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SPORTS | B1

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The Spectator

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LC Whitford crews work on the Madison Creek box culvert project in the Village of Wellsville Tuesday. [CHRIS POTTER/THE SPECTATOR]

Culvert project ramps up on East Pearl Street

Site of 2017 collapse being repaired

By Chris Potter
 Regional Editor

WELLSVILLE — In April 2017, an infrastructure collapse left a gaping hole in the ground off East Pearl Street in the Village of Wellsville.

Now, earth movers are digging out the area further as the Madison Creek Box Culvert Project ramps up with the installation of new infrastructure that should serve and protect generations upon generations of Wellsville residents to come.

The culvert escorts Madison Creek through the village. Especially in times of heavy rain, like the past month, water discharge from the creek is not insignificant.

LC Whitford crews have been at work at the site over the last month, with several sections of the culvert now in place. Director of Public Works Bill Whitfield provided a project update at Monday night's village board meeting.

"We have six sections in the

ground. It's graded for four more, which will go in (Tuesday)," Whitfield said. "The easements are in place. The work will begin upstream as well this week, probably in the latter part of the week before we get the garage portion. The two big trees will come down (Tuesday) by the driveway and we'll start removing some of the upper topsoil."

Whitfield has previously the project is expected to be completed enough for the road to reopen by winter.

A car partially fell into the hole when the collapse occurred in April of last year. In late July of 2017, state Senator Catharine Young (R-Olean) helped secure \$700,000 to fix the collapse.

In other business, the board approved the Salvation Army Block Party to be held from 6-8 p.m. on Halloween night.

Jackie Wilson was appointed DPW Clerk having successfully completed a civil service exam.

Wellsville Fire Chief Bill Cavanaugh reported a new engine for the Wellsville Fire Company is expected to arrive soon. A team was out inspecting the rig this week.



Earth is dug out for the Madison Creek box culvert project Tuesday in Wellsville.

FDs keep on truckin'



State Senator Tom O'Mara and Assemblyman Phil Palmesano meet and greet firefighters from North Hornell and Fremont following an announcement that their offices will aid the purchase of the fire trucks parked in the background on Tuesday. [JASON JORDAN PHOTO]

Fremont, North Hornell receive aid from legislators

By Jason Jordan
 The Spectator

HORNELL — The fire safety of the region is on a more certain and sustainable path after two area departments received funding for new trucks.

Senator Tom O'Mara (R-Big Flats) and Assemblyman Phil Palmesano (R-Corning) made

a stop in Fremont on Tuesday to announce that their offices would be supporting the funding of new fire trucks for the Fremont and North Hornell Volunteer Fire Departments.

The Fremont Fire Department received more than \$200,000 towards a new rescue truck, which will replace a model that was 31 years old.

The department was also able to purchase new rescue tools, light tower and air bags for the truck.

"We average 20-25 call per year on it, so rescue along with the ambulance was one of our greatest needs," said Fremont Fire First Assistant Chief Barry Dye. "If it wasn't for Senator O'Mara and Assemblyman Palmesano's offices, we wouldn't be able to do it. Our budget is \$60,000 every year and \$20,000 of that goes to insurance. We're very excited and thankful for them making this dream."

See FD, A6

Steuben Sept. jobless rate 4%

Unemployment count drops to 18-year low; Allegany Co. rate falls to 4.5%

By Neal Simon
 The Spectator

Steuben County's unemployed residents count fell by 26 percent between September 2017 and September 2018, according to New York state Department of Labor data, and was a key contributor to a county jobless rate that has tumbled from 5.4 to 4 percent over the last 12 months. More on Steuben

LABOR MARKET REGIONS RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

SEPTEMBER 2018
 RANK REGION RATE
 1 Long Island Region 3.3
 2 Capital Region 3.4
 3 Hudson Valley Region 3.5

4 Finger Lakes Region 3.6
 5 Central New York Region 3.7
 6 Mohawk Valley Region 3.9
 6 Southern Tier Region 3.9
 6 Western New York Region 3.9
 9 New York City Region 4.0
 9 North Country Region 4.0
 Source: NYS Dept. of Labor

County further below.

In the Southern Tier Region, the unemployment rate dropped even further, falling to 3.9 percent in September, down from 5 percent in September 2017. Region-wide, there are 11,200 people counted as unemployed, down from 14,600 last year

or a healthy 23.3 percent.

Meanwhile, Allegany County's jobless rate was 4.5 percent in September, the labor department said Tuesday as it released percentages for all 62 of the state's counties. Joblessness

See RATE, A6

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 1 shower
 12°/30°

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 45°/28°

FRIDAY
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 49°/33°



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A 'New Hope' for Halloween

Churches bring trunk-or-treat to Hornell, Wellsville

By Jason Jordan
The Spectator

Trunk-or-Treat, a growing trend in Halloween festivities, is coming to Hornell and Wellsville.

Trunk or treat is a recent invention, where trick-or-treating is done from parked car to parked car, often at a school or church.

In Wellsville, a community-wide, free Halloween Trunk-or-Treat event is planned for this Thursday night from 6-8 p.m. at Crosstown Alliance across from Steuben Trust.

"It's the same night as Riverwalk Plaza's Halloween Family Night near K-Mart, so we'll have signs and the walkway to Crosstown all lit up!" said Chloe Smith, Communications and Creative Director for Crosstown. "We'll have over 25 cars lined up in themes like Star Wars and Jurassic Park. And kid's favorite characters like Chewbacca, Storm Troopers, Princess Leia and dinosaurs will be there. It's going to be such a fun night for kids and families."

In Hornell, Trunk-or-Treat comes courtesy of the New Hope Wesleyan Church. The first annual event hopes to

provide a safer alternative to traditional door-to-door trick-or-treating for children in the Hornell area.

"People don't always feel safe going from house to house if they don't know their neighbors, and it's an opportunity for families to have safe fun," said Pastor Natalie Churchman.

Approximately 30 cars, decorated in the theme of the owner's choice, will be gathered in the Church's parking lot at 282 Grand St., Hornell on Wednesday, Oct. 31, from 5-6 p.m. The event is conveniently set for one hour before the city-wide trick-or-treat hours.

Participating "trunkers" are asked to sign up by Sunday, Oct. 28, and share their family-friendly theme. In addition to trunks being decorated, participants will provide a game for trick-or-treaters to participate in.

"Each theme will have its own fun little game, and there will be plenty of candy. Everyone will walk away with a full bag," said Youth Pastor Aaron Strange.

"It will be kind of a carnival atmosphere," Churchman described.

If unable to decorate your trunk, there are other ways to help out during the event.

In addition to treats passed out during the event, popcorn, maple cotton candy and lemonade will be served



Mary Poppins and Han Solo (or Pastor Natalie Churchman and Youth Pastor Aaron Strange) stopped by The Spectator office at 32 Broadway Mall. [JASON JORDAN PHOTO]

up.

Trunk-or-treat is a non-denominational event, but anyone interested in learning more about the church is encouraged to ask for information that will be available.

The hope of organizers is to make trunk-or-treat a long-term tradition in Hornell, growing the event's reputation each year and bringing other organizations into the fold.

"We want it to be something people ask details about every year. This year, we're just testing the waters to see what we can improve on," Strange said.

All children in the Hornell area are welcomed, but should be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call 607-324-3300, visit www.newhopewes.com or check out the New Hope Wesleyan Church Facebook page.

RATE

From Page A1

went down during the month and over the year. Allegany County was at 5.7 percent unemployment last September, and it had a 5.2 percent mark in August.

The number of unemployed workers declined 18 percent, from 1,100 in September 2017 to 900 last month in Allegany County, the labor department said.

Back in Steuben, the county has 1,700 people counted as unemployed in September, compared to 2,300 at this same time last year, according to the labor department, which bases its data on household surveys of New York residences.

To be included as unemployed, the state counts "residents who are not currently working but are seeking work," said Christian Harris, a Southern Tier labor analyst.

Harris pointed out that September's 1,700 unemployed is Steuben County's lowest figure for that month since the year 2000. The economy "was humming in Steuben County then," Harris said, suggesting that current jobless rates and unemployed numbers are at near-historic lows.

"This is in line with what we are seeing statewide and nationwide," Harris added.

The strong labor market continues, Harris said, mentioning that employers are scrambling to fill openings and are "willing to overlook barriers" that would typically prevent a job candidate from gaining unemployment. Employers are willing to train new employees and are even poaching workers from other companies, Harris said. State labor analysts generally point to skilled trades as the industrial sector most eager to bring on new workers.

Fewer unemployed workers in Steuben County is not being accompanied by a smaller workers' pool, at least in the short-term, according to analysts. Steuben's Resident Civilian Labor Force is currently at 43,200, 500 more than August's workforce and 100 more than a year ago. Harris called the labor market "stable" although the long-term trend is a smaller labor pool as Baby Boomers continue to retire.

In Allegany County, the Resident Civilian Labor Force is at 19,400 people. That's up from August when it numbered 18,800 but down from September 2017 when it was at 19,800.

FD

From Page A1

The truck is due to enter service this weekend.

North Hornell Fire Department also received \$215,000 towards a 300,000 gallon pumper tanker truck. The truck will take the place of a decommissioned 1994 engine. The department had gone without a tanker for several years, and with growing responsibilities for large facilities, it became a vital need.

"It will allow us to be better equipped to fight fires in areas like parts of Hornellsville, where there aren't hydrants," Chief Michael Robbins described. "We're very grateful for what Senator O'Mara was able to do for us and what he's done for a few departments in our area."

According to Mayor John Falci, the truck cost more than \$300,000, and the grant represented a major savings to taxpayers.

"It's something that we probably could not have

afforded unless we raised taxes considerably, so, the grant saves us money and will allow us to budget over the next couple of years to pay for this. We greatly appreciate it," he said.

The truck is already in service.

"Our volunteers are the backbone of our rural communities. You look out for the safety of your neighbors and community members, and you look out for the taxpayers as well," Palmesano said citing a study stating that their absence would cost the state \$3.2 billion. "We appreciate what you do each and every day."

"The better your equipment, the safer you're going to be yourselves while doing the job," O'Mara said. "Keep up the great work... you provide a great service to your community."

Earlier in the afternoon, the New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association (NYSPPFA) endorsed O'Mara for re-election at an event in Hornell.

NYSPPFA Executive Vice President David J. Holleran, NYSPPFA Fourth District Vice President, Hornell



State Senator Tom O'Mara received the endorsement of the New York State Professional Firefighters Association and IAFF Local 835 in Hornell on Tuesday. [JASON JORDAN PHOTO]

Firefighters Association IAFF Local 835 President Chris Cartella, and other firefighters and local officials joined O'Mara to make the endorsement at the Hornell American Legion.

NYSPPFA represents firefighters in Hornell, Elmira, Corning and Ithaca in O'Mara's district and 18,000 firefighters statewide.

The event was hosted in Hornell to highlight the

Senator's role in delivering aid to local fire departments over the years. The announcement was made in front of a ladder truck that O'Mara helped fund with \$500,000 from his discretionary fund.

"When you have a tremendous advocate as we have in Senator O'Mara, you want to hang on to them," said Hornell Mayor John Buckley. "It's not just about what he's done for area fire

departments, but on so many other levels — helping out school districts, constituent services. We have a great working relationship. There are so many ways that Senator O'Mara helps out the district that you don't hear on the radio or read in the newspaper. It would be a shame to lose that."

Chris Cartella, representing Hornell Firefighters Association IAFF Local

835, also delivered their endorsement.

"This is not a matter of any small significance to us," he said. "To be able to secure the funds to purchase this machine really means the world to us, our health and safety. We really like getting to go home to our families at night. It greatly enhances our firefighting ability."

O'Mara also received the endorsement of the AFL-CIO, a parent organization to the IAFF Local 835, which was announced earlier this week.

Holleran then delivered remarks and the formal endorsement from NYSPPFA.

Throughout his tenure, Senator has worked tirelessly not only on the local level, but on the state level to assist us with initiatives we're trying to put in place to address the safety concerns we have for firefighters across the state. He's always been there for us. We have a lot of traditions in the fire service, and one of those is to support those who support us, so this was an easy decision for us," he said.

O'Mara expressed his thanks for the endorsement.

"I'm honored to receive it, as well as the other labor endorsements I've received," he said. "I know how our professional firefighters and volunteers work together in so many ways. It's critical that we have these relationships to provide service to our more rural areas. It's about public service and public safety."

Funeral Home Directory

<p>Andover</p> <p>Baker Swan Funeral Home Celebrating Life Cherishing Memories baker-swain.com 607-478-8746</p>	<p>HP Smith & Son Funeral Home 29 E. Main St. Canisteo 607-698-4552 hpsmithandsonfuneralhome.com</p>	<p>Wayland</p> <p>St. George-Stanton Funeral Home 585-728-2100 stgeorgefuneralhome.com</p>
<p>Angelica</p> <p>Brown & Powers Funeral Home 101 West Avenue, Angelica 585-466-3777 brownandpowersfuneralhomes.com</p>	<p>Dansville</p> <p>Hindle Funeral Home 271 Main St., Dansville 585-335-5670 hindlefuneralhome.com</p>	<p>Wellsville</p> <p>Baker Swan Funeral Home Celebrating Life Cherishing Memories baker-swain.com 585-593-3256</p>
<p>Avoca</p> <p>Bishop & Johnson Funeral Home, Inc. 22 N. Main St., Avoca 607-566-2300 bishopandjohnsonfuneralhome.com</p>	<p>Hornell</p> <p>Bender-Brown & Powers Funeral Home 354 Canisteo St., Hornell 607-324-2341 brownandpowersfuneralhomes.com</p>	<p>JW Embser Sons Funeral Home 34 West State St., Wellsville 585-593-3430 embserfuneralhome.com</p>
<p>Canaseraga</p> <p>Mann Funeral Home 11 Pratt St., Canaseraga 607-545-8821 mannfuneralhome.com</p>	<p>Bishop & Johnson Funeral Home, Inc. 285 Main St., Hornell 607-324-2700 bishopandjohnsonfuneralhome.com</p>	<p>Mulholland-Crowell Funeral Home 296 North Main St., Wellsville 585-593-5431</p>
<p>Canisteo</p> <p>Brown & Powers Funeral Home 6 Spruce Street, Canisteo 607-698-2517 brownandpowersfuneralhomes.com</p>	<p>Dagon Funeral Home 38 Church St., Hornell 607-324-3500 dagonfuneralhome.com</p>	<p>Woodhull</p> <p>HP Smith & Son Funeral Home 1607 Main St., Woodhull 607-458-5153 hpsmithandsonfuneralhome.com</p>
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NOTE: NEW LINE AD-DEADLINES: 10:00am the day prior to insertion with Sunday and Monday being 10:00am on Fridays.

HARVEST DINNER
Sponsored By: The Larger Parish Church, Canaseraga, NY. October 24, 2018, 5pm-Until. Canaseraga American Legion Post #1582, Canaseraga, NY (Handicap Accessible). Turkey and all the trimmings. Dine-In \$9.00/Donation. Take-outs by phone tickets only. Please call 607-545-6261.

HORNELL AMERICAN LEGION HALLOWEEN PARADE Oct. 25, 2018, 7:00PM Sharp @ the Steuben Trust Co., parking lot, Genesee Street side. PARADE ROUTE: Leave Bank parking lot at Genesee Street Side, Go left on Genesee Street to Church Street, Turn right on Church Street, Turn right on Main Street, Turn right on Seneca Street and march to the Hornell American Legion. Judging will be done in the Seneca Room at the Legion. Cider and donut holes will be served.
Lisa Harrick, Commander, Parade Commander.

"NOTICE TO all Woodlawn Cemetery, Canisteo, lot owners, All Flowers and decorations must be removed by October 25th.