

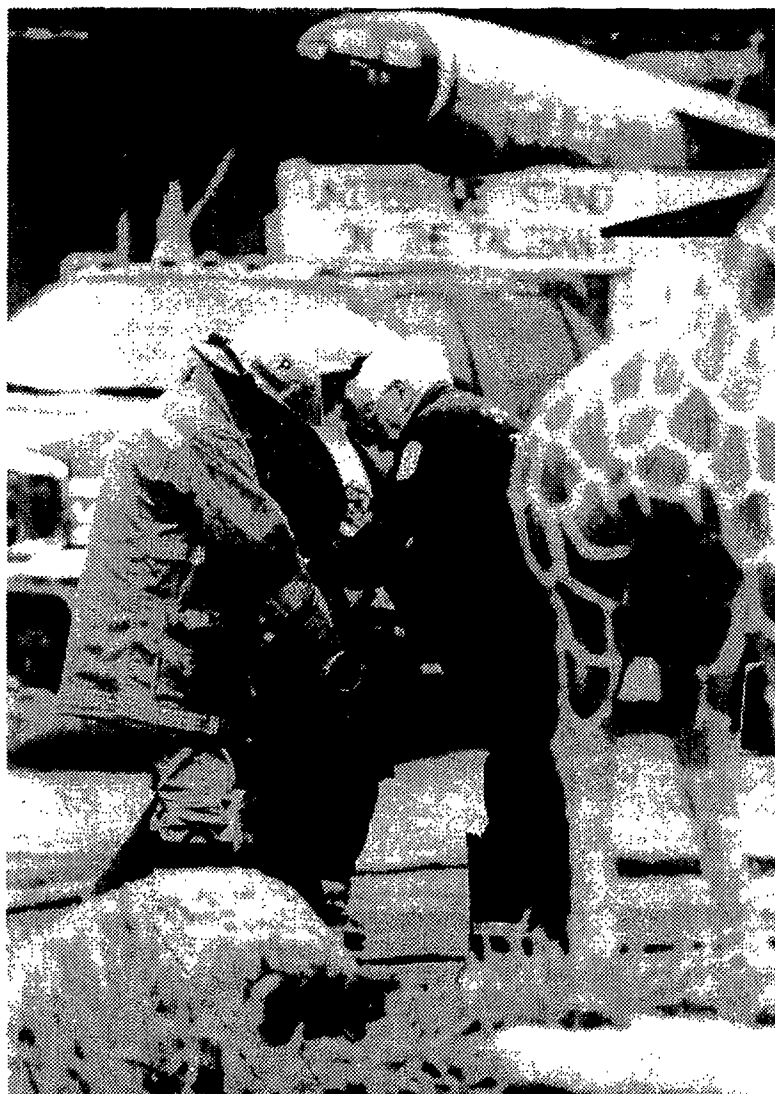
Oh My God!



The Enterprise — Ryan Hutchins

Devastating damage: Robert Hunt, above, holds his head in grief as he surveys the remains of his home and antique store on Route 20. At almost 4 a.m. on Wednesday, Hunt was awakened by smoke, he said. The cause of the fire is unknown. A portion of Route 20 was closed for a few hours as firemen battled the blaze.

Under Pressure



The Enterprise — Ryan Hutchins

On the scene: Firemen tried their best to save The Garden Statuary Antiques, on Route 20, from burning Wednesday morning. Pictured above, workers adjust their equipment while standing near one of Robert Hunt's garden giraffes. In the background is what Hunt calls "the rocket truck." Shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorists' attacks, he decorated his vehicle in red, white, and blue with bombs intended for Osama bin Laden.

VFW news

Col. Edwards and Dr. Browe speak Loyalty Day

By Annie Wilson

Loyalty Day, a pep rally for America, sponsored by Boyd Hilton Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7062 and Auxiliary will be May 8 at 2 p.m. at the Altamont Village Community room, 115 Main Street. This annual event recognizes local residents and organizations for their patriotic endeavors and love of country.

Awards will be presented to winners of the fifth-grade essay contest, Voice of Democracy participants, a poster contest, and a patriot's pen contest.

Guest speakers, local dignitaries, presentations, and color guards from other organizations will be included in the patriotic program.

Refreshments will follow at the VFW Post on Mill Street.

Keynote speakers

Colonel John S. Edwards and Dr. John H. Browe will be featured speakers at the annual program.

Edwards served in World War II with the 8th Air Force in England and, on his 24th mission, was shot down over Germany and taken prisoner. He was also among the first troops to see action in the Korean War in July 1950 where he served as a company commander. In 1966 and 1967 his tour of duty took him to Vietnam as a battalion commander.

The veteran of three wars retired from active duty with the United States Army in June of 1972. He has written on the life of a prisoner of war for the Turner Publishing Company.

He is a member of many veterans' organizations and has been a past national commander of American Ex-Prisoners of War. He served as a member of the New York State World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War memorial committees.

He has served as the national chairman of the Andersonville POW Museum Committee and serves as president of the New York State Military Heritage Institute.

He lives with his family in Niskayuna.

Browe of Troy, at 88, is the region's last survivor among those taken prisoner by the Japanese at Bataan in the Philippines early in World War II. As a prisoner doctor, he treated soldiers who had survived the brutal 65-mile Bataan death march in which 11,000 American and Filipino prisoners died.

He wasn't on the march because as a doctor he received better treatment than other prisoners. However, for three-and-a-half years as a POW doctor he treated other prisoners for malnutrition and disease

while trying to keep himself alive.

He was moved at least 14 times, ending the war at a factory camp in Japan north of Tokyo. If the war had no ended when it did, Browe says that they all would have been killed.

Browe left the military in August of 1946 as a major. He developed a career as Director of the Nutrition Bureau of the New York State Department of Health in Albany, from which he retired in 1977.

Troop support

The local Troop Support Committee continues to send "touch-of-home" parcels to our area men and women serving in Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

Currently the committee is putting the final details together for the Family Fun Day at the Altamont fairgrounds on June 12 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Proceeds from this event will be used for continued shipments.

Crafters and Food Vendors: There is still time for you to make a reservation for a 10-by-10-foot area for only \$30.

Community organizations: This is a perfect opportunity for a fun-filled fund-raiser.

Donations are being accepted for a variety of drawings. To participate, contact Elaine Person at 861-6262.

4-H news

Hiking, gardening, modeling, riding, and judging

By Sharon Breisch

Cornell Cooperative Extension is offering a summer hiking program for Albany County youth who are 10 to 14 years of age. Participants will explore Albany County, including the Pine Bush, Cole Hill State Forest, Black Bear Swamp, and sections of the Long Path and Blue Circle wetlands trail.

Tracks, trees, wildflowers, and critters are there to discover. The program is led by a New York State licensed guide and runs from July 12 to 16, from 9 a.m. until noon. The cost is \$65. Contact Dave Diligent at 765-3522 to register.

Ready, set, grow

It's finally time to think seriously about planting seeds in the garden. The Men's Garden Club will once again provide interested 4-H members with seeds and advice for growing pumpkins, tomatoes, and marigolds.

The Golub Corporation, owners of Price Chopper, also provides plants, seeds, and opportunities for 4-H members to market produce through their annual vegetable marketing program.

The 4-H program is fortunate to have these great sponsors.

Members of 4-H will be busy tending their gardens through the summer months. Look for some of their produce as exhibits at the Altamont Fair or at the sunflower and pumpkin contest sponsored by the Men's Club in October.

Fashion revue

This year's fashion revue starts at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 15, at Joanne's Etc. at Northway Mall. Mary Beth Wenger from Channel 6 News returns as master of ceremonies and 4-H members will model their sewn and purchased outfits. Stop by and check out the latest fashions!

Horse Bowl

Equestrians in 4-H are always busy.

On Saturday, March 27, six counties competed in the Regional Horse Bowl held at Voorheesville's high school. Albany County was represented by three teams. The novice and junior teams placed first, and the senior team placed fifth.

Overall high scoring individuals included a novice first place to Morgan McLoughlin; a sixth place to Katie Luft, and ninth for Erin Urban. In the junior individual category, Sarah Moylan placed second; Mandy Bailey was third, and Abby Gentner was eighth. Senior team member, Meaghan DePaula, placed sixth, and Lauren Vadney placed ninth.

The Junior team — Mandy Bailey, Emily DePaula, Abby Gentner, Sarah Moylan, and Meghan Neff — went on to the state competition at Cornell Uni-

versity. Meaghan DePaula also went as a member of the regional senior team that placed fourth. Congratulations to all competitors!

Horse-judging clinic

You may not be able to judge a book by its cover, but an educated eye can tell a lot about the potential of a horse by its packaging. The length of the neck and back, the angle that body parts attach to each other, and even the placement of the eyes affect the way a horse moves and functions.

A horse-judging clinic will be held on Wednesday, May 19, at the Double V Stables in Delmar. Participants will learn how form affects function and about different horse breeds while judging different classes.

The informative program begins at 7 p.m. Call the 4-H office at 765-3500 to register.

Editor's note: Sharon Breisch is a 4-H volunteer.

Teich teaches workshop

RENSSELAERVILLE — The Huyck Preserve will hold a workshop with renowned landscape photographer, Thomas Teich, entitled Explore & Experiment: Large Format Landscape Photography. The workshop will run on Friday, May 28, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and on Saturday, May 29, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a rain date of Sunday, May 30.

During the two-day workshop, Teich will introduce photographic enthusiasts to the world of large-format photography. "Large format" uses very large negatives (5 by 7 inches, 8 by 10 inches, or even larger) held in place by a "view camera." These large negatives hold considerably more information than smaller formats.

This workshop is limited to 10 participants and the deadline for sign-up is Friday, May 21. To register, contact the E.N. Huyck Preserve by phone at 797-3440 or by e-mail at huyckpres@hotmail.com.

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