

Calendar of Events

Last Week: 9/28 Kristen Holler- Albany Barn -Community Arts Center and Incubator

This Week: 10/5 Alex Capo, The Charlton School

Next Week: 10/12 TBD

Note: Regular ZOOM meetings are held Monday Evenings at 6:00 pm. Check your e-mail for ID# and Password, as well as the phone number you can use to phone in if using your cell phone to participate.

*Please give suggestions for future programs to Dan Stec
Find us at bhblrotary.org and on Facebook*

“Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves”.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The meeting opened with **“The Five Way Test.”**
- Mary Anderson announced that there will be a TIB fall clean-up work party on October 17. An email has been sent with the work assignments. A new TIB project at the CHS/CAPTAIN planter was started on October 3. The planter was originally built with the help of Bill Lonergan and his son.
- Mary reported that our gift for seniors' project at the Saratoga Nursing Center with the help of Val and Marie Mosier is on track.
- The Glenville & Scotia Rotary Clubs are looking for volunteers to help build a pavilion at Indian Meadows Park. Please contact Silas if interested.
- Gini Whetten showed slides of cards she has created for the Nursing Home Card project and that the cards may be dropped off at Gil's Garage. She volunteered to deliver them to the Saratoga Nursing Center when 25 or more cards are ready. 35 are currently ready.
- Gini reminded us about the Book Drive for our troops. A collection box is in the vestibule of Gil's Garage- Thanks Mike!
- Dan Stec announced that the December Holiday party is cancelled due to member concerns about the COVID19 virus. Greg said that we may try to do something on ZOOM to keep the Holiday spirit.
- Mike Brewster collected Happy Dollars in his usual cheerful way.

CHARLTON SCHOOL

Alex Capo

Greg introduced our speaker, Alex Capo, Executive Director of the Charlton School. Alex refreshed our memory that the school is a not-for-profit residential treatment center and special education school for girls in the 8th to 12th grades. They have a maximum capacity of 25 residential students and 38 students in the Ketchum Grande Memorial School which includes day students from local school districts. The school's vision is to “be a leader in facilitating meaningful positive change in the lives of students & their families who are struggling with mental health.” The school's mission is: To provide a therapeutic learning community utilizing evidence-based, individual clinical & educational services, with a goal of helping students & their families successfully navigate adolescence & achieve improved mental health.

As the school enters its 125th year they are embarking on a 20-year plan to reshape the physical campus. All of the departments from building and grounds, clinical team, educational team, residential team, administration and the Board of Trustees were consulted and submitted their ideas of what the campus should be like in the next 20 years. The first phase was to rehabilitate the therapeutic arts space which is located in the chapel building. The building now has improved internal lighting as well increased natural light from new replacement windows, bathroom facilitates, work stations and appropriate storage cabinets, ventilation system for the new kiln and a new heat & air conditioning system. The stained-glass windows from the chapel have been returned to the family who originally donated them.

The new plan calls for a reconfiguration of building uses as well as new buildings. The school does not want to have public-school type buildings. Four new student residential cottages, a new building & grounds facility, a new dining hall & kitchen (students currently eat in the residence cottages) & a new health & welfare facility will be built. The current family-connection cottage which houses family members who are visiting or families who are learning about the school for their daughter will be upgraded. The current administration building will be converted to a 2nd family connection facility. A track & physical exercise facility will be built.

Alex thanked Silas and Schrader & Company for all their innovative & skilled work done to bring the therapeutic art facility into the 21st century. The school has been able to remain open during the current COVID19 pandemic. The family cottage has been utilized for Covid quarantine after home visits.