

Historic Farming Community Moving Forward

Scholarships Awarded to Three Ancram Youth

"Good things are happening in Ancram!"

The future has always been up to us, and now we are all getting there together!"

*-Art Bassin
Ancram Supervisor*

Neighbors Helping Neighbors recently awarded three \$1,000 scholarships to Ancram students attending a college or vocational school. Scholarships may be used for books, clothing, transportation, or food.

Alissa Cleveland, attends Columbia Greene Community College as a full-time student where she majors in Psychology with a focus in English.



Jane Shannon photo

Her work experience at the Copake Park Program and as a dance coach led her to the decision that she wants to help young people learn and grow.

Alissa, daughter of Sharon Cleveland, plans to spend

her Neighbors scholarship for books and gas.

Alissa works part-time at the Hylton-Hundt salon.

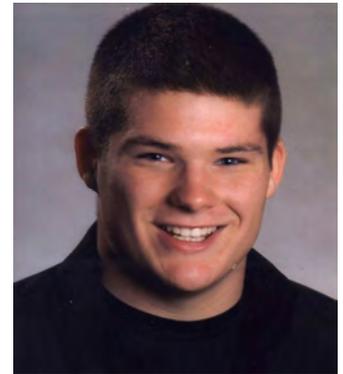
Alyssa DeRocha also attends Columbia Greene, where she is focusing on Psychology and Criminal Justice. Her goal in life is to help people in need, specifically veterans and/or inmates with psychological problems.



Photographics

Her parents, Lisa and Michael DeRocha, are extremely proud that Alyssa graduated from Taconic Hills having already earned college credits from the school and Columbia Greene toward eventually receiving her degree.

Travis MacDonald, with his Columbia Greene associate's degree, has gone on to SUNY Cortland for a



degree in Exercise Science.

He noted in his grant application that he grew up in a one-parent household where his mom raised four sons. "I applaud my mom, Terry MacDonald, for all that she has done for me," Travis says, "but I am responsible for funding my own college education."

He thanks the Neighbors organization for recognizing the importance of education and the financial hardship associated with it.

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Kids Sell Lemonade To Give Back to Community

Harrison Brooks, age 8, and his sister Ava, age 6 3/4, hosted a "free" lemonade stand on Labor Day weekend at the Rhoda Lake Association softball game. They thought it would be fun to have a lemonade stand, not to make money for themselves, but to help people.

Their grandparents, Ancram residents Erma and Bob Bressler, suggested they donate their earnings to Ancramdale Neighbors Helping Neighbors., a non-profit organization serving Ancram individuals and families.

Both Harrison and Ava have attended the Ancram Kids' Camp the past three summers, and they look forward to many summers at the camp, eventually as counselors. The children are the fourth generation of one family of Rhoda Lake Association residents.





**Jeannette & Perry Rol-
lins hosted the first
exhibition of Ancram
artists at their historic
home in the center of
Ancram, 2405 Route
82, right across from the
Simons General Store.**

This 3-story 1860's house was a major part of the exhibition. It has been renovated solely by Perry, a builder and artist himself.

The visitor enters into a cozy room that was a tavern in the Civil War era, shown below. Perry is standing among a sample of his own artwork behind the original walnut bar, now restored. You can see just a corner of the painted, decorated floor, typical of the period. In the original building, the Butcher Shop was just in the next room!



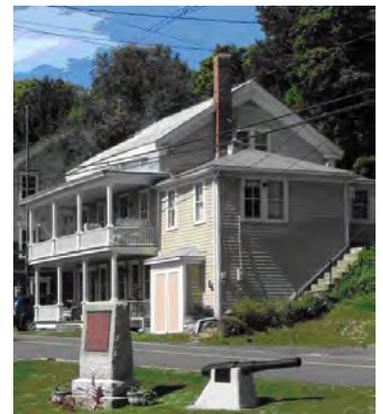
Two visitors look over prints in the study. Other artists on display were Cathy Ames, Betzie Bendis,



Keith Bendis, Rafael Barrios, Bob Blechman, Stanley Boxer, Karen Caldicott, Salvador Contreras, Gary Cosby, B Docktor, Barbara Graham, Pat Green, Nick Nickerson, Hal Reiff, Martin Rollins, Morgan Rollins, Nancy Rutter, Steve Sorman, Alice Storm, Margarita Viana, and Joyce Weinstein. To view the house and exhibition, call Perry or Jeannette at 518-329-0405.

Perry's handiwork with antique woods and floor treatments is also on display in the Historic Vestibule in Town Hall, now featuring the "Rail Tales" Exhibition.

Perry worked with artist Lynne Perrella to create a unique exhibition space for special educational displays drawn from Ancram's historic archives.



Have you noticed the bright green box on a post outside the main entrance to Town Hall?

It's Ancram's **Little Free Library**, a gift from the Friends of the RoeJan Community Library. Both adult and children's books are free. You don't even need a library card. You can borrow and return, or keep the book, or take one and leave one. Have a look.



Pictured at the installation L to R: Art Bassin, Ancram Supervisor, Carol Briggs, RoeJan Library Director, Pat Placona, President Board of Trustees, David Graefe who made and installed the Little Library, Madeleine Israel, Ancram Town Board, and Monica Cleveland, Ancram Town Clerk.



In July, the Ancram Preservation Group (APG), the Youth Commission, and Kids' Camp came together to create a children's workshop teaching the 19th century art of silhouette making. The project took place at Town Hall.

In total, over 40 children participated in the event. Each painted a window panel with their profile image. Panels were staged along the side of Town Hall to dry. Below, Erin Mortenson admires her handiwork.

The painted panels now decorate the temporary window covers



on 1850's Stiehle House while it undergoes stabilization and repair, photo below right.

The APG is raising money to restore the house to benefit the community, helping to improve and preserve the hamlet's historic townscape.

"I am inspired by our ability to work together to make our community better for everyone," said Ruth Thomas, Kids' Camp Director.

Jack Lindsey and Bob Murphy, proprietors of Doodletown Farm, an antiques business in Ancram, are regular vol-



unteers at community activities in town.

"We came away from the first day of the silhouette project with a profound sense of the care, professionalism, and dedication Ruth and her staff put into Ancram's Summer Camp," said Jack.

"It's wonderful they are participating in this little hopeful project with an open mind and giving heart."

Ruth's counselors were Nikki Lengyel, Sarah Mason, Samantha Mason, Tyler Lydon, and Michelle Kostszewski.

"I love working with children," says Ruth.

"Today, we had a little girl, who is so adorable with long curly hair, burst out with joy and excitement of the camp" Ruth wrote in an email.

"She started singing the song from the movie 'Frozen' ...*Let It Go*... her hands flying through the air, singing at the top of her lungs."

"In a minute, we had 5 other younger campers singing the song with her. It's truly inspirational to see that kind of magic!" said Ruth.

How the silhouettes were made:

Each child's shadow is projected and traced onto paper. Below, Collin Mayhew sits for Steve Sorman, artist/teacher/APG member, while Julian Perez looks on.



The methods were the same as in the 19th century, except a lantern would have been the light source.

The silhouette is cut out and used as a template. Willa Spencer, rolled on the black paint to make her own "window pane", below.



The final windows, with four silhouettes each, were assembled and installed as window covers which you can see now on the historic Stiehle house in the center of Ancram.

Each child received a paper version of their silhouette suitable for framing and a specially produced coloring book about Ancram's history to take home.

Oct 2014 TownNews

Got some news?
Contact Art Bassin
Town Supervisor
329-0921
abassin@aol.com

Getting your news by
email saves the town
money and keeps you
more up-to-date.
Contact Madeleine Israel
to make the change,
329-7483
airjazz@taconic.net



B.Docktor

The Ancram Fire Company proudly marked their 75th Anniversary with a Parade & Celebration, Saturday July 12, 2014. Here are members in their “dress best” marching up Route 7—the parade route was from Town Hall to the Fire House—followed by their brand new hose truck.

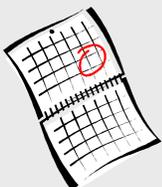
The party was held in the newly expanded and renovated fire house, replicated as the delicious dessert made by Donna Hoyt, shown below!

The Fire Company covers one of the largest districts in the county, even though it is one of the smallest. It is the first called to Ancram and part of Gallatin, and regularly supports Copake, Hillsdale, Taghonic, and Pine Plains. The company answers over 120 calls a year with its 35 active members, and has 30 social members in addition. *B Docktor photos.*



Community Calendar

Oct—Dec 2014



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|--------|------|---|
| Oct 21 | Tues | Fire District Budget Public Hearing, Fire House. |
| Oct 25 | Sat | Halloween Party, Ancramdale Church Fellowship Hall, 7 pm. Everybody is welcome at this 60-year tradition! Costume awards, games, piñata, refreshments. All ages. |
| Oct 25 | Sat | Friends Book Shop at the Roe Jan Library open 10-2. Rte. 22, Hillsdale. Thousands of books, DVDs, CDs available at bargain prices. 518-325-4101 for more information. |
| Nov 3 | Mon | Conservation Advisory Council, Town Hall, 7 pm. |
| Nov 4 | Tues | Election Day. |
| Nov 20 | Thu | Town Board Meeting at Town Hall, 7 pm. |
| Dec 1 | Mon | Conservation Advisory Council, Town Hall, 7 pm. |
| Dec 9 | Tue | Fire District Commissioner Election. All registered voters participate. Fire House. |
| Dec 18 | Thu | Town Board Meeting at Town Hall, 7 pm. |