

DEATH NOTICES

Stephanie A. Kay

NEW YORK CITY | Stephanie Ann Kay, 76, of Horseheads, died Sunday, Aug. 24, 2008 at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital.

Survivors include her husband, John "Kack" Kay; three daughters, Deborah Mabie of Columbia, S.C., Susan Swartwood of Horseheads, Stephanie Neder of Penfield; a son, John Kay of Blossvale; a brother, Ronald Moses of Saranac Lake; a sister, Pat Martello of Horseheads.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. today at Sullivan's Funeral Home, 365 Franklin St., Horseheads.

Burial will be in Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Elmira at the convenience of the family.

Kyle Wesley Rowe

CORNING | Kyle Wesley Rowe, 20, of Rafferty Road, Painted Post, died Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2008 at his grand-

mother's home.

Survivors include his father Harry Linwood Rowe Jr.; his mother, Rebecca Fairchild Rowe; a sister, Sara (Sadie) Lynn Rowe of Painted Post; a paternal grandmother, Mildred Rowe of Corning; a maternal grandmother, Janet Fairchild.

Calling hours are 5-7 p.m. Saturday at Carpenter's Funeral Home, 14 E. Pulteney St.

Services will be held there at the conclusion of calling hours at 7 p.m.

Ruth M. Whitfied

HORSEHEADS | Ruth M. Whitfied, 87, of Gardner Road, Horseheads, died Thursday, Aug. 21, 2008.

She is survived by nieces and nephews.

Calling hours are 3-4 p.m. Friday at Barber Funeral Home.

Services will be held there at the conclusion of calling hours at 4 p.m.

TODAY'S EVENTS

Health

■ **STD/ HIV clinic** | 9-11 a.m., Steuben County Public Health and Nursing Services, 3 E Pulteney Square, Bath. 664-2438.

■ **Blood pressure clinic** | Noon-1 p.m., Steuben County Public Health and Nursing Services, 3 E Pulteney Square, Bath. 664-2438.

■ **HIV testing/ STD clinic** | 9-11 a.m., 1-4 p.m., Chemung County Health Department, 103 Washington St., Elmira. 737-2028.

■ **Dental clinic** | 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Chemung County Health Department, 103 Washington St., Elmira. For Chemung County residents who are Medicaid recipients. 737-2870.

■ **Health and dental services to the uninsured** | 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, Health Ministry of the Southern Tier, 300 Nasser Civic Center Plaza, Suite 230, Corning. Services also offered in Bath, Watkins Glen and Elmira. Call for appointment, 962-2032.

Support groups

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous, United Sobriety** | Noon, Christ Episcopal Church, 39 E First St., Corning. www.ny-aa.org or (877) 501-1249.

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous, Big Book** | 7 p.m., Presbyterian Church, Pulteney Square, Bath. www.ny-aa.org or (877) 700-4199.

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous, Happiness** | 8:30 p.m., Presbyterian Church, Pulteney Square, Bath. www.ny-aa.org or (877) 700-4199.

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous, Fresh Start** | 7:30 p.m., Building 104, Room A-205, Bath VA Medical Center. www.ny-aa.org or (877) 700-4199.

Blood drive

■ **Athens Township Fire Dept.** | 1-6 p.m. American Red The Sullivan Trail Chapter. 1-800-439-3317.

MASSA

Continued from 3A

have lost their jobs due to companies moving overseas.

Massa said he modeled his plan after a program in Rhode Island that allows displaced workers to attend any college class free of charge if that class does not have full enrollment.

Massa also advocated investing in infrastructure and expanding New York's Empire Zones. He proposed beginning by offering tax incentives for research and development in the biofuel industry.

The final component of Massa's economic package was adopting a single-payer health care system, which

would reduce the cost to American companies.

Massa said he would pay for these programs partially by ending subsidies to oil companies and businesses that outsource American jobs.

"We have to stop giving tax cuts to companies who move jobs overseas and give tax incentives to countries that create jobs here in America," Massa said. "That's part of a business environment that must be created which favors Americans first."

Massa also said the government should stop spending taxpayer dollars on the rebuilding of Iraq and instead focus on domestic infrastructure improvements.

STRATEGIZE

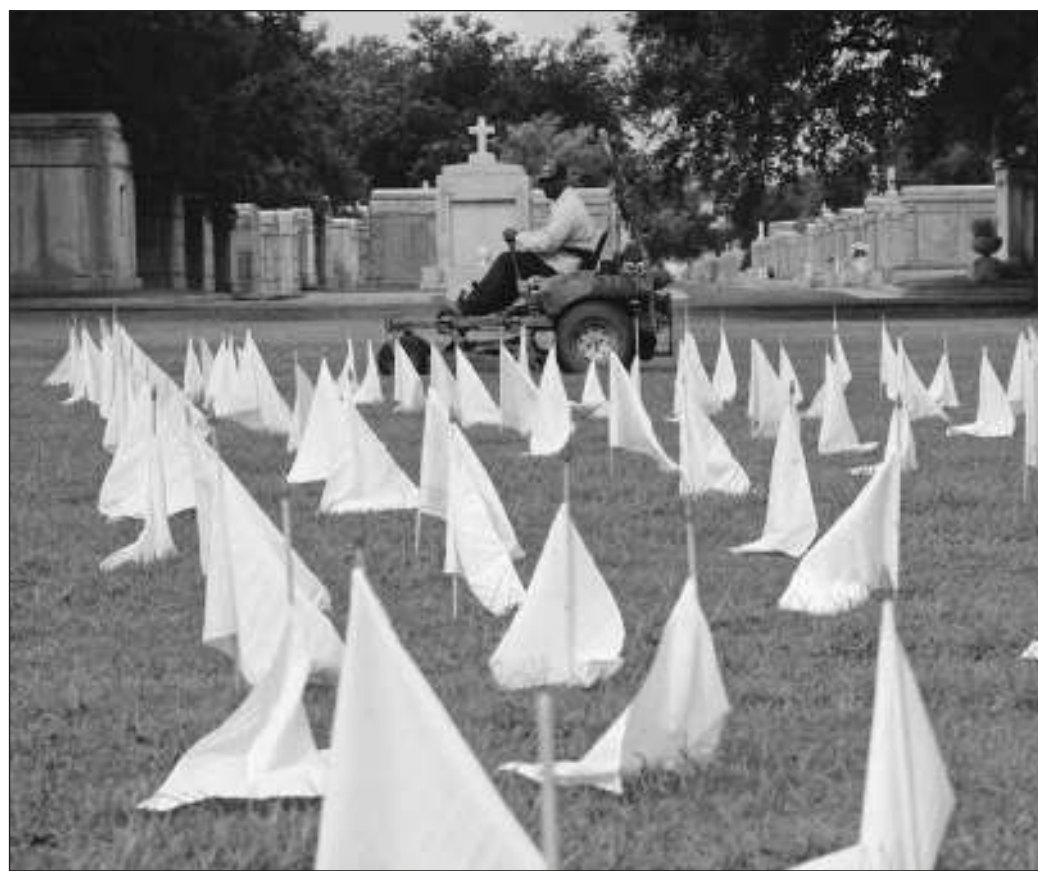
Continued from 3A

district administrator's union will chose the administrators, the teachers union will chose the teachers and each board member will choose one at-large board member.

The community and business representatives will be chosen from a list of volunteers.

"We'll be doing press releases and a mass mailing seeking people who would be interested in being on the core team or a task force," Marino said. "We'll ask them to send a letter of interest. We may have them do a little application. We're not sure what it will look like at this point."

Marino said the district will convene between six and eight task forces covering areas the core team feel need



Reginald Lee cuts grass around white flags that represent people who died during Hurricane Katrina at Metairie Cemetery in New Orleans.

GUSTAV

Continued from 1A

in 14 feet of floodwater when Katrina hit. Fuselier said she's been back in her home one year this month, and called watching Gustav swirl toward the Gulf of Mexico indescribable. "I keep thinking, 'Did the Corps fix the levees?' 'Is my house going to flood again?' ... 'Am I going to have to go through all this again?'"

Taking no chances, city officials began preliminary planning to evacuate and lock down the city in hopes of avoiding the catastrophe that followed the 2005 storm. Mayor Ray Nagin left the Democratic National Convention in Denver to return home for the preparations. Gov. Bobby Jindal declared a state of emergency to lay the groundwork for federal assistance, and put 3,000 National Guard troops on standby.

If a Category 3 or stronger hurricane comes within 60 hours of the city, New Orleans plans to institute a mandatory evacuation order. Unlike Katrina, there will be no massive shelter at the Superdome, a plan designed to encourage residents to leave. Instead, the state has arranged for buses and trains to take people to safety.

It was unclear what would happen to stragglers. Jerry Sneed, the city's emergency preparedness director, said officials are ready to move about 30,000 people. Nearly 8,000 people had signed up for transportation help by

late Wednesday.

At a suburban Lowe's store, employees said portable generators, gasoline cans, bottled water and batteries were selling briskly. Hotels across south Louisiana reported taking many reservations as coastal residents looked inland for possible refuge.

Steve Weaver, 82, and his wife stayed for Katrina – and were plucked off the roof of their house by a Coast Guard helicopter. This time, Weaver has no inclination to ride out the storm.

"Everybody learned a lesson about staying, so the highways will be twice as packed this time," Weaver said.

Katrina struck New Orleans on Aug. 29, 2005, and its storm surge blasted through the levees that protect the city. Eighty percent of the city was flooded.

Though pockets of the New Orleans are well on the way to recovery, many neighborhoods have struggled to recover. Many residents still live in temporary trailers, and shuttered homes still bear the 'X' that was painted to help rescue teams looking for the dead.

Many people never returned, and the city's population, around 310,000 people, is roughly two-thirds what it was before the storm, though various estimates vary wildly.

Since the storm, the Army Corps of Engineers has spent billions of dollars to improve the levee system, but because of two quiet hurricane seasons, the flood walls have never been tested.

BUDGET

Continued from 1A

The Medicaid cap was set up in 2004 by Gov. George Pataki after an intense lobbying effort by taxpayers.

Before the cap, the cost of the low-income health entitlement program had received 50 percent of its funding from the federal government, with the state and counties splitting the remaining 50 percent equally.

By the early 2000s, the counties' portion of Medicaid payments amounted to more than half their tax levy, cutting local services and driving several counties in the state to the brink of insolvency. Leaders also bitterly complained they had no say in what state-mandated programs they were forced to provide.

When a galvanized public, organized locally as Project STORM, demanded reform from their state representatives, a cap limiting annual Medicaid increases to roughly 3 percent was put into place.

A similar situation is shaping up now, many leaders say, with the state attempting to balance its budget by shifting the cost of unwanted programs onto the counties. The result will be higher taxes and less local service.

FATHER

Continued from 1A

said. He was not at home at the time of the alleged assault, she said.

Kristy Van Etten, 27, has pleaded not guilty to second-degree manslaughter, a crime punishable by up to 15 years in state prison. She

allegedly shook the boy, causing the injuries that led to his death, the prosecution contends.

The firm of BetzJitomir and Baxter is also representing Kristy Van Etten.

"We believe she's factually innocent," as well," BetzJitomir said last week.

Floodgates have been installed on drainage canals to stop any storm surge from entering the city, and levees have been raised and in many places strengthened with concrete.

Robert Turner Jr., the regional levee director, said the levee system can handle a storm with the likelihood of occurring every 30 years, what the corps calls a 30-year storm. By comparison, Katrina was a 396-year storm. Gustav formed Monday and roared ashore Tuesday as a Category 1 hurricane near the southern Haitian city of Jacmel with top winds near 90 mph, toppling palm trees and flooding the city's Victorian buildings.

The storm triggered flooding and landslides that killed 23 people in the Caribbean. It weakened into a tropical storm and appeared headed for Cuba, though it is likely to grow stronger in the coming days by drawing energy from warm open water.

Scientists cautioned that the storm's track and intensity were difficult to predict several days in advance.

But in New Orleans, there was little else to do except prepare as if it were Katrina. The Louisiana Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was set to begin moving animals inland to shelters in Baton Rouge on Thursday, and more would go to Texas shelters on Friday and Saturday.

"We definitely don't want to wait until Saturday or Sunday to decide what to do," said Ana Zorrilla, director of the pet-rescue group.

"What was so successful about that was letting the people know," Roche said. "We need to educate our voters, allow people to connect the true dots."

There is no doubt cuts need to be made in order for the state's fiscal crisis needs to be solved, said Schuyler County Administrator Timothy Hern.

"We need to be at the table, we need to be as proactive as we can be," Hern said. "But look at (budget) cuts instead of shifts ... spending is too high at all levels, and we need to do something about it."

Hern said his county would consider a Project STORM-like initiative, and said public information is vital as the process goes forward.

"And nobody can lead the charge better than Tom Santulli," Hern said.

Something must be done to get and hold state leaders' attention, Alger said.

Adding to local taxpayers' costs is unacceptable and could force many in the state to move away, he said.

"Well, that is, the people who can afford to," he said, ironically. "The guys working in (a factory)? They'd be stuck."

Gotti's mom dies in Long Island at 96

THE ASSOCIATE PRESS

NEW YORK | Philomena Gotti, whose brood of 13 children included Gambino crime family kingpin John Gotti and four other sons with mob ties, has died at age 96.

She died Tuesday night at her Long Island home, said Charles Carnesi, a lawyer for her grandson John "Junior" Gotti. Her death came a day before the grandson, the son of John Gotti, was to answer federal racketeering charges in Tampa, Fla.

Newsday, which first reported the death on its Web site, quoted relatives as saying it was from natural causes.

Philomena Gotti, known as Fanny, was born near Naples, Italy, where she married John J. Gotti Sr. They moved to the United States in the 1920s, living first in the Bronx and later in the Brooklyn neighborhood of East New York, where they produced 13 children in 16 years, according to "Mob Star," a 1988 book by Jerry Capezi, an authority on organized crime in New York. John J. Gotti Sr. died in 1992.

Son John Gotti, their fifth child, earned notoriety for scheming and murdering his way to the top of the Gambino family in the mid-1980s. His key move was the 1985 assassination of then-Gambino boss Paul Castellano outside a midtown Manhattan steakhouse.

OBITUARIES

DOROTHY M. "BABE" SEYMOUR

CORNING, NY | Dorothy M. "Babe" Seymour, age 87, of Dayspring II in Corning, NY died Monday, August 25, 2008 at Founders Pavilion in Corning.

Dorothy was born on April 28, 1921 in Wellsboro, PA to Floyd and Bertha (Copp) Burrell. She married Leon Seymour in 1942 and was preceded in death by him in 1963. She loved her family greatly, and loved to hear about their adventures and vacations with pictures and stories.

She is survived by three daughters, Patricia Magee of Corning, Judith Ruocco of Corning, and Linda (James) Austin of Corning; sister, Mildred Gill of Addison; 15 grandchildren; several great grandchildren; three great great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sons Mark and David Seymour.

Calling hours will be held on Thursday August 28, 2008 from 11 until 12 Noon at Phillips Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 17 W. Pulteney Street in Corning where funeral services will follow at Noon with Rev. Richard Leupold officiating. Burial will be in Shumway Hill Cemetery, Wellsboro, PA. Memorial donations may be made in Dorothy's name to the American Cancer Society, 1400 Winton Road North, Rochester, NY 14609-5896.



Acly-Stover
Funeral Home
Direct Cremation
\$1,173⁰⁰
936-9531
aclystoverfuneralhome.com

We want to thank the entire Founder's Pavilion Staff for their excellent care, passion and gentleness they gave our loved one and her family.

Sincere appreciation,
The family of
Dorothy Seymour

OBITUARY & DEATH NOTICE POLICY

- The Leader publishes death notices free of charge. Obituaries are paid advertisements.
- The deadline for death notices is 8 p.m. every day. They may be faxed to 936-9939. Death notices will only be accepted from funeral directors.
- Paid obituaries may be submitted:

Weekdays | Between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, by calling 936-4651.

Weekends and holidays | Between 9 a.m. and noon by calling 936-4651, Ext. 652.

■ Paid obituaries may also be faxed during the above hours to 962-0782.

■ To e-mail obituaries: c_service@the-leader.com