



Support Barber

When a man shows you who he is, believe him.

Last week, the League of Women Voters planned to host a debate between the Republican and Democrat candidates for New York Senate District 51 - Peter Oberacker and Jim Barber. For reasons that aren't fully known, only Jim Barber showed up. Peter Oberacker bailed.

Candidate Oberacker declined the opportunity to put his ideas out in public, next to his opponent's for all to see, hear and evaluate. Jim Barber was there. People who know Jim knew he would be.

It's reported that Peter failed to attend a budget workshop in Otsego County that was scheduled in conflict with the debate. Had he been there, he could at least say he was tending to his official duties but the evidence is that he didn't show up for the voters he hopes to woo or the taxpayers he currently works for. Two errors in judgment. Too bad.

He is reported to have made time for a fundraiser later that day. So I guess priorities are priorities.

Lax attention during a campaign portends lax representation if elected. Why vote for it? If the man is unwilling to put his ideas on the table for full evaluation and comparison, who actually believes he'll do better in office?

Jim Barber was there (at the debate) and Jim Barber will be there (pulling for us in Albany). He will have our backs and he deserves our votes. He is showing us who he is. We can believe him.

Jean Burton
Town of Wright

DEP Purchase

I am all for protecting the land and water. My reason. Is that wild life should be able to thrive. Most people do not want DEP to purchase land not because they love the land or wild life but because they are greedy people who rather see this mountain top as wall to wall Business. Now DEP you have not done much to protect the area you gave allowed a ton of deer and bears to be slaughtered...beavers opossum. Being killed. You did not clean out the broken bottles etc that people leave here. Why? And why do you not give out Fines for our water being contaminated. So much oil went into the water when They build the new bridge. I believe this mountain top should be preserved as a natural place. STOP the building stop selling land to money hungry people. If this does not stop the beauty will cease to exist. Buy the land and preserve its natural state. Save the wild life. Before it becomes just a memory.

Lucy Veneski
Lexington

COVID Visits

I have dedicated my law practice to representing the elderly in long term care settings such as nursing



See the letter "A Special Thank You"

Letters to the Editor

homes, assisted living facilities and senior housing. Early on in this pandemic I received a lot of telephone calls from the family members who have been prohibited from visiting their loved ones in nursing homes. Fortunately, these calls have subsided since outdoor visits are occurring.

Last week I received a call from the daughter (Susan) of a resident. She said was concerned about the winter and not being able to visit her mother. She further expressed the desire to hold her mother's hand, comb her hair and also give her a hug. She explained that her mother was deteriorating and Susan was confident her mom would respond favorably to a contact visit.

I was surprised to find out that New York State doesn't permit contact visits. You must maintain a social distance from your loved one at all times, regardless of whether you provide proof that you are negative for Covid-19. I asked Susan what the nursing home told her in response to her request to have a contact visit. The nursing home required a negative test within the last seven days and, if provided, she could visit indoors but must maintain a social distance at all times and the visit would be limited to 15 minutes.

I decided to take a look at the regulations. I was surprised at my findings. I started with the Center for Medicare and Medicaid (CMC) since CMC is responsible for setting the minimum standard of care that nursing homes must follow. The federal government regulations said little about visits. Contact visits are permitted and testing is optional. I then looked at other states and found that Florida, which has a significant nursing home population, only requires a mask at all times and leaves it up to the individual nursing homes to decide whether they will require a Covid-19 test. If Florida requires a Covid-19 test the nursing home must offer to incur the expense of the test. Florida permits contact visits and doesn't limit their durations as New York does.

In comparison, New York State doesn't permit contact visits, requires a negative test result within the last seven days, the cost of which is incurred by the family. I don't agree with New York's approach. It is too restrictive. Under New York and Federal Law nursing home residents have a right to visits. While I understand that nursing homes have a difficult job to do, they must strike a more reasonable balance between a resident's right to visitors and protecting other residents. If a visitor provides a recent negative test, has no signs of being sick and hasn't engaged in any risky behaviors, a contact visit should be permitted. Anything less in my view is an abuse of power.

We don't subject visitors to any special precautions during the flu season. According to the New York

State Department of Health there were 128,892 lab confirmed cases reported in New York State. According to the Center for Disease Control in 2018 there were 4,749 deaths from the flu in New York. I was unable to determine the number of nursing home deaths but it is well known that the elderly are most at risk of death from the flu. Why don't we take any precautions with the flu?

Sean J. Doolan, Esq.
Doolan Platt & Setareh, LLP
Windham

A Special Thank You

We are all painfully aware about Covid 19 and all the different aspects of its effect upon the members of the Schoharie County community. The medical community has been very involved in the successful Schoharie County response. We generally have received a good deal of positive feedback for our efforts.

One group of healthcare workers in Schoharie County care for some of our most mentally and physically challenged individuals in our community. These members of our community are also some of the highest risk from Covid in our community. Yes, I am talking about the approximately 180 employees of the Schoharie County ARC.

In August, the Schoharie County Medical Society at their meeting expressed considerable appreciation for the Schoharie County ARC and all their employees have done for the people they care for. The superb care and attention of those healthcare workers for the mentally and physically challenged individuals they care for was noted. Despite the high-risk nature of these individuals to Covid 19, the superb care and safety precautions put in place by all the Schoharie County ARC healthcare workers resulted in no Covid 19 infections in any of these individuals. We healthcare workers in non-ARC healthcare roles took note of their efforts and the excellent results.

A proposal was made that some note of our appreciation be made to them. This resulted in discussion amongst the non-Schoharie ARC healthcare workers. Included were the healthcare workers from Cobleskill Regional Hospital, the Bassett Healthcare Primary Care Offices in Schoharie County, and with the medical providers at Family Medical Care Associates of Cobleskill. The Schoharie County ARC operates out of approximately 20 different locations within Schoharie County; counting all of their residential facilities, day treatment facilities, as well as support locations. Our goal was to try to provide some direct recognition to each of these locations. The proposal adopted was to purchase a fruit basket for each of the locations together with a card expressing our appreciation for their superb efforts. On September 23, medical providers from the Schoharie County Medical Society personally delivered these baskets and cards to each location.

The pictures from these visits say it all.

We physicians and healthcare workers not associated with the Schoharie County ARC have certainly been touched by and appreciate the efforts of the Schoharie County ARC healthcare workers.

A brief newspaper article for the public interest would be the "icing on the cake" for the efforts of Schoharie County ARCs workers. They have done much for many,

expect little, and clearly have done a commendable job.

Joseph M Luz MD
On behalf of all the Non-Schoharie County Health care workers

The SCOPE Meeting

The latest political candidate Kyle Van Der Water, was able to make the SCOPE (Shooters' Committee on Political Education) meeting on September 17th.

All the candidates and elected officials were able to attend SCOPE. The expectation was that candidate Delgado, who canceled and as an elected representative SCOPE had to rearrange its normal meeting time to fit his schedule.

It reminds me of Joe Biden's answer to the auto worker's question about the 2nd Amendment-- "I don't work for you!"

Walt Janczak
Sloansville

Margaretville Senior Dining Center Aide

High school diploma and/or two years' experience in quantity food service. NYS driver's license required. 20 hours per week. \$11.80 per hour. Rate will increase to \$12.50 on December 31, 2020. Eligible benefits include Health Insurance, Dental, Vision, Paid time off, Holidays, and Retirement after one year of employment. Applications accepted until position is filled at Delaware Opportunities Inc., 35430 State Highway 10, Hamden, NY 13782, or at the Margaretville Senior Dining Center. Equal Employment Opportunity MF/ F/ Disability/ Protected Veteran Status



Service Technician Wanted
Sunrise Heating is looking for a qualified applicant to fill a service position. Full time, vacation, 401k, medical, company vehicle and additional benefits available. Applicant will need experience in the service field with basic skills in electric and plumbing. Please fill out and application at our office at 30303 St Hwy 23 in Stamford or send resume to chris@sunriseheating.com

Central Empire Pistol League Results

Team and high individual match scores for the league's opening match on Oct. 2 were, as follows:
Sidney defeated Walton 972-4X to 697-3X
Oneonta defeated Rockdale: 1089-21X to 1054-10X
Stamford defeated Delhi 1129-29X to 1043 -

15X
High Scores for Stamford: Larry VanDeusen 283-7X; Gus Mueller 282-8X; Jim Hitt 282-7X and Harry Wyckoff 282-1X
Other Stamford Shooters were: Cliff Christman, Carl Tubbs, Ric Cammer, Jeff Mattice, Judy Wyckoff, Jan Hornbach, Mark

Gifford, and Maynard Vance

Win/Loss Record:	
Stamford	1-0
Oneonta	1-0
Sidney	1-0
Rockdale	0-1
Walton	0-1
Delhi.	0-1

LOCAL HISTORY BY KAREN CUCCINELLO

Edna M. (Cornell) Bloodgood



Edna lived about half her life in or near Stamford and the second half about 30 miles away in Cobleskill. I could not find what her middle initial "M" stands for, perhaps it was her moms name?

Edna was born March 8, 1901 in Stamford, the daughter of Frank (1867-1945) and Mina B. (Wallace 1869-1958) Cornell. She appears to be an only child and went to Stamford Seminary.

On June 28, 1924 she married Ernest Addison Bloodgood in Stamford and a year later they had

their only child Carlton F. (an abundance of the post cards and photographs in the Stamford Village Library history room are from Carlton). In the 1930 Stamford census Ernest listed as a garageman and in 1940 a milkman, Edna listed as a housekeeper as most women did during that time. They moved to Cobleskill in 1942 and remained in Cobleskill. I highly suspect she was involved in her husbands businesses that included, Bloodgood Realty, of Cobleskill, from about 1960 until his death in

1980.
Edna was a member of the Utsayantha, of Stamford, and Rising Star, of Cobleskill, O.E.S., Order of the Eastern Star, a mostly women's off-shoot organization of the Mason's.
Edna, of Hyndsville Rd., Cobleskill, died in Schoharie County Community Hospital June 2, 1982 and is buried with her husband in Stamford. Surviving were her son, daughter-in-law Dorothy and two grandchildren, of Bogota, N.J,