

VARNA NEWS

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2010

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT "FRACKING?" ??

Recently, yard signs with a NO FRACK message have been popping up in Varna and nearby communities. Fracking (actually, hydrofracking) refers to a method of extracting natural gas from the Marcellus Shale region. While there is a substantial supply of natural gas in the shale layers under a wide area of Ohio, West Virginia Pennsylvania and New York (including Tompkins

County), there are many concerns about commercial extraction of that natural resource. Cornell Cooperative Extension offers resources for land-owners at their website: www.ccetompkins.org/current.htm#NaturalGas Additional information and listings of local events can be found at: www.shaleshock.org

The VCA Annual Meeting has been scheduled for **Monday May 10, 2010 at 7:30 PM.** This meeting will take place at the Varna Community Center, 943 Dryden Rd.



30 MPH SPEED LIMIT APPROVED

Good News!, The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) has approved changing the speed limit on Rt 366 to 30 mph.! The change will be made from Game Farm Road to the railroad underpass. Sheriff Peter Meskill has said that his department can put up speed trail-

ers once the new signs are up, to help drivers notice the new limit.

Thank you to everyone who wrote, called, and e-mailed NYSDOT for your advocacy in getting them to take a look at Dryden Rd.! To have the speed limit lowered by that much says that they understood how inappropriate the cur-

rent speed is (We knew it all along!).

Next stop, sidewalks and curbs? Hey, if we can get 30 mph, we can do anything!

Happy 2010 to everyone!

Martha Robertson-Chair, Tompkins County Legislature and Legislator, Town of Dryden

Pancake Breakfast to benefit Haitian Orphanage

The VCA Board of Directors voted to donate the profits from the February Pancake Breakfast to the **Post Cazeau Orphanage, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.**

The Orphanage which serves more than 150 children who are physically and mentally challenged was destroyed in the January 2010 earthquakes. Helen Larkin, has been a missionary, working with this orphanage for over 25 years. She is the sister of Dawn Potter. She reports that the staff and children have been moved to an unfinished building outside the city that is structurally sound.

In addition, there will be a donation jar available for any additional support you wish to give. An anonymous donor has offered to match the donations up to a total of \$200.

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HISTORICAL HAMLET ANECDOTES - MARY POTTER

CUB SCOUT PACK 55 Dinner

February 26, 2010
5 PM until gone

Proceeds will be used to defray the cost of a pack field trip to the Naval Museum in Buffalo NY, May 2010 Features: Spaghetti with homemade sauce, meatballs, Salad, Bread, Beverage, Dessert.

**Cost is \$7 adult,
\$4 children 6-12,
5 and under free**

Winter and Taxes in Varna

The area was building up fairly fast by the mid-1800s. Many of the homes dated to the early 1800s. The "Taneran" believed to be one of the earliest homes with post and beam construction.

In January of 1883, one of the families owning property and a home in Varna was the Crutts family. E. Crutts owned 118 acres, and paid a total tax on his land that year in the amount of \$31.93, not including his house. W. Crutts owned 113 acres and paid \$29.63, M.C. Crutts owned 46 acres

and paid \$19.07 in taxes. And the Crutts Brothers owned 40 acres and paid \$6.69 in taxes. Merenus Crutts was the tax collector and owned one of the large grist mills in the center of the hamlet.

In an old journal, one page stood out, and has been of great interest to me. It reads, "We the undersigned, do promise to pay the sum opposite your name to purchase a Christmas present for Harry Grover in appreciation of our good works." There were 19 names listed, each to pay 25¢ to the fund. On checking, one person paid 10¢ and one person did not pay as

promised. It was not stated what the gift was or how much it cost.

Mr. Grover lived in the center of Varna with his wife and adopted daughter, Daisy, in a large house with white picket fence, and a hexagonal barn. In 1972, the barn would have perished in the flood if not for the aide of Alton Reed, from Turkey Hill Road, who brought his tractors, heavy ropes and chains, and worked with some of the other men to keep the barn from going over the bank into Fall Creek. This style of barn is rare and not seen very often.

VCA SPAGHETTI DINNER

3/27/10
4PM TILL GONE

SPAGHETTI,
HOMEMADE
SAUCE AND
MEATBALLS,
SALAD, BREAD,
BEVERAGE AND
DESSERT.

**ADULTS \$6,
CHILDREN 6-12
\$3 AND 5 &
UNDER FREE.**

2ND ANNUAL FATHER/DAUGHTER VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

This event will take place, Saturday, February 13, 2010 at the Varna Community Center 943 Dryden Rd.

The dance will be from 6:00 pm -7:30 pm

Tickets are \$8.00 in advance or \$10.00 at the door. This event is sponsored by Dryden Recreation.

Advance Tickets may be purchased at Dryden Town Hall, or at www.dryden.ny.us/recreation and are also available by mail.

Attire is formal and fun. A photo of each couple is included in the ticket price and will be emailed after the event.

Refreshments, entertainment and fun are

also included. Open to Dad's, step dads, grandpas and uncles (or legal guardians)! A "father" with more than one daughter will not be charged an additional fee.

We hope to see you there!

CHAIR'S CORNER - ART BERKEY

Cooperative efforts between the Varna Church and the VCA continue with Sue and Kim Simmons, and Bill and Pattie Mahler co-chairing a very successful December holiday party including Santa arriving on the Varna Fire Company truck.

Thanks are due to Wendy Hoose and Dawn Potter for co-chairing the January chowder buffet. Cub Scout with Kim Simmons leader are increasing activities with a scheduled breakfast and craft fair.

The public celebration to christen the new generator funded by a member grant from NYS Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton scheduled for December is being rescheduled due to the special budget session in Albany. The January VCA Board of Directors meeting included a presentation by Gregg Cotterill of the Ithaca American Red Cross on training of VCA Volunteers needed for the VCA to qualify as an emergency center. The VCA is again funding a \$250 scholarship for a Varna area stu-

dent enrolled at TC-3. The VCA has also donated \$200 to the Ithaca DeWitt Middle School in support of their back-pack program. The VCA kitchen now has three renters and liaisons for each have been appointed to provide coordination and communication.

As always, thanks are due to the many volunteers whose dedicated efforts make possible the many activities of the VCA.

Best wishes to all for the New Year

VCA MID WINTER FLEA MARKET

Mid-Winter Flea Market at the Varna Community Center

Saturday, February 20, 2010 9 AM - 3 PM

Local vendors with a wide variety of wares including antiques, collectables, household items, tools, toys, books and much more.

Also a Multi-Prize Raffle of various items will be held.

Lunch served 11-2 PM.

Vendors wanted. Contact Dawn Potter at 273-1212 or dap4@cornell.edu to reserve a table.

Admission is free. The Varna Community Center is located at 943 Dryden Road, Route 366 in Varna. Watch for the signs.

P & C TO BE PURCHASED BY TOPS

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Wilmington, Delaware has approved the sale of Penn Traffic to TOPS for \$85 million.. This will slightly more than double the number of stores Tops owns and operates.

Sen. Charles Schumer has stated that the goal was to choose a bid that would save the greatest number of stores and jobs and that the court proceedings have been going as expected. While Tops Friendly

Markets employs more than 10,000 people, this offer would potentially save the jobs of 161 people locally. This is very welcome news. However, there remains much to be worked out. Tops is reporting that at least for now all of the stores would remain open, however, it is possible that some would fold if it is determined it is not financially prudent for them to remain open. One has to wonder if one of these stores would be the Cayuga

Mall store, which is located directly across from TOPS store on Triphammer Rd.

Frank Curci, TOPS CEO, stated to the Associated Press that TOPS expects to keep "the majority, if not all" of Penn Traffic's employees.

Mr. Curci also indicated while this acquisition would jump start TOPS growth, their goal was not to become the largest, but rather to

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FEBRUARY 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 <u>Ground Hog Day</u> Sr. OEC 12 PM AIKIDO 6 PM FENCING 5 PM	3 FENCING 5 PM	4 AIKIDO 6 PM AA 8 PM	5 AIKIDO 6 PM	6 PINOCHLE 7 PM
7	8	9 AIKIDO 6 PM FENCING 5 PM	10 FENCING 5 PM	11 AIKIDO 6 PM AA 8 PM	12 AIKIDO 6 PM	13 FATHER/ DAUGHTER VAL- ENTINE'S DANCE 6-7:30 PM
14 <u>Valentine's Day</u> P'CAKE BFAST 8AM - NOON	15 <u>President's Day</u>	16 Sr. DTP 12 PM AIKIDO 6 PM FENCING 5 PM	17 <u>Ash Wednesday</u> FENCING 5 PM	18 AIKIDO 6 PM AA 8 PM	19 AIKIDO 6 PM	20 FLEA MARKET 9 AM - 3 PM PINOCHLE 7 PM
21	22	23 AIKIDO 6 PM FENCING 5 PM	24 FENCING 5 PM	25 AIKIDO 6 PM AA 8 PM	26 Cub Scout Pack 55 SPAGHETTI DINNER 5 PM	27
28						

Sr. OEC Seniors Open Executive Meeting, Sr. DTP Seniors Dish to Pass

MARCH 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 2 Sr. OEC 12 PM AIKIDO 6 PM FENCING 5 PM	3 FENCING 5 PM	4 AIKIDO 6 PM AA 8 PM	5 AIKIDO 6 PM	6 PINOCHLE 7 PM
7	8	9 AIKIDO 6 PM FENCING 5 PM	10 FENCING 5 PM	11 AIKIDO 6 PM AA 8 PM	12 AIKIDO 6 PM	13
14 <u>Daylight Savings Time Begins</u> P'CAKE BFAST 8AM-NOON BOD MTG 3PM	15	16 Sr. DTP 12 PM AIKIDO 6 PM FENCING 5 PM	17 <u>St. Patrick's Day</u> FENCING 5 PM	18 AIKIDO 6 PM AA 8 PM	19 AIKIDO 6 PM	20 <u>Spring</u> PINOCHLE 7 PM
21	22	23 AIKIDO 6 PM FENCING 5 PM	24 FENCING 5 PM	25 AIKIDO 6 PM AA 8 PM	26 AIKIDO 6 PM	27 VCA Spaghetti Dinner 4 PM
28 <u>Palm Sunday</u>	29	30 AIKIDO 6 PM FENCING 5 PM	31 FENCING 5 PM			

Sr. OEC Seniors Open Executive Meeting, Sr. DTP Seniors Dish to Pass

Breakfast to Benefit Haitian Orphanage Continued

In addition to cash donations the orphanage has a wish list of badly needed items. These items can be left at the VCA or pick up can be arranged by calling Dawn & Geoff Potter at 273-1212.

Money, wheelchairs, canes, crutches, First Aid supplies for children and adults (**unexpired** OTC medicines, pain & fever reducers, ointments, cough and cold remedies, bandages, ace bandages, gauze, sponges, tapes) vitamins, cotton balls, baby powder, wipes light weight blankets, small pillows, toiletries, bar soaps toothbrushes, toothpaste, all sizes children's light-weight clothing in good repair, hats scarves, ball caps, powdered Gatorade and baby formula. fabric, yard goods and grain grinders are also needed

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SAFE DISPOSITION OF MEDICATION AND MEDICAL SHARPS

Here's your opportunity to "safely dispose of outdated medication and medical sharps."

March 6, 2010, 10 am to 3 pm at the TCAT Building, 737 Willow Ave, Ithaca NY 14850

How does it work?

This is a drive-through event. Drive to the TCAT building with your outdated medications and medical sharps (such as needles and lancets) and hand them off to a collection agent. Your outdated

medicines and sharps will be inventoried by licensed personnel. Law enforcement officials will be on hand to oversee all collections. Everything will be safely transferred to incineration facilities to be destroyed.

An official flyer for this event is currently being prepared. Watch for it in local newspapers and on bulletin boards around the county.

This event has been jointly planned by a va-

riety of organizations in Tompkins County, including the Health Department, Sheriff's Department, and Solid Waste Management Division. Future collections are being planned.

PROTECT OUR DRINKING WATER -- DON'T FLUSH DRUGS!

PROTECT YOURSELF & OTHERS -- DON'T PUT NEEDLES IN THE TRASH!

Health Kits

The Varna United Methodist Church has announced a Health Kit Drive as their part in the Haitian Relief effort.

In a 1 gallon ziplock bag please place the following items.

1 hand towel (no kitchen towels,) 1 washcloth, 1 large & sturdy comb, (no pocket sized,) 1 nail file or finger nail clippers (no emery boards or toe nail clippers,) 1 bath size bar of soap, 1 adult sized toothbrush wrapped in manufacturer's packaging, 6 bandaids and \$1.00 to cover the cost of toothpaste. Anyone wishing to help can drop these off at the church, 965 Dryden Rd.

P & C CONTINUED

become the best supermarket. Becoming a larger company will allow TOPS better leverage in many areas while utilizing a more flexible form enabling the company to conform to any size market. Mr. Curci seems confident that TOPS Friendly Markets understands both the Penn Traffic Stores and their customers. This is because of their comparable company sizes and geographical proximity to the Penn Traffic Market.

US Senator. Charles Schumer negotiated with Penn Traffic's

largest creditor, GE Capital, for an extension of their original December 21, 2008 deadline. This extension enabled TOPS and Price Chopper to submit offers.

What this means to our community is that we will continue to have a local grocery that is open 24 hours. Considering as a community we were faced with having no local market, working through the transition period, should be a walk in the park.

VVFC NEWS - DUANE TESTUT & WENDY HOOSE

Here we are over ten years after Y2K - can you believe it? So many things are different and yet so much is the same. Thankfully, volunteerism is still thriving in our community. The Company met the goal of recruiting seven new responding members during 2009. The new members are Joe Lalley, Frank and Edith Alo, Kevin Hastings III, Douglas Morin, Cody Zahler and Martha Maloney Huss, If you know any of these and think, "If they can do it, so could I," then just do it. Come over to the fire station on 14 Turkey Hill Road any Thursday evening around 6:30 PM.

Recent Individual accomplishments: Doug Morin and Dave Sprout have passed the NYS

Firefighter 1 Course with honorable mentions for their getting 100% on their exams. Vincent Monticello Jr., is the proud winner of this year's Chuckie Fletcher Award. This award is to honor Chuckie Fletcher a young firefighter with the Ithaca Fire Department who died at a young age but his memory remains, due to his love of life and desire to help others.

2009 was our busiest year yet with 334 calls. Emergency Medical Services calls still represent about 2/3 of these calls. The rest are structure fires, motor vehicle crashes, grass fires, false alarms and public assists. This past year saw a major purchase of a Philips Heart Start Monitor-

Defibrillator for our main rescue vehicle. Aside from being state-of-the-art, this means uninterrupted care of the patient when transferring from Varna Rescue to Dryden Ambulance for transport. The Company is rapidly advancing on it's goal of building the Bunk House in the back of the station by August 1st 2010. We received an excellent rating on our recent NYS Department of Health inspection and we are working on upgrading our level of care from Intermediate to Advanced Life Support, where we will be able to carry emergency drugs on our rescue vehicle to help better serve the community in which we live. Again, Thank You for your support and consider joining.

VARNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

February 17th will mark the beginning of Lent with an Ash Wednesday Service starting at 6:30 P.M. Following through Lent will then lead us to our Holy Week. April 1st will be our Maundy Thursday Service starting at 6:30 P.M., and

then the very next night which is Good Friday (April 2nd) our service also will start at 6:30 P.M. Our Easter Sunday Service will begin at 11:00 A.M. Please join us for this Holy Week or on any given Sunday. We welcome one and all. Still looking for more voices for our little choir that practices each Wednesday at 7 P.M. The only requisite is the desire to sing.

Breakfast to Benefit Haitian Orphanage Continued

Also needed are soft washable toys, matchbox cars, kites & string, deflated soccer and basket balls & large balloons, school supplies, pencils, paperback books. cloth diapers & pins, all sizes toddler & children's NEW underwear. Child's size 5 - Adult sized 5 flip flops, sandals and sneakers.

If you wish to donate any of these items, you can leave them at the Community Center 943 Dryden Rd. or call Dawn & Geoff Potter at 273-1212 and arrange for pick up. Thank you in advance for your support.

ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST BUFFET

The monthly pancake breakfast buffet has been averaging 90 - 100 customers each month. Thank you for your support! The breakfast is held on the 2nd Sunday each month September - May 8 AM - Noon.

Thanks to Sis Johnson, Pancake Breakfast Coordinator. If you would like to volunteer during one or more of our breakfast, please contact Sis at 272-6806

Upcoming Dates are February & March 14, 2010.

The menu includes, scrambled eggs, ham, bacon, fresh fruit, coffee cake, orange juice, coffee and your choice of pancakes or French toast.

Cost: \$6.00 Adults, \$5 Seniors, \$4 Children 5-12

Part time Census Workers Needed!

The US census bureau is looking for part time workers. \$10 - \$10.50/hr. Details available on the VCA website www.varnacomunityassociation.org

The test is being given at the VCA on select dates in February.

Graciously Accepting- Donations of 4 ply acrylic yarn can be dropped off at the Community Center. A group of volunteers are knitting hats for chemotherapy patients.

GOOD LUCK CUB SCOUT Pack 55!

In your efforts to raise the funds necessary for an overnight field trip to the Buffalo Naval Museum

Thank You NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

Thank you to those individuals and businesses who help defray the cost of producing Varna News. Charles Burda, Howard and Erica Evans, Mrs. Betty Griffin, John & Kathy Ludders, Mahler's Computer Service, Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Schaufler & Simon St. Laurent thank you for your contributions!

If you would like to be a part of this special group, send your tax deductible donation to **Varna Community Association c/o Newsletter sponsor PO Box 4771 Ithaca, NY, 14852-4771.**

2009 - 2010 VCA Board of Directors

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Thank you Chief Roy and Woody for ensuring Santa's safe arrival to the Community Holiday Party held on December 19, 2009. Approximately 50 people participated in the various activities offered.

Deadline for submissions for the April/ May Edition of Varna News is **March 01, 2010**. Use the the newsletter link at varnacomunityassociation.org OR email to vca1948@yahoo.com

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