

Waterloo juggles village politics

The voters in Waterloo have spoken and one incumbent is on her way out.

Les Marquart (REP, RWP) outpolled the field for trustees, with incumbent Bonnie Hosford (DEM, WOR) on the short side of the ledger. Incumbent Josh Mull (DEM, WOR) kept pace with Marquart to retain his seat. Donald Babcock (REP, RWP) trailed the field on election night last Wednesday (March 18).

The mayor's and justice races are still to be determined. Incumbent Mayor Ted Young (DEM, WOR) leads the field with 257 election day tallies. Challengers Bill White (CON, IND) collected 224 election day votes, while Robert Dwello (REP, RWP) had 223 last Wednesday. There are about 108 absentee ballots that were scheduled to be counted Wednesday (March 25).

The justice race could also be altered when the absentee votes are tabulated. As of election night, chal-

lenges to remember the more than 5,700 patients of the Willard Psychiatric Center buried in unmarked graves at Willard Cemetery on the east shore of Seneca Lake.

The ceremonies will also honor Lawrence Mocha, the gravedigger who helped bury over 1,500 of the Willard patients. Mocha died at the Willard Psychiatric Center in 1968 at the age of 90.

State Mental Health officials and Mocha's descendants will participate in the ceremonies, which will begin at 11 a.m. at the cemetery. It is being called a memorial celebration for all those interred at the cemetery. The cemetery was operational from 1870-2000, with patients from the psychiatric center buried in graves marked only by a number.

Colleen Spellacy, chair of the Willard Cemetery Memorial Project who refused to take no for an answer, said a plaque donated by an anonymous donor will be affixed to a memorial stone and placed in the cemetery by the end of April. Hobart and William Smith Colleges students are planning to do some of their community service work next month cutting back undergrowth, raking, mowing and cleaning up. The Office of mental Health is sending chippers and other machinery to help the clean up effort as well.

Dr. Ann Sullivan, state commissioner of mental health, and Darby Penney, co-author of *The Lives They Left Behind: Suitcases from a State Hospital Attic*, have been invited.

Rev. James Fennessy, pastor of St. Francis and St. Clare Roman Catholic Community, Waterloo (St. Mary's)/Seneca Falls (St. Patrick's), will bless the memorial stone, followed by a reading of the names of those buried in the cemetery and introduction of Mocha's descendants. Pastor David Spencer of Seneca Community Church, Romulus, will close the ceremony with prayer. Light refreshments will be served.

The Willard Cemetery Memorial Project has been seeking such a celebration for over two years after Spellacy realized the deceased patients were "forgotten" along with those buried in Patients' Row at Union and Holy Cross cemeteries in Ovid.

Members of the Project committee include Spellacy, Perry Bradley, Janet Brown, Yvonne Greule, Paulette Likoudis, Barry Martz, Sheila Reynolds, Gail Snyder and Diane Valerio.

'I Shop NY: Seneca County' continues

More than 30 county retail stores will be offering discounts as part of the 'I Shop NY' campaign, which runs through April 6.

The promotional effort is part of a statewide initiative to better position New York as a shopping destination to Canadian travelers. Participating stores will be offering discounts ranging from 10-50% off selected merchandise.

"Canada accounts for a large percentage of visitors to the Finger Lakes region and promotional opportunities like this are a great way to boost the tourism industry," said Seneca County Chamber of Commerce President Jeff Shipley.

As part of the promotional campaign, television commercials and related advertising will be featured in the Toronto and Montreal areas. Viewers will be directed to a special web page (<http://www.iloveny.com/ishopny/#.VQx7SuG85IJ>), where they can download an official coupon and find a complete listing of participating stores.

While the program is intended to attract Canadian shoppers, Shipley noted the discounts will be available to anyone who downloads and presents an official I Shop NY coupon. In addition to the I Shop NY discounts, the Seneca County Chamber will also feature specials from other area merchants on its website, senecachamber.org.



Redeveloping Main Street

Mark Benjamin of Seneca Meadows Landfill recently presented Waterloo Village Mayor Ted Young with funds at the last village board meeting to jumpstart the acquisition of decorative recycling and waste containers in the redeveloping Main Street area of the village. "We are pleased to partner with our neighbor at Seneca Meadows," offered Young. "This grant will go a long way toward our mutual goals of promoting and encouraging recycling and sustainable waste management in our community." Revitalization efforts in the downtown area of Waterloo are underway, and this effort to push recycling is one of the many things happening to help re-shape downtown Waterloo. Trustee Dave Duprey and Benjamin collaborated to bring this partnership to life at the end of last year, and details were finalized just after the first of the year. The goal is always to advance the Village in any way that makes Waterloo a better place to live, work and play. And this valuable partnership to advance recycling efforts and be responsible with waste is an important part of this. The village will take the next step and acquire an initial set of waste and recycling containers to be placed along Main Street, Waterloo.

Knights offer challenge

St. Francis-St. Clare's Knights of Columbus are in the process of raising thousands of dollars to purchase a new ultrasound machine for Care Net Pregnancy Care Center of the Finger Lakes (PCC).

PCC Director Doreen Teed explained, "After the Knights raise the first \$5,000, an anonymous benefactor has agreed to make a matching donation of \$5,000!"

In 2014 the Pregnancy Care Center, located on Exchange Street

in Geneva, served 584 clients, performed 61 ultrasounds and 102 pregnancy tests. Care Net PCC survives by private donations and has no government support.

Teed stated, "We are able to help women in unplanned or crisis pregnancies and provide education on abortion alternatives, including parenting and adoption."

Donations/checks can be made to Knights of Columbus Ultrasound and mailed to Care Net PCC of the FL, PO Box 733, Geneva, NY 14456-0733. For more information call Tom Connors at (315) 506-8777.

Around the county

lenger Conrad Struzik (REP, RWP) led incumbent Dean Mattoon (DEM, WOR) by at 359-319 margin.

Hosford was a 20 year veteran on the board.

In the only other contested village races, William McGuire (64) and Keith Jay (62) were elected to trustee seats in Interlaken. Tammy Reynolds (38) was a distant third. Incumbents Michael Covert and Barbara Stewart opted not to run for re-election.

There were uncontested races in Lodi and Ovid. Incumbents Francis Steverson (mayor) and Michael Huff (trustee) were the only persons filing petitions in Lodi. Both received 25 votes.

The two incumbent Ovid trustees, Gary Covert and James Rappleye, also ran unopposed. Rappleye collected 10 votes and Covert eight.

Willard patients to be remembered

May 16 has been set for cer-

Is it time to throw your hat into Board of Education ring?

Nominating petitions for Board of Education seats on the four county education boards are now being accepted

Interested community members may pick up a board seat position at their respective district offices. In Waterloo, it is located in the District Office, 109 Washington Street, (315) 539-1500. In Seneca Falls, the District Office is located at Frank Knight School, 98 Clinton Street, (315) 568-5500. South Seneca's District Office is at the middle school/high school complex, 7263 Main Street, Ovid, (607) 869-9636. The Romulus District Office is in the north entrance to the school at 5705 Route 96, (866) 810-0345. Petitions must be returned by April 20.

Prospective board members must be a resident in their respective district for at

least one year prior to the election, scheduled this year May 19. They must also be at least 18 years of age, a U.S. citizen and not employed by the respective district.

In Waterloo, there are four terms expiring, Dominic Christopher, Leland Earp, Kathleen Oldfield and Nichol Swartley. Three of the seats are three year terms and one is a one year term. Board candidates with the three highest votes will get the three year seats. The fourth highest candidate will be seated for one year.

South Seneca has two vacancies, with terms expiring for Mike DiPerna and Craig Wycoff.

Romulus has four vacancies with terms expiring for Rebecca Jessop, Kara Mapstone, Robert McCann and Thomas Wilson

Seminar planned for BOE candidates

Have you been thinking about running for your board of education? Do you wonder how much time it takes? Do you want to know more about what a board member does?

The answers to these questions and more will be the subject of a "Seminar for Prospective Board Members" April 11 from 8:30 a.m.-noon at the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES Regional Support Center, Eisenhower Building, Newark.

This year, all school board members will be elected on May 19. Candidates for boards of education must file their nominating petitions at least 30 days prior to the election (20 days for small cities). This seminar will help potential school board

candidates and the public-at-large understand the role and responsibilities of school board service.

A school board candidate must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old, able to read and write, a district resident for one year prior to election, and not employed by the school district or related to a current mem-

Around the schools

ber of the board of education.

There is no charge for the seminar. Reservations can be made through the Four County School Boards Association by mail (131 Drumlin Court, Newark, NY 14513), phone (315) 332-7294, fax (315) 332-7474, e-mail (4countysba@edutech.org), or by calling your local school district.