

IN BRIEF

Pulteney boards set meetings

PULTENEY | The Pulteney Zoning Board of Appeals will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the town hall. The Pulteney Town Planning Board will hold a meeting at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 8 at the town hall. The Pulteney Town Board will meet at 7 p.m. Sept. 10 at the town hall.

Cat sought after person bitten

ELMIRA | The Chemung County Health Department is seeking assistance locating a cat that recently bit a person. The cat was last seen on the 400 block of West Water Street in Elmira. Anyone who has seen the animal is asked to call the Elmira Animal Control at 737-5807 or the Chemung County Health Department at 737-2019 during business hours and 737-2044 after hours. If the animal is healthy a rabies treatment for the victim can be avoided.

Erwin to begin fall brush pick-up

PAINTED POST | The town of Erwin will begin its fall roadside brush pick-up Tuesday. Brush must be placed by the curb starting Saturday. Yard waste should be no longer than 8 feet stacked neatly parallel to the road. The waste should not be stacked in the road, ditches or near utility poles, fences or bushes.

C-PP audit group to meet today

PAINTED POST | The audit committee of the Corning- Painted Post school district will meet at 5:30 p.m. today at the administration building, 165 Charles St.

Bath VA will hold benefit info. event

BATH | The Bath VA Medical Center will present a day-long benefits and health care information event from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sept. 17 in the center's recreation building. The session will focus around patient self management. It's open to all veterans and their families. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about topics such as diabetes, fall prevention, osteoporosis, smoking cessation, women's health, stress and pain management. For more information, contact Cherie Buckley at 664-4837.

Archery tourney to Shoot for a Cure

CORNING | The City of Corning Fire Department Local 932 will host Shoot for a Cure 3-D Archery Tournament at the Corning Fish & Game Club on Saturday to help fight muscular dystrophy. The event will feature 12 shooting classes, 30-target archery course, long distance shoot, novelty shoot, and door prizes. Food and beverages will also be available. Registration will be from 7 a.m.-1 p.m. For more information, call Fran Mayer at 765-8505 or Paul VanDelinder at 329-8564.

Children's choir sets auditions

ITHACA | The Ithaca Children's Choir of the Community School of Music and Arts will hold auditions on the following dates at 330 E. State St.
• 3:30-5 p.m. Tuesday
• 3-5:30 p.m. Sept. 4
• 3-5:30 p.m. Sept. 5
Anyone ages seven-20 is eligible to audition, and no singing experience is necessary. For more information, call 272-1474.

Send a senior to OSFL events

CORNING | The Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes has launched its annual business "Send-a-Senior" program, which gives senior citizens who cannot afford to attend OSFL concerts the chance to go for free. Businesses who would like to make a donation can contact the orchestra office at 936-2873 or visit info@osfl.org.

■ Staff reports

Massa unveils economic plan

BY BOB RECOTTA
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MASSA

ROCHESTER | Eric Massa, the Democratic candidate challenging U.S. Rep. John R. Kuhl for the 29th Congressional District seat, unveiled his plan Wednesday to bring jobs back to New York.

He said these trade agreements were responsible for companies moving thousands of jobs overseas. "The problem is, in my travels in real America I've come across hundreds of people who've watched their factories be closed. It just seems to me to be a very telling moment of how we're going to fix the failed Bush/Kuhl free trade economic policies. We must move from free trade to fair trade." NAFTA became law in 1994 under President Bill Clinton. Massa said he would also urge Congress to increase the availability of low-interest

loans to college students and advocated loan forgiveness for people who choose to serve five years in public sector jobs such as teaching, social work, fire fighting, nursing or policing. Another piece of Massa's economic plan is investing in job training for people who

Massa continued to call for the renegotiation of trade agreements such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA).

SEE MASSA | 5A

ALL SET FOR READING, WRITING, ARITHMETIC



JASON COX | THE LEADER

Gregory Ribble, a Salvation Army employee, sorts through backpacks given away Wednesday afternoon by the Salvation Army.

Salvation Army gives kids tools they need for school

BY JEFFERY SMITH
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CORNING | Children getting ready for back-to-school are receiving some help from the Salvation Army.

Parents and children lined up Wednesday afternoon at the Corning site on Denison Parkway to receive free backpacks stuffed with school supplies.

Classes start Wednesday morning at a number of Steuben County school districts.

Salvation Army Captain Kim Merchant believes more families turned out for assistance this year, partially because of the rising prices of many school supply items.

"We have had an increase in all of our regular services, so we expect one today as well," Merchant said. "We have an increase to events of about 20-25 families a month."

The agency is giving out 400 backpacks, nearly 100 more than last year due to

the rising need.

There is a limit of one backpack per children and the family must live in Steuben County.

Backpacks will be distributed from 5:30-7 p.m. today at the Denison Parkway facility. The Salvation Army also sent 100 backpacks to the Addison Youth Center to be given away.

"We just want to make sure that anyone who had a job during the day could still come and get a bargain," Merchant said.

H'heads schools get ready to strategize

BY BOB RECOTTA
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HORSEHEADS | The Horseheads school board has approved the makeup of the team that will develop the district's strategic plan for the next 10-15 years.

The board approved a 60-member core team Monday.

"The consultants (PLC Associates) gave us a range of 40 to 60," Superintendent Ralph Marino Jr. said. "We wanted to make sure all stakeholder groups in the district fit in. This is a large district. We felt we wanted to get as many people involved from different sectors in the community."

The core team will consist of two school board members, three members of central administration, an administrator from the high

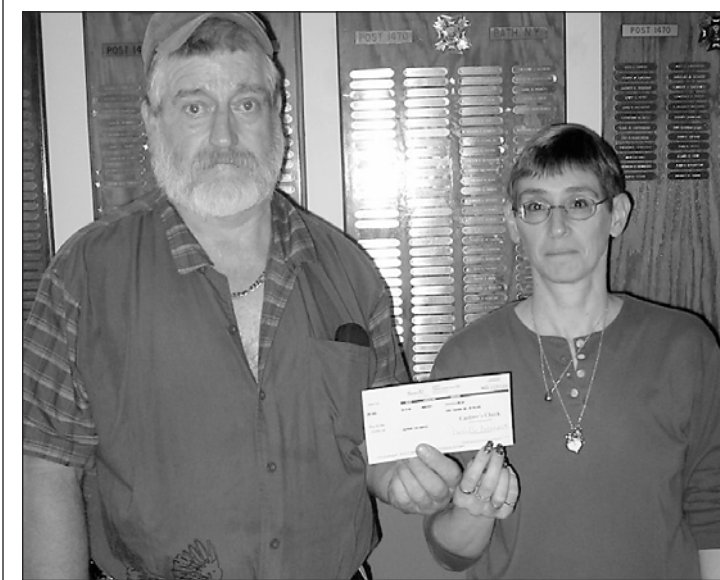
school, middle school, intermediate school and elementary school, seven parents, between four and six business leaders, two senior citizens, two teachers each from the elementary, middle, intermediate and high schools, three special area teachers, four teaching assistants, seven support staff, five community members, seven at-large members and two others to be determined later.

Only five slots have already been filled on the team. Board president and vice president Brian Lynch and Mike Buck will represent the school board, while Alice Learn, Judy Christiansen and Mike Stuart will represent the central administration.

The rest of the team will be filled in a variety of ways. The

SEE STRATEGIZE | 5A

BATH VFW REMEMBERS BRACE



PROVIDED TO THE LEADER

The Bath VFW recently gave a \$3,000 donation to Southern Tier Hospice in honor the late Rusty Brace, a member of the War Dads division. The check was presented by his wife Julie Brace and current War Dads' president, Jerry Woodworth, above. "We are so proud to be able to help a wonderful organization like Hospice in memory of my husband," Julie Brace said.

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