Weinblatt, 37, of Wellsville, was identified as the driver. No injuries were reported.

■ **SCIO** — A one-vehicle accident was reported at 11:30 p.m. Sunday on County Road 9 and Snowball Hollow Road.

Danielle C. Baldwin, 39, of Little Genesee, was identified as the driver. No injuries were reported.

■ **ALLEGANY** — Dylan J. Troncone, 19, of Tioga, Pa., was charged at 1:30 a.m. Monday with operating a motor vehicle impaired by drugs, an unclassified misdemeanor. He was released with an appearance ticket.

■ **AMITY** — A one-vehicle accident was reported at 5:47 a.m. Monday on State Highway 19 N. and Tuckers Corner Road. Thomas J. Auckland, 75, of Belfast, was identified as the driver. No injuries were reported.

Pennsylvania State Police

■ **SMETHPORT, Pa.** — Joshua Hanes, 31, of Ridgway, was charged at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, with suspicion of driving under the influence. He resisted arrest, transported to BRMC for blood draw and remanded to McKean County Jail in lieu of \$2,500 bail.

■ **ELDRED TOWNSHIP, Pa.** — A two-vehicle accident was reported at 5:30 p.m. Friday on Prentisville and Windfall roads. Sarah B. Wheaton, 23, and Mary K. Lawton, 37, both of Eldred, were identified as the drivers. No injuries were reported.

New York State Electric & Gas Electric Corporation (NYSEG)

New York State Electric & Gas Corporation ("NYSEG") has filed with the New York State Public Service Commission (the "Commission") changes to its Schedule for Electricity Service, P.S.C. No. 120 – Electricity and Schedule for Electric Service.

NYSEG has proposed an EV Make-Ready surcharge to recover costs and incentives paid to participants in Electric Vehicle ("EV") Infrastructure Make-Ready Programs. The filing, which is subject to Commission review and approval, was filed on December 2, 2020, and became effective on January 1, 2021.

A complete copy of the filing can be viewed on the PSC's website at www.dps.ny.gov under Case 18-E-0138. Tariff schedules are available at nyseg.com.

New York State Electric & Gas Corporation

I-86 eastbound closed due to pileup Monday evening

OLEAN — A crash on Interstate 86 eastbound in Salamanca Monday evening resulted in closure for what was estimated to last until about 9:30 p.m.

The New York State Alert system announced at 5:28 p.m. Monday that I-86 was closed from Exit 21 to Exit 23 due to a crash reported at 5:20 p.m.

Earlier in the day, I-86

eastbound was closed from exit 26 in Olean to exit 27 in Hinsdale, due to a crash that reportedly occurred at 5 a.m. The interstate was reopened at 11:50 a.m. according to NY Alert.

No further information was available on either accident at press time. Updates will be posted online as updates become available.

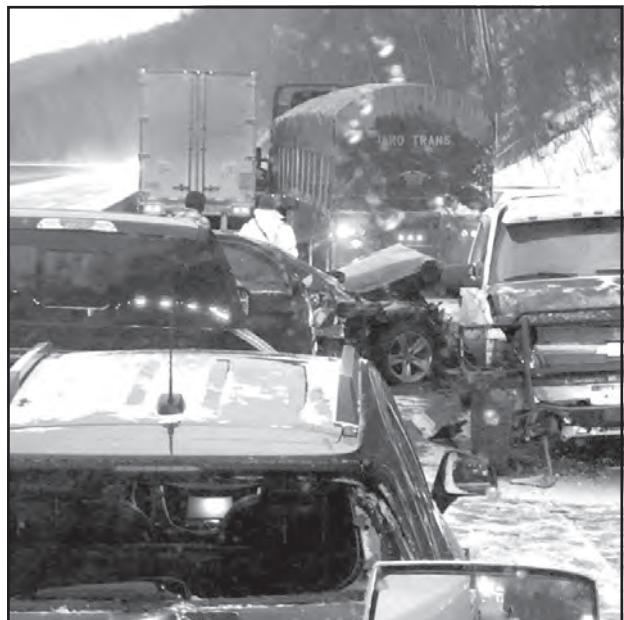


Photo courtesy of Gina Livingston

Olean Housing Authority receives \$816K for work

By **BOB CLARK**
Olean Times Herald

OLEAN — The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development reported the Olean Housing Authority will receive more than \$800,000 this year in capital improvement funds.

The annual funding, announced Monday, is part of \$2.7 billion awarded to almost 2,900 public housing authorities in every state, the District of Columbia, and the territories of Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Across New York,

the housing authorities were awarded \$675 million.

"Every family deserves a safe place to live and HUD's Capital Fund Program enables public housing authorities to improve, maintain, and upgrade existing housing," said Stephen Murphy, HUD Deputy Regional Administrator for New York and New Jersey. "Repair and improvements ensure affordable homes will last, providing a haven to thousands of low-income individuals and families across New York state."

The grants announced today are provided through HUD's Capital Fund Program, which offers annual funding to all public housing authorities to build, renovate, and/or modernize the public housing in their communities. Housing authorities can use the funding to complete large-scale improvements ranging from repairs to upgrades.

This coming year, the OHA will receive \$816,680. Nearby Jamestown Housing Authority will receive \$422,304.

The Olean agency

received \$727,937 in 2019 and \$778,958 in 2020 from the program.

The OHA operates six facilities across the city, including the West and Alder Courts complex, the Spring and Seneca Court complex, the South Court complex on Martha Avenue, and the Olean House. The agency has served the public since the early 1970s with apartment units for families, seniors and the disabled.

(Contact City Editor Bob Clark at bclark@oleantimesherald.com. Follow him on Twitter, @OTHBob)

Catt County to vaccinate 500 at clinics this week

By **RICK MILLER**
Olean Times Herald

OLEAN — The Cattaraugus County Health Department has received 500 doses of COVID-19 vaccine to administer at clinics this week.

Dr. Kevein Watkins, public health director, said Monday that clinics are planned for Wednesday at the Seneca Allegany Events Center in Salamanca and Thursday at the Delevan Fire Department Training Center.

The 500 doses include 200 for essential workers in

priority group 1B, 200 for people 65 and older and 100 doses for people with comorbidities.

All vaccinations are by appointment only. People will be called from the county health department's waiting list.

The county's COVID-19 Call Center can be reached at (716) 701-3777. Last week there were more than 2,000 people on the wait list.

Meanwhile, the health department reported 23 new COVID-19 cases on Monday, bringing the total to 4,383.

The daily positivity rate ticked upward slightly to

4.8% from 4% on Sunday. However, the seven-day rolling average of 3.1% and 14-day average of 3.2% continue trending downward.

Of the 23 new cases among county residents on Monday, 12 were men and 11 were women. Men now total 2,019 cases and women are 2,364 cases, or 53.9% of the total.

There were 12 new cases in the hardest-hit southeast corner of the county, which now has more than 2,500 cases. The 2,507 cases in that part of the county represent 57.2% of the total.

In the northwest part of the county, there was one

new case on Monday for a total of 475 cases. There were six new cases in the northeast part of the county, where the total is now 726 cases and in the southwest, there were four new cases for a total of 675.

The health department is following 220 active cases, 745 in contact quarantine and 79 in travelers quarantine. There are also 18 county residents hospitalized with COVID-19.

(Contact reporter Rick Miller at rmiller@oleantimesherald.com. Follow him on Twitter, @RMillerOTH)

1 COVID case reported in Allegany County on Monday

By **BOB CLARK**
Olean Times Herald

BELMONT — Just one new COVID-19 case was reported in Allegany County on Monday, county health officials reported.

The new case brought the total number of cases to date to 2,957, according to the Allegany County Department of Health. To date, 2,845 cases have resulted in recoveries, 30 are active, and 81 deaths have been reported. The state reported 223 tests were administered Sunday.

There were 232 active quarantines as of 3 p.m. Monday, out of 10,687 orders to date.

The county continues to see the lowest vaccination rate in the state.

State health officials reported that 4,552 residents have received at least one dose of vaccine — 9.8% of the county's population — with 2,273 have received both. Of those, the county health department has administered 1,362 first dose vaccines, while 525 of those have received a second dose.

TO HELP WITH VACCINES, the Allegany County Office for the Aging reports that their waiting list for the vaccine series remains open. Anyone age 65 and over living in the

county who wants to join the waiting list can register at www.alleganyco.com or by calling (585) 268-9390 for assistance.

The wait list is coordinating with locally-owned pharmacies, hospitals and clinics that are providing vaccines to get as many seniors vaccinated who want it as possible. However, those who have registered but have received the vaccine from an unconnected source should also call the Office for the Aging to have their name removed from the list.

"Working together as a community is a key element in getting everyone served as the vaccine becomes

more readily available in our community," said OFA Director Anita Mattison.

COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS also noted that the most recent drive-up rapid testing clinic saw one of the lowest counts of positive cases seen yet.

The clinic, on Feb. 25 at Scio Central School, saw seven positive tests among 73 individuals. Most such clinics have resulted in double-digit positive case counts, peaking at 53 on Jan. 9. The program began in October.

(Contact City Editor Bob Clark at bclark@oleantimesherald.com. Follow him on Twitter, @OTHBob)

NY getting over 878K total COVID vaccine doses

ALBANY (TNS) — New York will receive over 878,000 total doses of COVID-19 vaccines this week, its highest-ever weekly allotment.

The shipments will include over 164,000 doses of the new Johnson & Johnson vaccine, which won emergency use approval from the Food and Drug Administration over the weekend. New York's own vaccine advisory panel also recom-

mended the shot, Gov. Andrew Cuomo's office said Monday.

Unlike the first two COVID vaccines, the Johnson & Johnson shot requires just one dose instead of two. It's easier to ship and store as well.

New York is also getting over 422,000 first doses and over 290,000 second doses of the earlier COVID shots from Pfizer and Moderna.

The good news on vaccines comes exactly one year after New York confirmed its first Covid case.

"One year ago today, the unimaginable tragedy of COVID-19 began for New Yorkers," Cuomo

said in a press release.

"We've faced great pain and loss over the last 365 days, but there's reason to be hopeful for the future, and the state's Clinical Advisory Task Force's recommendation of the next vaccine for COVID is part of that ongoing convalescence

"Johnson & Johnson's single-shot vaccine with less restrictive storage requirements will make it easier for the state to reach more New Yorkers, faster. There's a lot of work ahead, but this vaccine's approval gives us cause for optimism as we move forward to a post-COVID future."

Meanwhile, the number of people in New York hospitals with Covid-19 rose 48 on Sunday to 5,307.

Hospitalizations have been dropping steadily since climbing over 9,000 at times in January. Though they increased yesterday, hospitalization numbers are often skewed over weekends due to lower numbers of discharges, Cuomo's office said.

Over the last week, hospitalizations have dropped 497.

A total of 1,065 people were in intensive care units with the coronavirus on Sunday, down 18, and 741 were intubated, up 13.

The statewide percentage of people testing positive for the virus was 3.58% yesterday. The seven-day average of the statewide positive rate was 3.08% on Sunday, down from 3.14% Saturday and near 8% at times in January.

In Western New York, the seven-day average for positivity in testing for the virus has been 1.89% for the past two days.

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Violet VanGuilder



Allegany-Limestone

Dr. Anthony Evans, executive director of the Cattaraugus County Youth Bureau, announces this week's featured Youth Citizenship Award recipient Violet VanGuilder.

Violet is the daughter of Jennifer and Dr. Thayaparan Mathanakaran and is a senior at Allegany-Limestone Central School.

Violet has done much for her community and school. She has been a member of the Donate Life Club for three years volunteering at the Home Show as a Vendor and signing people up to become organ donors. Violet has been a member of Sources of Strength for two years. Sources of Strength (SOS) is a club that invites students that are peer leaders to recognize signs of suicide in others. This suicide awareness, prevention and anti-bullying group focuses on creating positive peer influence and she has worked hard within her school and community to embody all that SOS stands for.

Violet has also been a member of the Interact Club for three years. The Interact Club gives students ages 12 through 18 the opportunity to do community service projects to build leadership skills. Additionally, Violet has been a volunteer at the SPCA spending time with the animals.

Other school activities that Violet has participated in include the cross country team for five years, earning the position of captain, and track and field for four years. She has been a member of the National Honor Society for two years and has earned Excellence Awards in both Earth Science and Biology. Violet has also participated in classes at the AKT Combatives Academy learning Martial Arts for 10 years and has been offered a job as an assistant instructor.

Violet's future plans are to attend college as a double major and earn degrees in education and pre-medical. She is described by her school counselor as "one of the most conscientious students at Allegany-Limestone who is kind to everyone and works tirelessly on her academics."

Nominations for the 2021 graduating class are open. If you know an outstanding member of your community who is a senior in high school, you can nominate them for a Cattaraugus County Youth Citizenship Award. For more information, contact Alison Crosson, Youth Bureau Program coordinator, at (716) 938-2617.

So. Tier mass vaccination site draws many residents from other counties

By RICK MILLER
Olean Times Herald

OLEAN — Cattaraugus County residents received 1,115 doses of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine in the first four days of the state-sponsored mass vaccine clinic at the Olean Campus of Jamestown Community College.

The clinic continues today for persons with appointments between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. More than 700 were expected today.

Residents from Cattaraugus, Allegany and Chautauqua counties received a total of 2,021 of the 2,782 doses from Friday through Monday. A total of 3,500 doses were available for the five-day mass vaccination clinic.

Allegany County residents received 319 of the doses and Chautauqua County residents got 587 doses of the 1,115 received by Cattaraugus County residents. There were 540 Erie County residents vaccinated as well — more than from Allegany County.

Local health officials had envisioned the state-sponsored mass vaccination clinic to focus on residents of the three Southern Tier counties where the vaccination rate has lagged behind other counties.

Dr. Kevin D. Watkins, Cattaraugus County public health director, said Friday he was disappointed that the appointments at the mass vaccination site had not been restricted to zip codes within the three counties.

One person from Dutchess County, in the eastern part the state, had an appointment at



Rick Miller/Olean Times Herald

People wait in line for the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine Monday at the state mass vaccination site at the Olean campus of Jamestown Community College.

the JCC mass vaccination site on Friday.

Watkins said besides additional mass vaccination sites at JCC and other locations in the three Southern Tier counties, he planned to ask the state Department of Health for an increased number of doses for the county's own clinics. The county has been receiving between 300 and 500 doses a week which it tries to use for residents on its COVID-19 vaccine wait list.

On Friday, Watkins said the county health department staff and volunteers could easily administer 2,000 doses a week.

Residents from Cattaraugus, Allegany and Chautauqua counties accounted for 87% of the appointments on Friday, 83% on Saturday, 66% on Sunday and 70%

on Monday, according to data provided by the Cattaraugus County Health Department.

Cattaraugus County residents received 51% of the appointments on Friday, 42% on Saturday, 33% on Sunday and 38% on Monday.

Residents from Allegany County were 14% of the vaccine recipients on Friday, 13% on Saturday, 12% on Sunday and 8% on Monday.

People from Chautauqua County got 22% of the doses of vaccine on Friday, 28% on Saturday, 21% on Sunday and 24% on Monday.

Erie County residents had 9.7% of the vaccination slots on Friday, 12% on Saturday, 28% on Sunday and 25% on Monday.

Another 100 doses went to residents from

more than a dozen other counties.

As of Monday, Watkins said 5,487 residents had completed at least one of two doses of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccines, which require two doses about a month apart. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is a one-dose vaccine that does not require extreme cold storage.

Watkins said there are 12,170 residents with at least one dose of vaccine. That represents about 15.8% of the county's 76,000 residents with at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, he said.

Meanwhile, seven new cases of COVID-19 were reported by the Cattaraugus County Health Department Monday. Five of the new cases were women, who now total 2,394 of the cases and two were men, who now total 2,055. The seven-day rolling average positivity is 2%.

There are now a total of 4,449 cases of COVID-19 in the county and 87 people have died.

The health department is following 113 active cases, 611 in contact quarantine and 33 in travelers quarantine.

There were four new cases of COVID-19 reported in the southeast part of the county, which now has a total of 2,394 cases. The northeast part of the county reported three new cases for a total of 740.

No new cases were reported in the southwest, where there have been 686 cases, or in the northwest, where there have been 478 cases.

(Contact reporter Rick Miller at rmiller@oleantimesherald.com. Follow him on Twitter, @RMillerOTH)



POLICE REPORTS

Vehicle and Amish buggy collision leads to injuries

LEON — An accident involving a vehicle and an Amish buggy on Cherry Creek Hill and West roads in the town of Leon lead to two injuries Sunday.

Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Office responded to a report at 1:59 p.m. that a vehicle and an Amish buggy had collided.

The operator of the buggy was not injured.

Both occupants of the vehicle were reported taken by South Dayton Ambulance to UPMC Hospital in Jamestown.

Leon Fire Department also assisted with the accident.

No further information was available.

New York State Police

■ **ALMA** — A one-vehicle accident was reported at 4:40 p.m. Sunday on Petrolia Road and County Route 38. Josette A. Cross, 42, of Alma,

was identified as the driver. No injuries were reported.

■ FARMERSVILLE

— A one-vehicle accident was reported at 6:33 p.m. Sunday on Route 98 N. and Lake Avenue. Donna L. Thompson, 48, of Franklinville, was identified as the driver. No injuries were reported.

■ FRANKLINVILLE

— A one-vehicle accident was reported at 6:48 p.m. Sunday on Lyndon Road and First Avenue. Charles E. Schappacher, 70, of Olean, was identified as the driver. No injuries were reported.

Pennsylvania State Police

■ ROULETTE TOWNSHIP

— A one-vehicle accident was reported at 9:11 p.m. Thursday on Bolivar and Miller roads. Tracy L. Spencer, 33, of Port Allegany, was identified as the driver. No injuries were reported.

■ LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP

— Todd Zickefoose, 62, of Smethport, was found at 10:19 p.m. Saturday, to be in possession of a controlled substance.

Allegany County COVID vaccinations increase; 1 death reported

By BOB CLARK
Olean Times Herald

BELMONT — Allegany County no longer has the worst COVID-19 vaccination record in the state.

As of Monday morning, the state Department of Health reported 6,767 county residents had received at least one vaccine dose — 14.6% of the county's population, up from 10.9% on Friday.

The increase is credited to a 500-shot clinic held Friday at Genesee Valley Central School, as well as the 3,500-shot clinic being run over five days at Jamestown Community College's in campus in Olean.

Of all vaccines received by county residents, 1,900 first doses were administered by the county Department of Health, while 603 second doses were administered by the department.

Trailing the rest of the state consistently until

this weekend, Allegany County jumped ahead of five counties in terms of percentage of population to receive at least one dose of vaccine.

Neighboring Steuben County recorded a percentage of 13.4%, while Orleans County along Lake Ontario recording 13.5%.

The county is still below the state average, which was 18.8% Monday morning, with 9.4% of the state with a completed vaccine series. The county also lags the other four counties in Western New York. Erie County leads the region at 19.2%.

Kings County — the borough of Brooklyn — and Bronx County reported rates of 13.3%, the lowest in the state. Hamilton County, with just 4,434 people living entirely within the borders of Adirondack Park, reported a rate of 48.1% to lead the state.

More good news was also reported Monday,

with county health officials reporting the backlog of those on waiting lists for the vaccines has dropped significantly.

"We would like residents to know the Allegany County waiting list for those age 65 and over is down to the last 100-200 individuals," said Theresa Moore, public health educator with the department. "We are looking for residents age 65 and over, interested in the COVID-19 vaccine, to add to this waiting list."

The health department, as well as the Office for the Aging, have been maintaining an centralized waiting list coordinating with locally owned pharmacies, hospitals, and clinics.

For those seeking to get on the waiting list, visit www.alleganyco.com or call the Allegany County Office for the Aging at (585) 268-9390 or the Allegany County Department of Health at

(585) 268-9250 press #4 for assistance.

COVID-19 CASE COUNTS rose again over the weekend, and one new death due to the virus was recorded.

Officials reported three new cases on Monday, bringing the total to date to 2,987. Since Friday — figures on the county's website were not updated Saturday or Sunday — cases had risen by 13.

To date, 2,897 have recovered, 82 have died and nine are still active cases.

The number of residents in quarantine and isolation also dropped over the weekend. As of Monday, 149 residents were in quarantine, down from 203 on Friday. In total, 10,781 quarantines or isolations have been ordered.

(Contact City Editor Bob Clark at bclark@oleantimesherald.com. Follow him on Twitter, @OTHBob)

New York State Electric & Gas Electric Corporation (NYSEG)

New York State Electric & Gas Corporation ("NYSEG") has filed with the New York State Public Service Commission (the "Commission") changes to its Schedule for Electricity Service, P.S.C. No. 120 – Electricity and Schedule for Electric Service.

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New York State Electric & Gas Corporation

Nitsche, Kubiak retire from Eaton

OLEAN — The Eaton Edison) in 1982, as an Corporation announced the retirements of Bill Nitsche, weight batch operator, and production lead Jim Kubiak.

Nitsche started his career 39 years ago at Eaton (then McGraw



Jim Kubiak

LA line assembler and held machine shop and production lead positions throughout the remainder of his career.

He will enjoy spending time with his wife, Lisa, and their grandchildren

Kubiak started his career 25 years ago at Eaton (then Cooper Power Systems) in 1996, as an LA line tester and held several different roles in assembly, MOV, woodshop and ship-ping/receiving throughout the remainder of his career.

He will enjoy spending time and vacationing with his wife, Allison.

Alexa Steighner

Portville



Dr. Anthony Evans, executive director of the Cattaraugus County Youth Bureau, announces this week's featured Youth Citizenship Award recipient is Alexa Steighner.

Alexa is the daughter of Kesha and Adam Steighner and is a senior at Portville Central School.

Alexa has completed numerous hours of community service through various programs. She has volunteered with Toys for Tots and has been a

member of the Hillside Wesleyan Church for five years. She has been a teacher's assistant for the Children's Ministry Program and has been a teacher's assistant for Vacation Bible School for two years.

Alexa has participated in Believers Chapel Youth Group for one year and Believers Chapel Flourish Group for one year. She has volunteered as a phone operator for Portville Central's Phone-a-thon, which is a program that aids in student scholarships. Alexa has been a peer tutor for sixth-grade students in math and social studies during every school day for one year and has been a volunteer orientation guide for both new students coming into the school district and to all seventh-graders for two years.

Additionally, she has designed and delivered greeting cards for nursing home residents during the pandemic at the Pines Nursing Home.

Not only has Alexa accomplished much in her community but she has also been heavily involved in school activities. She played junior varsity softball for two years and has been a member of three different swim teams. One of those teams was Olean varsity swimming for five years and with which she held the position of captain and competing in every event except for diving. Alexa earned numerous awards, including Olean Varsity Swimming Coaches' Award two separate years, Most Improved Swimmer, the Sportsmanship Award, Athlete of the Month Award twice and first place in the YMCA Swimming Districts Championships Qualifier.

Alexa has been a member of the Physics Club for two years and has served as the secretary; Spanish Club for two years and serving as the president; and International Club for two years. In addition, she has been the class secretary for two years and a member of the Student Council for four years.

Alexa has also worked hard on her academics. Not only has she been a member of the National Honor Society for two years and has held the position of secretary, she has earned high honor roll for six years. Alexa has earned several academic awards, including the American Chemical Society Excellence in Chemistry Award, the Perfect Attendance Award and scored 100% on the New York State Chemistry Regents.

She plans to pursue a degree in a STEM-related major and go on to further her studies in either education or the medical field. Alexa is described by her mother as a "well-rounded person who has a heart for service and helping others."

Nominations for the 2021 graduating class are open. Outstanding members of our communities who are seniors in high school may be nominated for a Cattaraugus County Youth Citizenship Award. For more information, contact Alison Crosson, Youth Bureau Program coordinator, at (716) 938-2617.

Mount View Cemetery Association to hold annual meeting

OLEAN — The Mount View Cemetery Association will conduct its annual meeting at 4 p.m. April 27 at Spink Funeral Home, 646 E. State St.

Annual reports will be given and election of officers will be held. All lot owners and interested persons are welcome and encouraged to attend.

West Valley Citizens set 2021 schedule

WEST VALLEY — The next Citizen Task Force meeting will be held on March 24 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Topics will include a project update and a review and discussion by CTF members of the Task Force 1998 report. The group will also discuss the report to Congress by the Government Accountability Office. The Citizen Task Force is scheduled to hold meetings on April

28, June 23, July 28, Sept. 22, Oct. 27 and Dec. 15.

Meetings do not always go forward as scheduled so please check several weeks before a meeting to confirm it will be held.

DOE and NYSEDA will host the quarterly public meetings on May 26, Aug. 25 and Nov. 17.

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NY still finding thousands of new cases per day

ALBANY (TNS) — New York is still finding thousands of new COVID-19 cases per day.

The state confirmed another 5,807 new cases on Sunday and reported another 127,005 test results. Although new cases per day have declined since nearing 20,000 on Jan. 14, the daily totals are still far higher than in the summer and early fall.

Daily totals then were

often less than 1,000, but the state was conducting fewer tests at that time too.

A total of 4,517 people were in New York hospitals due to the coronavirus on Sunday, up 31. Hospitalizations have fallen since climbing over 9,000 at times in January.

A total of 923 people in New York were in intensive care units with Covid-19 yesterday, down four, and 614 were intu-

bated, down five.

Another 58 people died due to the virus yesterday, which brings the statewide death toll to 39,585. New deaths per day have declined since reaching over 200 on Jan. 13.

They remain higher than the single-digit daily totals seen in the summer and early fall.

The statewide percentage of people testing positive for the virus

was 4.57% on Sunday and the seven-day average of the statewide positive rate was 3.22%, up from 3.15% the day before.

In Western New York, the seven-day average for positivity in testing for the virus was 1.83% on Sunday, up slightly from 1.76% Saturday and 1.64% on Friday.

New York has now had 1,734,213 confirmed Covid-19 cases since the pandemic began.



Wellsville Police

■ **Friday, no time reported,** Rachael E. Webster, 25, of Beaver Dams, was charged with third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, an unclassified misdemeanor; third-degree unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, both class A misdemeanors; and second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana.

She was released with an appearance ticket.

New York State Police

■ **CARROLLTON** — Jason M. Waid was charged Saturday with driving while intoxicated, an unclassified misdemeanor.

■ **SALAMANCA** — Brian J. Hill, 20, of Salamanca, was charged Saturday with driving while intoxicated, an unclassified misdemeanor.

■ **KILL BUCK** — Richard C. Jones III, 33, of Kill Buck, was charged with seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, a class A misdemeanor.

■ **ALLEGANY** — Marykatherine L. Plante, 22, of Allegany, was charged Friday with sixth-degree conspiracy, a class B misdemeanor.

■ **ALLEGANY** — Samantha A. Micckley, 21, of Allegany, was charged Friday with petit larceny, a class A misdemeanor.

POLICE REPORTS

■ **ALLEGANY** — Chrishawn J. See, 24, of Allegany, was charged at 9 p.m. Sunday with aggravated family offense, a class E felony; first-degree operation of a motor vehicle impaired by drugs and third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, both unclassified misdemeanors; and second-degree criminal contempt, a class A misdemeanor. He was released on his own recognizance.

Scientists: Climate-whipped winds pose Great Lakes hazards

By **JOHN FLESHERAP**
Environmental Writer

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP) — Powerful gusts linked to global warming are damaging water quality and creating a hazard for fish in Lake Erie and perhaps elsewhere in the Great Lakes, according to researchers.

Extremely high winds occasionally churn up deep water with low oxygen and high levels of phosphorus in Erie's central basin and shove it into the shallower western section, creating a hazard for fish and insects on which they feed.

Such events have happened more frequently since 1980 and particularly in recent years, scientists with the University of Guelph said in a paper published last week in the journal Nature Scientific Reports.

"As temperatures increase overall, we will get higher winds and larger waves," said Josef Ackerman, a professor of physical ecology and aquatic sciences with the Canadian university who led the study.

The findings underscore the need to limit phosphorus overloading that fuels algae-like bacterial blooms in Lake Erie's western basin, he said — an elusive goal despite pledges by Michigan, Ohio and the Canadian province of Ontario to achieve a 40% reduction from 2008 levels by 2025.

"We can't control the winds but maybe we could double down on our efforts to reduce inputs into the lakes to keep the ecosystems healthy," Ackerman said. "If so, the winds won't have as bad an impact."

Marc Gaden, spokesman for the Great Lakes Fishery Commission who didn't take part in the study, said it illustrates the complexity of Great Lakes ecosystems and the need for better



cleveland.com/TNS

Children swim in Lake Erie in Ohio.

models that can forecast how weather can disrupt them.

"Any change that's happening like this needs to be understood by fishery managers who are making decisions on a daily basis about stocking and harvests," Gaden said Monday.

The report adds to a growing body of scientific evidence that human activity is affecting the Great Lakes in unforeseen ways.

Some nearshore areas have too much phosphorus because of runoff from overfertilized croplands and releases from sewage plants. In others, invasive quagga mussels that were brought to the lakes in ship ballast water are trapping the nutrient in shallow waters.

Yet deeper areas of Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Ontario and eastern Lake Erie are running short of phosphorus needed to feed algae that form a key link in food chains. Again, the mussels are suspected of

playing a role.

A February study by University of Minnesota Duluth scientists found that quagga mussels, which filter phosphorus from the water and then excrete it, have become the biggest factor in determining concentrations of the nutrient in all the Great Lakes except Lake Superior.

Meanwhile, climate change resulting from emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and methane is believed to be warming the lakes and causing heavier storms, which also affect water quality.

Lake Erie, shallowest of the Great Lakes, is deep enough in its central basin to have two distinct temperature levels. The lower, colder level has little oxygen and lots of phosphorus. Low or depleted oxygen, a condition known as hypoxia, can cause fish die-offs.

Unusually strong winds, which usually happen in August, can be powerful

enough to propel that unhealthy water into the western basin even though Erie's prevailing current moves eastward, Ackerman said.

Those extreme events, which formerly happened a couple of times a year, more recently have happened three or four times annually, he said. In the past decade, they've increased more than 40 percent. They can alter lake chemistry within hours.

While adult fish can swim away from those low-oxygen, high-phosphorus zones, younger ones might be trapped and die, Ackerman said. Another victim is the mayfly, an important food for prized fish such as perch and walleye.

He said extreme gusts also might have similar effects in other waters that have experienced hypoxia, such as Lake Huron's Saginaw Bay, Lake Michigan's Green Bay and Muskegon Lake, which opens into Lake Michigan.

New York State Electric & Gas Electric Corporation (NYSEG)

New York State Electric & Gas Corporation ("NYSEG") has filed with the New York State Public Service Commission (the "Commission") changes to its Schedule for Electricity Service, P.S.C. No. 120 – Electricity and Schedule for Electric Service.

NYSEG has proposed an EV Make-Ready surcharge to recover costs and incentives paid to participants in Electric Vehicle ("EV") Infrastructure Make-Ready Programs. The filing, which is subject to Commission review and approval, was filed on December 2, 2020, and became effective on January 1, 2021.

A complete copy of the filing can be viewed on the PSC's website at www.dps.ny.gov under Case 18-E-0138. Tariff schedules are available at nyseg.com.

New York State Electric & Gas Corporation

Kaley McCracken

West Valley



Dr. Anthony Evans, executive director of the Cattaraugus County Youth Bureau, announces this week's featured Youth Citizenship Award recipient is Kaley McCracken.

Kaley is the daughter of Robert McCracken and Nicole VerHagen and is a senior at West Valley Central School. Kaley has done much for her community and school. She has been a member of 4-H for one year and has volunteered at

Empire Animal Rescue Society (EARS) for four years. Through EARS, Kaley has taken care of the animals, assisted at fundraising events and earned the Wildcat Above and Beyond Award for her fundraising efforts.

Kaley has been a member of Students against Destructive Decisions (SADD and formerly known as Students against Drunk Drivers) for three years and has been the president of SADD for two years. She has been a member of the Student Council for three years, was the treasurer for one year and the vice president for one year. Kaley has been a yearbook editor for three years and the class president for two years. Additionally, she has been a member of the bowling team for three years.

Academically, Kaley has worked hard. She has been on the merit roll, honor roll and high honor roll in addition to taking college courses through Genesee Community College. She has attended multiple conferences and webinars with Reality Check to combat youth substance abuse and holds a part-time job as a stylist in Ellicottville.

Her future plans are to attend college and enroll in a six-year program to become a high school guidance counselor. Kaley is described by her SADD chapter advisor and guidance counselor as "one of the most involved students that West Valley has had in several years and as someone who supports the community unselfishly and consistently."

Nominations for the 2021 graduating class are open. Outstanding community members who are seniors in high school may be nominated for a Cattaraugus County Youth Citizenship Award. For more information, contact Alison Crosson, Youth Bureau Program coordinator at (716) 938-2617.

More than 3,000 COVID-19 vaccines in Allegany County this week

By **BOB CLARK**
Olean Times Herald

WELLSVILLE — More than 3,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses are set to be distributed this week in Allegany County.

The clinics, run by the Allegany County Department of Health, will be held Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the former Kmart building, 121 Bolivar Road, Riverwalk Plaza.

All vaccines require an appointment, and are a mix of Pfizer and Moderna two-shot vaccines. The clinics include:

Thursday: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 800 doses of Pfizer vaccine.

Friday: 8 a.m. to

4 p.m., 670 doses of Moderna vaccine.

Saturday: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 1,000 doses of Pfizer vaccine.

Sunday: 8 a.m. to noon, 540 doses of Pfizer vaccine.

Anyone who arrives and does not have an appointment may be turned away at the clinic.

As of this week, all New York residents age 50 and over, as well as those in public facing jobs and with comorbidities, are eligible for the vaccine. The Moderna vaccine is limited to those at least age 18, while the Pfizer vaccine may be given to minors age 16 and over who are eligible based on job or medical condition, but a parent or

guardian must be present at the clinic.

The link to register is posted and open on the www.alleganyco.com.

If you need assistance with registration due to lack of internet access, call (585) 268-9250.

Between Friday morning and Monday morning, 633 people received a first dose of vaccine, bringing the county's total to 20.4% of all residents. Officials also reported 78 residents completed a vaccine series, bringing the total to date to 4,987 — 10.7% of all county residents.

Both percentages remain lower than the state average, with 26.1% of state residents — 5.2 million people — having received at least one dose,

and 13.4% having a completed vaccine series.

CASE COUNTS INCREASED slightly in Allegany County over the weekend. Two new cases of COVID-19 were reported in the county on Monday, with four more reported over the weekend. The total to date is 3,036 cases.

Of the infections reported to date, county officials reported 2,959 — an increase of 18 since Friday. State officials report 82 deaths of county residents, 55 of which occurred in the county.

(Contact City Editor Bob Clark at bclark@olean-timesherald.com. Follow him on Twitter, @OTHBob)

NY COVID vaccine allocation to double in coming weeks

ALBANY (TNS) — New York's shipments of COVID-19 vaccines from the federal government are expected to double in the coming weeks, Gov. Andrew Cuomo said Thursday.

The state's allocation will go from 300,000 to 400,000 doses per week to 600,000 to 800,000 doses per week, Cuomo said. The expected jump is one reason the state is expanding eligibility for vaccines to people age 50 and up starting Tuesday.

People in the new age group can start making appointments at 8 a.m.

tomorrow.

"We're anticipating the increase and we're now scheduling for the increase," Cuomo said during a conference call with reporters. "I don't want to wait to get the increase in the vaccine and then start to schedule people."

Over 5.1 million people in New York have had at least one dose of a COVID vaccine and over 2.6 million are fully vaccinated, according to Cuomo's office.

Another 46 people in the state died due to COVID on Sunday.

That's the lowest one-day death total since Nov. 27, Cuomo said.

The statewide death toll is now 39,970.

A total of 4,470 people were in New York hospitals with the coronavirus yesterday, up 115. A total of 885 people were in intensive care units, down five, and 576 were intubated, up four.

The state is still finding thousands of new COVID cases every day. The total on Sunday was 6,361.

The daily total of new cases has declined from nearly 20,000 in mid-January, but it is not nearly

as low as it was in the summer and early fall. At that point, the state was often finding less than 1,000 new cases per day, although it was also conducting fewer tests.

New York reported another 152,328 test results on Sunday.

The statewide percentage of people testing positive for the virus was 4.18% yesterday and the positive test rate's seven day average was 3.29%, down from 3.3% the day before.

Western New York's seven-day average was 2.38% on Sunday.

Spring ahead in whitewater raft



Zoar Valley Canoe and Rafting Co. guests hit a whitewater hole on Cattaraugus Creek near Gowanda on Saturday, the first day of Spring.

Rick Miller/Olean Times Herald



POLICE REPORTS

Wellsville Police

■ **Friday, no time reported,** Spencer S. Carl, 20, of Wellsville, was charged with driving while intoxicated, an unclassified misdemeanor, second-degree unlawful possession of marijuana and use/place stickers or posters on windshield or rear window, both violations. He was released to a third party.

New York State Police

■ **FRANKLINVILLE** — A one-vehicle accident was reported at 8:32 a.m. Sunday on Cemetery Hill Road. Gary R. Shreve, 30, of Olean, was identified as the driver. No injuries were reported.

■ **CENTERVILLE** — A one-vehicle accident was reported at 9:45 a.m. Sunday on Mink Hollow and Brookside roads. Daniel J. Worthington, 19, of Farmersville, was identified as the driver. One injury was reported.

■ **FREEDOM** — A two-vehicle accident was reported at 1:33 p.m. Sunday on Route 98 and Moore Road. Aleczavier A. Cowans, 23, of Buffalo, and Michael J. Wagner, 44, of Tonawanda, were identified as the drivers. No

injuries were reported.

■ **GREAT VALLEY** — Randall L. Cranmer, 50, of Great Valley, was charged at 3:48 p.m. Sunday with third-degree criminal mischief, a class E felony. He was released with an appearance ticket.

■ **AMITY** — A one-vehicle accident was reported at 4:56 p.m. Sunday on State Highway 19 N. and County Road 20. An unidentified 18-year-old Amherst man was identified as the driver. No injuries were reported.

■ **GREAT VALLEY** — Matthew T. Buchholz, 43, of Salamanca, was charged at 4:59 p.m. Sunday with endangering the welfare of a child, an unclassified misdemeanor. He was released on his own recognizance.

■ **ANDOVER** — A one-vehicle accident was reported at 6:59 p.m. Sunday on property located on Indian Creek Road. Kaleb M. Smith, 23, of Andover, was identified as the driver. One injury was reported.

■ **YORKSHIRE** — Christopher G. Bennett, 55, of Cuba, was charged at 1:50 a.m. Monday with seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance. He was released with an appearance ticket.

Pa. residents, businesses reminded to prepare for new 582 area code

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) emphasized that mandatory 10-digit dialing for all telephone calls in the current 814 area code begins April 3.

The beginning of mandatory 10-digit dialing on April 3 marks the next major step toward the arrival of a new "overlay" area code — 582 — which will eventually serve side-by-side with the current 814 area code. The 582 area code will be assigned to new telephone numbers once the available supply of numbers in the current 814 area code is exhausted.

Now is the time to confirm that one's family, business and devices are ready for the switch to 10-digit dialing, so there is a smooth transition on April 3 — especially things like medical alert systems, alarms, and any other systems that automatically make calls.

As of April 3, anyone attempting to make a call in the 814 area code using only seven digits (without the area code) will receive a recorded message prompting them to hang up and redial the call using the full 10-digit number (area code plus seven-digit phone number).

To prepare for 10-digit dialing, consumers and businesses are encouraged to check devices that store telephone numbers — including cell phones and other devices with "speed dial" functions — to be certain that all the stored contacts include the area code. Moving forward, when adding any new numbers to those devices, be sure to include the area code.

Devices that should be checked to verify they are configured for 10-digit dialing, include:

- Mobile phones, land-line phones and tablets and fax machines that can save/store phone numbers.

- Life-safety and medical alert systems.

- Alarm/security systems and security gates.

- Call-forwarding settings and voicemail services.

- Internet dial-up systems.

- Automatic dialing equipment and software.

- Speed-dialers.

- Any other device that can save, store and automatically dial phone numbers.

Consumers or businesses with questions about the compatibility or programming of their devices should contact their equipment or service providers.

To help consumers and businesses in the region adjust to the area code change, the PUC approved a timetable to implement the new overlay:

- Oct. 3, 2020 — Beginning of voluntary 10-digit dialing for calls in the 814 area code.

- April 3 — 10-digit dialing will be required for all calls.

- May 1 — The new overlay area code will be placed into service.

The use of an overlay area code preserves existing phone numbers for residents and businesses in the region, while also ensuring that a supply of new numbers will be available after

814 number combinations are no longer available.

The 814 area code was established in 1947 and is one of Pennsylvania's four original area codes.

It includes cities such as Altoona, Erie, Johnstown and State College, and covers all or parts of 27 counties, including Armstrong (northeastern portion only); Bedford; Blair; Cambria; Cameron; Centre (majority of the county); Clarion (all except portions of west); Clearfield; Clinton (small portions); Crawford (all except southwestern portion); Elk; Erie; Fayette (small portions); Forest; Fulton (western portions); Huntingdon (except Kishacoquillas Valley); Indiana (northern and eastern portions only); Jefferson; McKean; Mercer (extreme northeastern portion); Mifflin (extreme southwestern corner); Potter; Somerset; Tioga (western portions only); Venango (all except southeastern corner); Warren; and Westmoreland (extreme northeastern corner only).

814 is the largest area code in the state, geographically, and the only area that hasn't already received an additional area code overlay to replenish its dwindling supply of phone numbers.

New York State Electric & Gas Electric Corporation (NYSEG)

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NYSEG has proposed an EV Make-Ready surcharge to recover costs and incentives paid to participants in Electric Vehicle ("EV") Infrastructure Make-Ready Programs. The filing, which is subject to Commission review and approval, was filed on December 2, 2020, and became effective on January 1, 2021.

A complete copy of the filing can be viewed on the PSC's website at www.dps.ny.gov under Case 18-E-0138. Tariff schedules are available at nyseg.com.

New York State Electric & Gas Corporation