

THE HUB

AUGUST 2020

**YOUR SOURCE FOR WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND SOUTHERN CAYUGA
PRESENTED BY THE AURORA FREE LIBRARY**

If you'd like to submit content for the next issue, please send information to greaterauroracommunity@gmail.com by August 22.

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GreaterAuroraNewsletter/>

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visit the Village of Aurora Website for COVID-19 Resources and Updates

Please check the Village of Aurora website, <http://auroranewyork.us/>, for updates and information related to the COVID-19 pandemic. There, you can find links and information from the Aurora Fire Department, Cayuga County, the Center for Disease Control (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and Senator Pamela Helming. You can also find updated information on village office operations, meetings, and the village election.

To get on the Aurora municipal e-blast list for news updates and emergency alerts, send a request to VillageClerk@auroranewyork.us or DeputyClerk@auroranewyork.us.

Notice from the Aurora Volunteer Fire Department

The Aurora Volunteer Fire Department would like all of the Aurora-Ledyard Fire District to know that we are still [here](#) and covering calls like normal.

Please follow CDC and government guidelines to keep yourself safe and healthy. Follow good hand-washing techniques, and social distancing. Stay home if possible! Check on the elderly and home bound—from a distance.

Call your doctor: If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider for medical advice. (CDC guide to symptoms [here](#).)

Don't hesitate to call 911 if you are experiencing a true emergency. Always report symptoms to dispatch so we can protect ourselves before our arrival.

Video from Auburn Fire Department: [Stop the Spread of Covid-19](#).

Stay safe. Stay healthy. Stay home.

Southern Cayuga CSD Reopening Plan Overview

September 2020

New Yorkers have excelled as a community in their efforts to combat the coronavirus. As a result of our willingness to wear masks, maintain social distance, and isolate when needed, the reopening of school buildings is now a possibility for September 2020.

Southern Cayuga CSD has been planning for one of three potential scenarios for the fall. A return to in-person learning, a continuation of remote learning, or a combination of the two. The administrative team has reviewed extensive guidance documents provided by the NYS Department of Health and the NYS Department of Education to develop a reopening plan for our schools. We believe that students and staff need to return to school in a safe and responsible manner and as a school community, we must abide by the guidance provided.

If Southern Cayuga is permitted to reopen schools, we will utilize a hybrid instructional model, blending in-person instruction and remote learning on alternating days. Specifically, students would attend school in person on either an A or B day and stay home on the opposite day. The model reduces class size by 50%, allows for appropriate social distancing, and reduces the need for masks for a portion of the day. Students from the same household will attend in-person instruction on the same day.

Furthermore, elementary classrooms will be self-contained, two adults working with 12 or less students on a daily basis. Our goal is to have no other students or staff members enter a self-contained pod of students at any point during the day. Our safety conscience approach will limit contact and thus lower the potential for infection. We recognize the safety challenges for our younger students and the need for additional adult support.

Our secondary school will also be at 50% capacity each day and students will notice far fewer students in the hallways during transitions and within their classrooms. Bell schedules have been adjusted to reduce the number of students passing in hallways at the same time. Social distancing and masks will become a norm at school.

The purpose of the summary is to provide the basic 'gist' of what we are planning to do. Details will be worked out over the next month and a robust plan will be shared on our website by August 1. Governor Cuomo announced that a decision about reopening schools would be forthcoming by August 7.

Thank you for taking the time to complete our recent survey, your feedback is appreciated. We understand that some parents are questioning whether they are comfortable sending their own children back to school. You're not alone if your family is struggling with this question. **If your family is planning on not returning to the school building at the beginning of the year, please let your principal know asap.** We will respect your decision to stay home and we'll explore ways to support those families with instructional materials and video instruction. **If you plan on providing your children transportation to and from school, please let them know.** As in classrooms, we also need to plan for only 11-15 kids on a bus. We will ask siblings to sit together on buses to help increase capacity.

By now, you probably have a hundred questions to ask. Over the next ten days, we'll continue to review guidance and develop a robust plan which we hope will answer many of them. We will post that plan on our website by August 1.

Take Care,
Patrick Jensen
Superintendent, Southern Cayuga Central Schools

Wells College Update from President Gibraltar

Dear Alumnae, Alumni, Parents and Friends:

On July 9, Board of Trustees Chair Marie Chapman Carroll '75 and I proudly announced that Wells College will open for residential education in the fall, as it has for 152 years. This followed many days of deliberations by the Board of Trustees as they carefully reviewed our financial plan for the academic year. With an approved budget, we felt comfortable moving forward with planning for the return of our students, faculty and staff. I realize that for many, this was an incredibly stressful time as we all had to face an inconvenient truth about the future of Wells College.

I wish I could have spent more time conveying my gratitude during that announcement, but honestly, it was hard to find the words to express my sincere appreciation to the many people who donated to the “Wells Now” campaign so that we could welcome students for the new school year. A number of people emailed and suggested that their contribution would be insignificant compared to the total we needed to raise; however, the sheer number of smaller donations was significant as 1,672 people donated a total of \$3.7 million. Of that total, 62% of the donors gave amounts of \$500 or less—and many people donated to Wells for the very first time in their lives, including some who had disconnected from Wells over the years.

Our initial budget calculations indicated we needed to raise \$7.5 million, however, due to better than expected new enrollment numbers and returning students, we expect 410 students in the fall. With this enrollment increase, we were able to decrease our overall 2020-21 fundraising goal to \$5.8 million. We continue to need the support of our Wells family to build a sustainable future, so if you remain on the fence, please know that your support will be deeply appreciated by our students.

Some donors have indicated they will give more when we show them a strategic direction that preserves Wells' liberal arts core while addressing the changing educational environment. My leadership team, along with our entire community, led by our Board of Trustees, are continuing to develop a [revised strategic plan for the future](#) building on the work of the Committee on Institutional Planning and Effectiveness that focuses on several key areas. These include increasing enrollment; increasing faculty and staff diversity; ensuring the implementation of equitable practices and policies; creating financial stability and being recognized nationally for the value of our location and the exceptional education afforded our students. This plan will be made public by October 1, and my hope is that those of you who have been waiting and watching will be inspired by our new direction and want to support our students.

During my five years at Wells, I have committed to transparency and honesty in all communications—something that will continue. With that in mind, I want you all to know that we are not yet out of the woods. COVID-19 continues to present an enormous challenge as the virus surges and spreads throughout the United States. Bringing 400+ students together on campus with our faculty and staff is going to be complex. We already have 34 states requiring mandatory quarantine when people come to New York, so we will begin the semester in mid-August with at least 50 students in a 14-day quarantine. We are recommending that all students be tested prior to arrival, and then we will be testing and retesting our community. If we have a case of COVID-19 identified in our community, the Cayuga County Health Department will be doing contact tracing. If we have an outbreak of the virus in our community, we will need to close the campus once again.

Once students leave Aurora for the Thanksgiving break, they will complete the semester via remote instruction and we will likely begin the spring semester in February rather than January. Our plan will be submitted to the NYS Department of Health this week. Our goal is to keep our community as safe as humanly possible and find ways for our students to be engaged in a meaningful educational experience in Aurora.

In addition, the issues of equity and inclusion are extremely important. We have a diverse student body but have limited diversity within our faculty and staff. It is my firm commitment that this will change and I will hold us all accountable for ensuring that we reflect our students so they will feel supported. As an institution of higher learning, it is our responsibility to create this dialogue, and while Wells College has done an excellent job in being an accepting community, I am grateful to our faculty who have been engaging for several months to ensure that they practice antiracist teaching and learning methods in their classrooms and, clearly, our students will benefit from their efforts and commitment. We still have a lot of work to do—we can do better and we will!

Finally, we have to find a path to financial sustainability for the future. This is important to us as a community, and certainly it is an issue for our regional accreditors. Most small colleges do not have a sustainable financial model and, while expenses steadily increase, a corresponding increase in tuition, room and board is not supportable. Wells is where it is today thanks to the generous support of many individuals and foundations, but we must find additional, sustainable sources of revenue if we are to survive. These will include the resumption of our study-abroad program in Florence, Italy, and the finalization of our business degree completion program in Rochester, NY, but there must be others as well.

I want to say to you that I consider myself incredibly fortunate to be president of Wells College at this time. And I am honored to be a part of the large, devoted community, both in Aurora and across the nation, whose determination that Wells succeed is so powerful. We will get through this together and come out stronger in the end—one united community. I will be writing letters every few weeks to keep you all informed because it matters to me that you continue to feel connected to what is happening at your College.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Gibraltar
President, Wells College



Peachtown Elementary Now Enrolling in Person and Online

Parents everywhere are being faced with difficult decisions about schooling this fall. There are no easy answers, but options are still available. Peachtown Elementary School, located in Aurora, NY, is a fully accredited, not-for-profit, private elementary school serving children entering grades Pre-K through 8. We are currently enrolling students for full time instruction on a four day school week. We run from 8:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Given all of the new safety and distancing regulations placed on schools, we have capped our enrollment at 24 students for safely spaced in-person instruction with room for more students in a parallel online program designed for families who opt to stay home this school year. We're excited to share that we have hired long-time Peachtown teacher Bird Cramer as Director of Curriculum and Instruction to guide us through this transition. With her help and a lot of research, training, and creative problem solving, our faculty are preparing for an engaging and exciting new year.

If you would like to learn more about what makes Peachtown unique, visit us online at www.peachtownschool.com or find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/PeachtownSchool>. We know that this year is going to look different. Our creative and dedicated team are working hard to take a challenging situation and make it academically rewarding, socially engaging, emotionally supportive, and fun.

Enrollment is ongoing and in-person spaces are first come, first served. Need based scholarships are always available. You'll find the application materials on our website.

Aurora Free Library News

The Library is now offering both **Outdoor Contactless Pickup** of items as well as **20-minute appointments** on the hour and half hour during our open hours on **Monday and Friday 3-6 p.m. or Wednesday and Saturday 10 a.m.-1 p.m.** We are limiting the number of patrons to 5 in the building at a time. Our website aurorafreelibrary.org has more details on how to place holds or to sign up to come in and browse using [SignUpGenius](#). Prior to entering we are asking people to review questions regarding COVID-19, wear a mask, and use hand sanitizer. Patrons are asked to minimize touching materials and not to linger so we help keep everyone safe. Our Wi-fi is always on, however we are not allowing our public computers to be used at this time.

Don't have a library card? It is simple to sign up for one, simply go to our website and click on PATRON LOGIN in the upper righthand corner.



AUGUST IS PRIZE MONTH FOR ALL AGES!

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP FOR SUMMER READING FUN!

We are trying something **NEW** this year! **ALL AGES** can track their reading with our [online summer reading log](#) through the **READsquared** program or app which will include missions, online badges, and PRIZES!

To register and begin tracking your reading online and accessing additional activities go to <http://aurorahazardlibraryny14.readsquared.com/> and sign up.

STARTING IN AUGUST!



TEENS and ADULTS can enter weekly drawings for 5 weeks!

Record each book you read and be entered into weekly drawings for prizes! Accumulate points for each book read. Reach 500 points and be entered into an end of summer **drawing for a \$50 gift card!**

PRESCHOOL and ELEMENTARY KIDS can perform missions and win prizes and online badges. They will be entered into an end of summer prize drawing once they reach **1000 points!**



Additionally, once kids read for 15 minutes a day for 20 days they can take a photo of their reading log (or if tracked online we will see it) and visit the library to receive a **FREE ICE CREAM CONE** compliments of **Lake House Creamery** in King Ferry.

If you prefer you can use [our paper reading log](#) and bingo sheet.

NEW THIS SUMMER!

We have **Take and Make Bags** for the kids with new activities each week! Photos of bags will be posted to Facebook weekly on Fridays. Be sure to ask for one when you visit the library.



This year our programs are all virtual. We are offering daily virtual family performers, crafts, authors, and activities provided by **Page Turner Adventures**. You can view them on our website or we have created a special [Aurora Free Library Summer Reading Facebook Group](#) where you can access them.

We continue to plan new activities so please check aurorafreelibrary.org for up-to-date hours, services and information. If you have questions or need assistance with ebooks please call (315) 364-8074 or email us at staff@aurorafreelibrary.org.

We are always interested in hearing what you would like to see the library provide for our community. Please be in touch and stay well!

Hazard Library News

Hazard Library is open for browsing! Please refer to our [expectations for in-person use here](#).

Our new hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 2-5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. We have virtual programs every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 10:00 a.m. Details and the schedule are available on our [Facebook page](#) and the [Summer Reading page](#) of our website www.hazardlibrary.org.

For more information regarding programs, or if you would like to be added to our e-mail list to receive updates and Zoom log in information automatically, please call us at 315-364-7975 or e-mail librarian@hazardlibrary.org.

Health Care Navigator @ Hazard Library

- Do you need health insurance?
- Do you need help using the NY State of Health Marketplace?
 - Do you have questions about your health insurance?



You can call 315-255-1703 if you would like to speak to a Health Care Navigator to assist you with your health insurance.



Have You Filled Out the Census?

If not, please follow the link to do so: <https://www.2020census.gov/>.

Check Out the New Tuesday Pick-Up Market in Aurora!

Fresh, high quality, reasonably priced and convenient: you can now order local produce, baked goods, handmade herbal products, and coffee, chocolate, and home goods for delivery to Aurora. Ordering groceries is an old idea that's new again, and ideal for people who want to avoid crowded stores and time-consuming shopping trips.

Ordering is easy:

- Send an email to any or all of the vendors below
- Choose what you want for the weekly list each vendor will send you
- Pick up your order at Patrick Tavern, 302 Main St., on Tuesdays, 4:00-5:30 p.m. Easy parking and service right to your car if you wish.

Organic vegetables: centurionfarm@outlook.com (Jeff and Nina Saeli)

Baked goods: lumisandpo@gmail.com (Meg Goloub)

Herbal/plant medicines, soap, sanitizer: mixtapemedicinals@gmail.com (Jesse Ball)

Coffee, tea, chocolate, home goods: cathy.mullarney@gmail.com (San Pedro Sister Community; Cathy Mullarney, contact)

Want to be notified of occasional specials (eggs, beef, strawberries)? Got suggestions?

Email lschwab@wells.edu (Linda Schwab)



THE AURORA BOOK LOVERS' BALL ...

... won't look like the traditional event this year.

With the many uncertainties in the world right now, and a hope to slow the spread of COVID, we've made the difficult decision to not hold a ball in 2020.

We look forward to seeing all our supporters healthy and happy at the Book Lovers Ball in 2021!

While the ball is suspended this year, the fundraising needs of the Aurora Free Library haven't gone away. Look for some fun, socially-distant ways you can help support the library in 2020!

More details coming soon!



Finger Lakes Adventure Gear

canoe . kayak . paddle board

Make every day an adventure.

Canoe, kayak, and paddleboard rentals on the eastern shore of Cayuga Lake



Based in the Aurora area, we are a small, family owned and operated rental business. We offer boats for paddlers at every level and provide all the equipment needed for your everyday lake adventures.

Finger Lakes Adventure Gear
www.fingerlakesadventuregear.com
(315)237-8731

Canoe, kayak and stand up paddle board rentals. 2 day or 2 boat minimum. Local delivery included.
Call or visit us online to reserve your boats today!

315-237-8731

www.fingerlakesadventuregear.com



Howland Farm Museum Fundraiser:

*Movie Clothing Sale & Exhibit of
Jodi's Film & TV Costume Career*

AUGUST 2nd - 23rd
1:00 - 5:00 daily
\$5.00 suggested donation

Want to learn about the role of the Costume Department in making movies & television?

Want to see behind the scenes photos, scripts & clothing worn by movie stars?

Meet Jodi Baldwin and hear first hand experiences during her 20 year career.

Browse through 8 racks of leftover clothing from jobs Jodi has worked on that are **FOR SALE!!** Mens, women's & some kids clothing, mostly brand new with tags still on!!

Sizes range from S to 2XL in Men's & size 0 to 16 in Women's. Items are marked down 30-60% from their original prices & sales go towards her creation of the Howland Farm Museum!! **Cash only!**

In conjunction with the exhibit, Jodi invites you to her home to watch outside on the Big Barn Screen four movies that she has worked on!! There will be a Q&A afterwards. Movies start promptly at 9:00pm, so please arrive by 8:30 to park & get a spot on the lawn. Bring your own lawn chairs & snacks. There is NO BATHROOM. (Rain dates TBD)

August 2nd: *Mona Lisa Smile*
August 16th: *Whip It!*

August 9th: *Underdog* (kids movie)
August 23rd: *The Proposal*

This exhibit & sale will be outdoors in the yard to maintain social distancing and fresh air, but please **WEAR A MASK** in case there are other people around while you visit.
I will instruct you to LEAVE MY PRIVATE PROPERTY if I don't feel you are being respectful.

If you **REALLY** want to come but are **VERY** concerned about being around other people, send me a private message & we will try to schedule a time for you to see the exhibit & sale!!

MORE INFO or to CONTACT with questions go to Facebook @HowlandFarmMuseum or call 315-246-0743
(future) Howland Farm Museum at 1395 Sherwood Road, Aurora

Bells at UMA

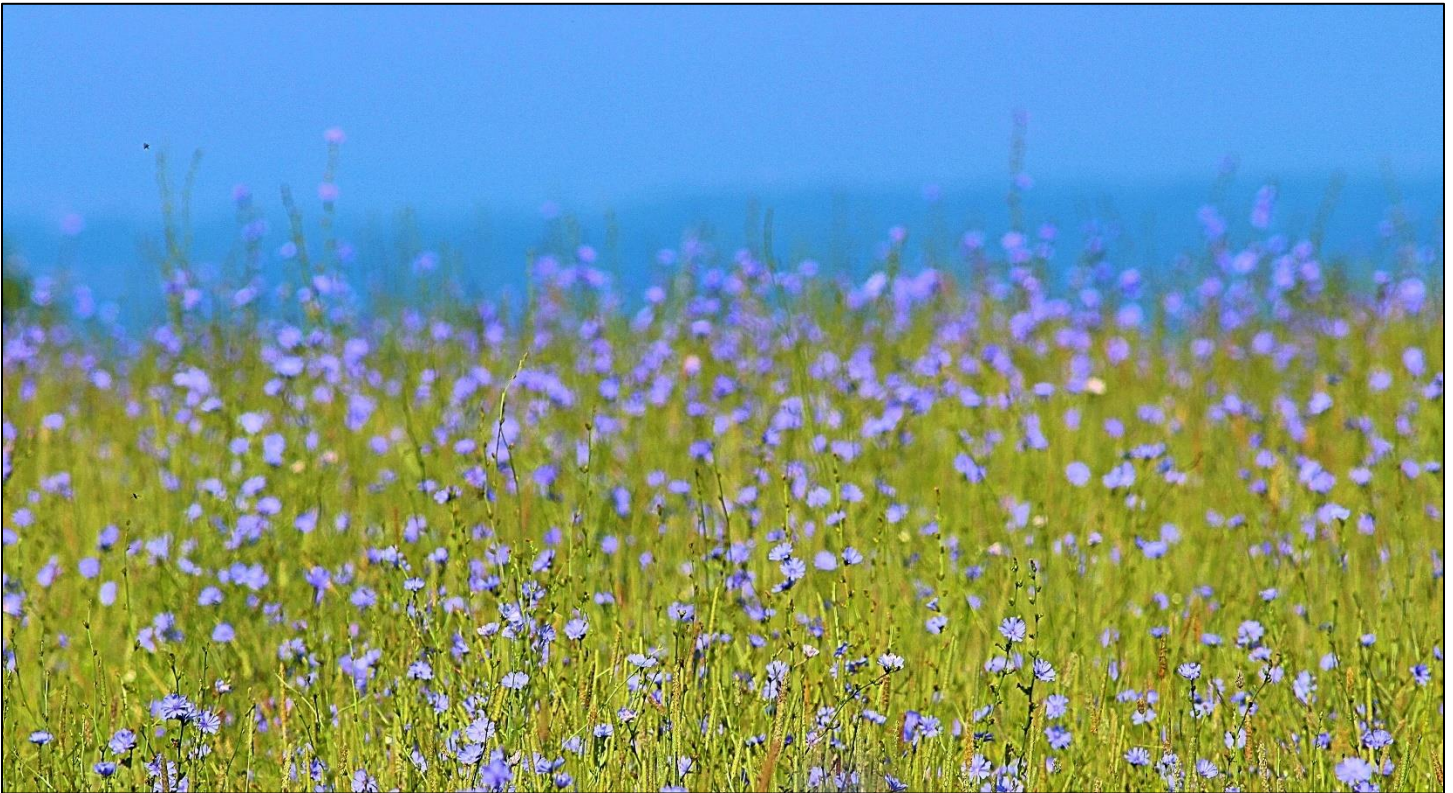
Every Monday at noon, there will be a minute of bell ringing calling us to a minute of silence and prayer in honor of all those affected by COVID as well as those affected by violence, discrimination, poverty, natural disasters, loss, and mental, emotional, and physical illness.

All community members are welcome to join us! No experience necessary, just show up at 11:50 a.m.

Sights of Southern Cayuga

Submitted by Linda and Patrick Dugan

“The drone shots are of straw fields and bales off Sherwood Road and the field flower photo is a field of chicory on Dublin Hill Road. Aurora and the Town of Ledyard are filled with incredible landscapes during the summer.”





EVENTS



Give Back NY
FARMERS MARKET WEEK, AUGUST 2-8, 2020

**WE'RE CELEBRATING
FARMERS MARKETS BY
HOSTING A STATEWIDE
FOOD DRIVE**
**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRIES**

Celebrate with us by donating local food
purchased from farmers and vendors
at your favorite farmers market this week!

**FARMERS MARKET
FEDERATION
OF NEW YORK**

Aurora Farmers Market – State Wide Food Drive

**Saturday, August 1 & 8
10 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
Wells College Boat House**

The Aurora Farmers Market is proud to join farmers markets and food pantries throughout NYS for:

Give Back NY

Sponsored by The Farmers Market Federation of New York

The Aurora Farmers Market is partnering with the King Ferry Food Pantry!

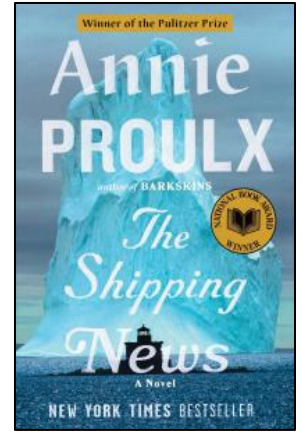
There'll be a tent set up at the Market for donations on August 1 and 8. Vendors and customers are encouraged to offer donations. Purchase items from vendors to donate to the food pantry or bring items from home. *Non-perishable items, please.*

Face covering and social distance of 6' required at all times in the Market. Please use hand sanitizer provided at entrance to Market. Follow entrance and exit marked lines. Shop safe!

Southern Cayuga Book Club,
The Shipping News

Wednesday, August 5
7:15 p.m.

The Book Club will meet to discuss *The Shipping News* by Annie Proulx. Books are available at Hazard and Aurora Libraries. Please email librarian@hazardlibrary.org or staff@aurorafreelibrary.org to reserve a copy and for the ZOOM link to the discussion. New members are always welcome.



Get Your Motor Running @ Ithaca's 7th Annual Rotary Rally!

Sunday, August 9

Check in from 1:00-2:00 p.m.; all cars must be on the course by 2:00 p.m.

Triad Foundation, 15 Ascot Place (off Craft Rd.), Lansing

PLEASE JOIN US! Online registration now open!

\$25 per adult \$10 children 12 – 18 free 11 & younger
All proceeds benefit the Club's James L. Gibbs scholarship fund

Register now online: <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/2079/Stories/rotary-road-rally-2020b>

Join us for the 7th Annual **ROTARY ROAD RALLY!** The FUNdraising rally is open to everyone and is a real blast! Never done a road rally before? Now's a great time to grab your COVID buddies/ family and take drive; all are invited to join in this adventure, rain or shine. **Bring a non-perishable food item to the rally!** Along the rally route, it will be clear what you are to do with it.

Follow clues in your car along 30 +/- miles of country roads around the area, answering questions, taking pictures, and picking up scavenger hunt items along the way. Finish by 4:30 p.m. at Myers Point Park Pavilion F. We will practice social distancing; bring your mask, own drinks, and a chair. To keep group gathering numbers down, we will visit for a bit and enjoy an early supper (on your own) sold by our friends at the Salvation Army food truck, then be on our way. Prize announcements will be made on Wed, August 12.

Online registration is now open and STRONGLY ENCOURAGED!

NOTE: Only pre-registered teams will be eligible for three new prizes: \$500, \$250 and \$250 to be awarded to the Tompkins County charitable organization of your choice!

Special thanks to our sponsors:



MAGUIRE
FAMILY OF DEALERSHIPS & FAMILY INSURANCE AGENCY



of Ithaca

Nick Romo, agent

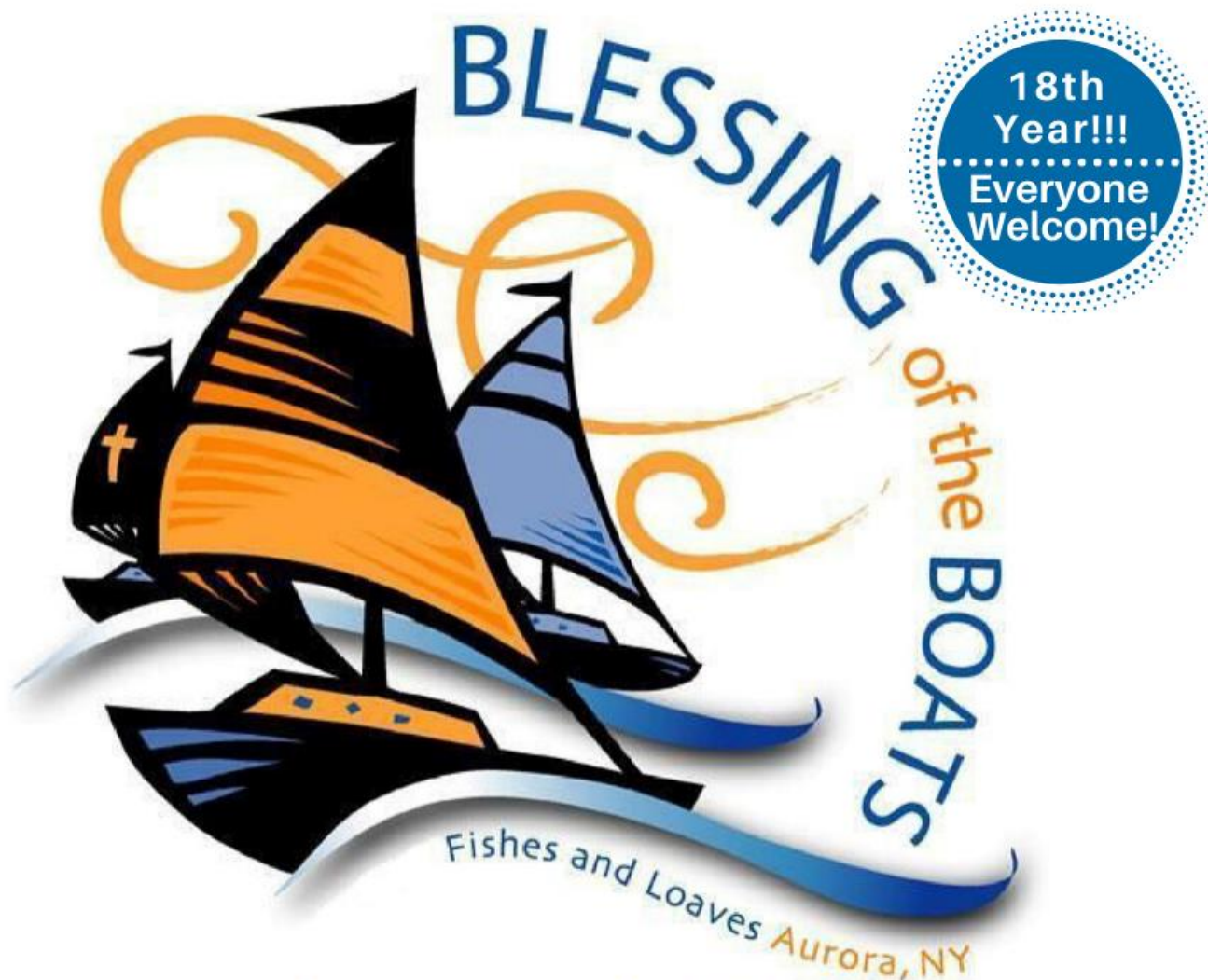
Organ Concert at the UMA

Wednesday, August 12

7:00 p.m.

United Ministry of Aurora

Eric Machan Howd will offer an organ concert for our community. Please bring a lawn chair or a blanket to enjoy some of his favorite repertoire from a socially distanced position. You will recall Eric has played at the UMA in the past at our Ice Cream Socials. A free will offering will be available for the King Ferry Food Pantry. Mark your calendars and bring a friend!



Saturday, August 15th, 2020 at 6 pm
St. Pat's Church, Aurora, Cayuga Lake, NY

Aurora Free Library Board Meeting

Thursday, August 20
5:30-6:30 p.m.



The meeting will be held using remote meeting software. For a call-in number, please send your email address to aurorafreelibrarycny@gmail.com. All are welcome to attend remotely.

AUGUST 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 King Ferry Food Pantry, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Aurora Farmers Market/Give Back NY, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
2 Film Screening, <i>Mona Lisa Smile</i> , 8:30 p.m.	3 UMA Bell Ringing, 11:50 a.m.	4 Patrick Tavern Market Pick Up, 4-5:30 p.m.	5 Southern Cayuga Book Club, <i>The Shipping News</i> , 7:15 p.m.	6	7	8 Aurora Farmers Market/Give Back NY, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
9 Ithaca Rotary Road Rally, 1 p.m. Film Screening, <i>Underdog</i> , 8:30 p.m.	10 UMA Bell Ringing, 11:50 a.m.	11 Patrick Tavern Market Pick Up, 4-5:30 p.m.	12 UMA Organ Concert, 7 p.m.	13	14	15 King Ferry Food Pantry, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Aurora Farmers Market, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Blessing of the Boats, 6 p.m.
16 Film Screening, <i>Whip It!</i> , 8:30 p.m.	17 UMA Bell Ringing, 11:50 a.m.	18 Patrick Tavern Market Pick Up, 4-5:30 p.m.	19	20 Aurora Free Library Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m.	21	22 Aurora Farmers Market, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Deadline for submissions to <i>The Hub</i>
23 Film Screening, <i>The Proposal</i> , 8:30 p.m.	24 UMA Bell Ringing, 11:50 a.m.	25 Patrick Tavern Market Pick Up, 4-5:30 p.m.	26	27	28	29 Aurora Farmers Market, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
30	31 UMA Bell Ringing, 11:50 a.m.					