



SIXTOWN SNAPSHOTS

ISSUE 8 - FEBRUARY 2022

Sponsored by:
Great Lakes Cheese
S&R Automotive



Photos from the 2021 Christmas Parade on Page 6.

Pictured here at S'More pit are Nancy Brown, Danny, Bill Mabe, Nicole, Brandon Claflin, Arissa Allison.



Photo from August 19, 2021 Business After Hours with Henderson Harbor Performing Arts Association.

YEAR IN REVIEW - 2021 - SIXTOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2021 WAS AGAIN CHALLENGING FOR THE CHAMBER. DUE TO THE PANDEMIC, WE COULD NOT HAVE OUR ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER AND THE ELVES WORKSHOP BEFORE OUR CHRISTMAS PARADE.

WE WERE, HOWEVER, ABLE TO INTRODUCE TRIVIA AFTER HOURS LAST MAY AND HAVE BUSINESS AFTER HOURS EVENTS AND OUR CHRISTMAS PARADE. A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSISTED IN MAKING THE PARADE A SUCCESS. OUR FIRST-PLACE WINNERS WERE SOUTH JEFF FFA, ADAMS VFW, AND THE ADAMS FIRE DEPARTMENT. THE JUDGE'S CHOICE WENT TO SOUTH JEFF FFA. OUR THEME WAS "TIE A YELLOW RIBBON-ALWAYS REMEMBER".

THE CHAMBER BOARD IS EAGER TO GET THINGS STARTED FOR 2022. WE WILL HAVE TRIVIA AFTER HOURS AGAIN THIS YEAR, BEGINNING MARCH 2ND. WATCH FOR DETAILS ON HOW TO PARTICIPATE ON FACEBOOK AND WIN SOME GREAT PRIZES. THIS PROGRAM SHOWCASES BUSINESSES IN OUR SIX TOWN COMMUNITY AND ALLOWS PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A GAME OF FUN AND FACTS.

STAY TUNED FOR AN AMBITIOUS PLAN FOR THE CHAMBER. WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROMOTING BUSINESS AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN OUR SIX TOWN COMMUNITY.

SIXTOWN SNAPSHOTS
NEWSLETTER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Upcoming Events • P. 2

Senior Dinner Event
• P. 3

Places of Worship • P. 4

WE NEED YOU!

Send your stories or photos to
sixtownnewsletter@gmail.com



Upcoming Events

**TRIVIA
AFTER
HOURS**

SCAN ME

WEDNESDAYS
Running March 2 - April 6, 2022
7 p.m.



Delicious LASAGNA DINNER

\$12 per meal

Lasagna, Salad, Bread & Dessert
Gluten Free Available

**Tuesday, March 1, 2022
4 p.m. - Sold Out**

ADAMS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
36 EAST CHURCH STREET, ADAMS, NY

Fresh Food Distribution
Friday, Feb. 25
1-3 p.m.
St. Cecilia's Parking Lot



Robert G. Wehle State Park, Henderson
Showshoes and skis available,
for use at park, free of charge,
Mon-Sun, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



Tradition Continued: Senior Dinners

By **Connie Elliott**

In 1975 Helen Whitney started delivering Christmas dinners to shut-ins in the entire South Jeff area. She started by baking chickens in her home kitchen (before the Health Dept) with the help of Hazel Bundy, and she recruited a few drivers to help deliver. People like the Bushnell's who still are delivering in 2021, and Mike and Elaine Hopkins, who have been delivering for over 30 years. Don and his wife Linda. Don always delivered the most and would come back for more. He had a habit of stopping along the way and giving dinners to people he thought were deserving but may not have made the list... he was his mother's son.

I think these dinners started for about 30 people; this year, there were over 300 dinner deliveries. From 1981-86 the dinners transferred to the Masonic Temple, now the Sixtown Meeting House. Don told the story every year, it was his job to go light the hot water heater, and every year he ended up with singed eyebrows.

Due to Helen's ill health in 1987, Kim and Bob Bisig took over, and it became a South Jeff Chamber project, and Kim changed the name to Dinners for the Elderly. Today it is called Senior Citizens dinner.

When the list became huge, the South Jeff Central School Cafeteria began baking all the turkeys, and food was ordered through the school from Renzi. The Adams American Legion became the delivery point; this continued for many years.

Today all the food is cooked at the Legion with many, many volunteers, some have been there since the first day, the local bank branches, young people from churches... For years the Girl Scouts made Christmas Decorations for the bags. A donation for the dinners come from a silent angel, but a few come from local businesses. So in this year of 2021, the dinners have continued for 46 years.

I am not going to mention the names of all volunteers, as I can't even begin to remember who you all are... But Helen thanks you, the Whitney Family thanks you, and the Sixtown Chamber thanks you. The Seniors of Southern Jefferson County thank you.

And little note Helen Whitney was Citizen of the year twice, once selected by the Chamber in 1991 and again by the Village in 1993. Helen was many things, a mother, a grandmother, a teacher, a volunteer, but mostly she was a friend to all. Along with the dinners Helen was instrumental in starting Country View Apartments. There is a Helen Whitney scholarship at South Jeff and the Watertown School System.



Congrats to the following athletes and sports teams:

South Jefferson Varsity Cheer Team!
Class B Frontier League Winners!
Madelyn Blodgett, Malana Simpson,
and Emily Smith named all-stars.

Cross Country all-star Alexa Doe.

Jackie Piddock, Jefferson Community College,
all-time Section III girls leading scorer with 2446
points, and counting.

Places of Worship

An Attitude of Gratitude

Kevin R. Kitto

The presents have all been opened (some even virtually) The cookies have been eaten (Christmas Calories don't count!). The celebrations have left us exhausted (whether online or in-person) Yet this season we have been living in for the past few years continues to linger. We have all lost so much during this pandemic and many of us are lamenting the missed opportunities during this period of stay-at-home orders, social distancing and isolation.

While some of the things we missed may never be accomplished, in quarantine or otherwise, there is something that each of us can do to boost our mood and brighten someone's day. It doesn't take much more than a pen and paper, or even just a digital device, and there's no learning curve required. Before you fully return to your busy pre-pandemic schedule of activities, take the time to write a letter to the people who have made a difference in your life.

Writing a letter allows you to profess the love, admiration and gratitude you feel - a practice that has been shown to improve your own health and wellness - while lifting the spirits of someone you care about. And during these challenging times, that's definitely a task worth completing. Here are five letters you should make the time to write:

Thank you Letter:

Write a letter to your second-grade teacher (or your favorite teacher) in appreciation of the extra attention they gave you, reach out to an old friend to thank them for working on the health care front line, or send a brief note to your mom expressing gratitude. Offering someone thanks for the things they've done, both big and small, is a wonderful gift you can give to them and yourself. Kindness and compassion have helped get us through the pandemic and a thank-you note is an excellent way to recognize both.

I'm sorry Letter:

There's no benefit to hanging onto something that has been weighing on your conscience. Telling someone that you're sorry for something you did to disappoint them, that you feel badly about the disintegration of your relationship or that you weren't there for them when they experienced a loss may not be easy, but it is beneficial to you both. If this global crisis has taught us anything, it is that we shouldn't sweat the small stuff. Here's your chance to put those words into action.

You're the best Letter:

Imagine how great you would feel if someone took the time to share all the ways in which they admire you. Now, use those warm and fuzzy feelings as inspiration to do the same for another. You might admire them for their grit, their kindness or their kick-back ways, but you can never go wrong by letting someone know they're seen and appreciated. You just might be touching them at a time when they most need to be reminded how special they are and that they have the strength to get through the current and any future challenges.

Thinking of you Letter:

Living through a pandemic has been incredibly difficult, and has been harder for some more than others. Even if you have suffered your own losses, a job, ability to travel, in-person contact with loved ones or worse, letting others know that they are on your mind and in your heart can be healing for you both. Getting through tough times together is far easier than alone. Make sure the people you care about know you're always there for them and they'll likely be there for you, too.

Do you remember? Letter:

You may not have had many opportunities to go out in public without a mask and concerns about the health risks caused by COVID-19 in the past few years, but you can probably easily remember a great night, a trip or a laugh with a good friend or family member before the pandemic. Lift someone's mood by reminding them of all those good times you had together and make a point of suggesting some new activities and adventures you can plan in the coming months.

If you have never written a gratitude letter before, I encourage you to try it. Much of our time and energy is spent pursuing things we currently don't have. Gratitude reverses our priorities to help us appreciate the people and things we do. Writing things down can be a great outlet for emotions and a great way to reveal to you all the things to be grateful for in this life.

Love, hope and positivity can be far more infectious than a virus. So if you're thinking of writing a letter of gratitude to someone, but you're unsure whether you want that person to read the letter, I encourage you to write it anyway. You can decide later whether to send it (and I think it's often a good idea to do so). But the mere act of writing the letter can help you appreciate the people in your life and shift your focus away from negative feelings and thoughts. Make it a point to spread positivity by writing a letter or two a day. Who knows? It may even prompt someone to write a letter in return.

Be Blessed to Be a Blessing to Others!

Pastor Kevin R. Kitto

Adams/Sulphur Springs United Methodist Churches

Fond Memories of a Girl Scout Leader

By Marlene Norfolk

Many of us know Eunice Westcott for her work with the Henderson Harbor Performing Arts Association. Eunice has been volunteering her time and talents here in the Sixtown community for many years. In fact, that time and service goes all the way back to 1962.

In 1962 Eunice and her young family rented an upstairs apartment on Park Street in Adams owned by Mrs. Maude Fleming, an 8th grade teacher. Mrs. Fleming needed a Girl Scout leader for 18 girls that were in junior high. Eunice took the job and it began a twenty year plus career as a Girl Scout troop leader.

With her first group of 18 girls Eunice stayed with this group as they progressed through the ranks of the girls scouts. As a result, Eunice stayed with the senior category of girl scouts.

During her time with the scouts she made lifelong connections with her girls. She had four sisters from one family and even had her own three daughters in her troop. They did the usual camping and working for badges. However, the greatest memories for both her and the girls are the trips they took and the friendships they made.

Her first trip was with 10 girls for the first senior roundup in Vermont. From there they traveled to Boston. Another significant trip was to Savannah, Georgia to visit the birthplace and homestead of Juliet Lowes who founded the girl scouts. It took five cars and five volunteers to make that trip.

Perhaps the most memorable trip was to Cuernavaca, Mexico which is an hour south of Mexico City, Mexico. It took two years to plan the trip and secure the Girl Scout international hostel located there. By the help of Dr. Alden, all girls got their shots that were required at that time. Beverly Franklin went with Eunice as a chaperone and assistant leader. It took four days on a greyhound bus to get there. The trip was with other passengers who enjoyed the girls and looked forward to their singing songs in the evening. The big event was the plane ride home. It was the first time the girls had ever been on an airplane.

Kay Elliott Stallings was one of the girl scouts on the Mexico trip. Kay has great memories of Eunice and scouting. She said that Eunice took her scouts under her wing and loved them like a mother would. She said that this troop of girls made great friendships and genuinely like each other. Kay said that there was years of planning for this trip and that under the leadership of Eunice they raised money to do this. They held many fundraisers including car washes, bake sales and craft sales. Kay remembers her mother knitting clothes for Barbie dolls that they sold. Kay emphasized that these scouts raised their own monies for the trip. This was Kay's first trip on an airplane and she was nervous. It is interesting that Kay chose a successful career as a flight attendant.

Time has passed and Eunice still keeps in touch with her scouts. She sends letters out at Christmas and receives wonderful letters describing the fond memories the girls had as their time in the girl scouts. For Eunice, these relationships are priceless and memories fond.

2021 Christmas Parade

"Tie A Yellow Ribbon/Always Remember"

Winners Announced

Best Theme Float: South Jeff FFA & OD Greene
Best Themed Marching Unit Best Neighborhood/family Float:
VFW Adams & Scout Troop 586
Best Rescue/Fire Department:
Adams Fire Department & Lorraine Fire Department
Best All Around: South Jeff FFA



Leading the parade were Kristen & Kyle Creighton.
Carrying the banner for Adams Revitalization were
Drew Peters and Dominick Morgia.

Getting Ahead

Class of 2022 Graduation



The Six Town Community Fund awarded a grant to the Getting Ahead Program for participants from southern Jefferson County. The Fund partnered with four other organizations to fund the program which is facilitated by Watertown Urban Mission.

The graduation ceremony was held on February 10th at the American Legion in Adams. This graduating class was the first rural class to graduate since the inception of the program. Dawn Cole from Urban Mission presented the graduates. Dawn has been involved in human services for many years and believes this is the most powerful program she has ever been involved with. Dawn believes this program allows the participants to make their own argument about life in their community. Dawn states that this program empowers the participants and builds social capital.

The 2022 graduates from the 16 week program are:

Ashley Johnson, Allison Passage, Patricia Rosales, Jennifer Smith, and Timmy Wilson.

Sincere congratulations from the Six Town Community Fund to all the graduates on a job well done.

Pictured from left: Six Town Community Fund Committee members Bilkey Moore and Lisa Porter; Six Town Community Fund Committee Chair Barb Greene; Getting Ahead program graduate Ashley Johnson; Six Town Community Fund Committee Secretary David Zembiec; graduate Jennifer Smith; Getting Ahead program facilitator Anthony Lopez; graduate Timmy Wilson; Six Town Committee member Andrew Beckstead; graduate Patricia Rosales; Six Town Committee member Karen Denny; graduate Allison Passage; Six Town Committee Honorary Member Dave Stone; Six Town Committee member Marlene Norfolk; and Getting Ahead program facilitator Sarah Yerdon.

Thank you to our sponsors:

440 Main Street Mannsville, NY
315-465-4421

S&R
AUTOMOTIVE

sandrautomotive@yahoo.com
www.sandrautomotiveinc.com

**2017-2019 WINNER OF THE
AAA TOP SHOP AWARD!**

AMSOIL **JASPER** **AAA**
ENGINES + TRANSMISSIONS
Approved Auto Repair

★ WE NOW SELL USED CARS & NEW/USED TIRES! ★

24 Hour Towing - Oil/Filter Changes - AC Repair & Recharging
Wheel Alignment - Diesel Repairs - Diagnostic Work
Medium Duty Truck Repairs - Heavy Duty Towing
NYS Certified Inspections For Cars, Trucks & Motorcycles



GREAT LAKES
CHEESE

Now Hiring.

greatlakescheese.com/careers