

News Of The Great Outdoors

Rensselaer Plateau Alliance

The Rensselaer Plateau Alliance would like to introduce some new members of our team. They are Bay Habshey as RPA Membership Coordinator and Celia Kutz as Rensselaer Youth Outdoors Program Coordinator. The RPA would also like to highlight the work of Molly Freiberg, its Community Engagement Manager.

Spring Bird Walk

Poestenkill Community Forest, Averill Park – Saturday, May 8, 8 to 11 am.

With Jim de Waal Malefyt and Pam Jacobson. Early morning in the spring before leaf-out is the best time to look for spring migrating and local resident birds. We will also identify birds by their courtship songs and calls. Bring binoculars and bird guides if you have them. Expect some short walks near the parking area into field, forest, and wetland edges on trails. Suitable for birders of all levels – beginners welcome! Please, no dogs.

May Mindful Walk

Gutierrez Family Forest, East Nassau – Saturday, May 8, 10 am to 12:30 pm

With Molly Freiberg and Sandy Wilson. Nature has the ability to calm, inspire, and restore us in all seasons –

so let's take some much-needed time to receive what is offered. Join Sandy and Molly on a slow and gentle celebration of spring, opening our senses to all that we discover.

Land Conservation and Stewardship

via Zoom – Thursday, May 20, 7 pm

A virtual panel discussion led by Jim Bonesteel, Executive Director of RPA. Jim will lead a panel discussion of land conservation principles, objectives, and stewardship. Topics of discussion may include forests, farms, wetlands, community engagement and a culture of welcome and inclusion. Other discussion topics include wildlife habitat and forest connectivity, source water protection, economic considerations, timber, recreation, monitoring, maintenance and sustainability.

May Programs At Grafton Lakes State Park

After School - DIY Lava Lamp

Tuesday, May 11 at 4 pm

Hike Under the Stars

Saturday, May 15, 8:30 to 10:30 pm

The Secret Life of a Dragonfly

Sunday, May 16, 2:30 to 4 pm

After School - Citizen Science

Tuesday, May 18 at 4 pm

For the convenience of our patrons and staff, our registration process has changed to by phone. To register for all events and programs, unless otherwise specified, call us at 518-279-1155.

Spring Fish Stocking Sale

On Thursday, May 20, the Rensselaer County Soil & Water Conservation District is hosting a Spring Fish Stocking Sale to the public. Pre-Orders are due May 14. Order forms can be found online at <https://www.renscosoi.landstormwater.org/annual-fish-sale>.

Rainbow Trout: Available in size 4" – 6"; Largemouth Bass: Available in size 4" – 6" and 6" – 8"; Channel Catfish: Available in size 6" – 8"; Fathead Minnows: Available in size 1" – 3"; Triploid Grass Carp: Available in size 10" – 12";

Fish Food: Silver cup floating fish food pellets sold in 40 lb bags; and Blue Bird Nesting Boxes.

Pick-ups will be at noon at the USDA Service Center's parking lot, in front of the Agriculture & Life Sciences Building in Troy. Checks can be made payable to: Rensselaer County SWCD. Order forms and checks can be mailed to: 61 State Street, Troy, NY 12180. Completed order forms and/or questions can also be emailed to: Megan.Myers.RenscoSWCD@gmail.com.

A Successful Merger ... Continued from page 1



The Superintendents and Athletic Directors from the two schools gathered together to cheer on the Wildcats in the Class C Super Bowl game. They are, from left to right, Brittonkill (Tamarac) Superintendent Dr. Angelina Maloney, Tamarac AD Donna VanZant, Hoosick Falls AD Tom Husser and Hoosick Falls Superintendent Patrick Dailey. Photo provided.

accomplish what, sometimes, adults cannot. And of course, you hope it is a winning combination.

So when it came to these Wildcats, winning is just what they did. They steamrolled the competition during the five game regular season, they came back from being down eight points to beat a strong Mechanicville Red Raiders team in the semi-finals. Next up was the Class C Super Bowl against the Schuylerville Black Horses, a very formidable team in its own right. In a match played Saturday evening, May 1 at Tamarac, the final whistle saw those Horses tame the Wildcats 34 - 15.

No shame here, these Wildcats gave everything they had in them. They simply ran up against a more talented team. So while there

are kudos to the administrators for developing a workable plan and to the coaches for helping to bring it all together, the real accolades go to these student athletes, who rose above all challenges, even a global pandemic, to prove how strong they really are, and put faith in all of us in the young adults they will soon become. Well Done Wildcats, Well Done!

2020 Census ... Continued from page 3

We should all be opposed to partisan and racial gerrymandering that strips rights away from voters," continued Grimm.

"Redistricting is an especially important process and critical at this time in our Nation's history," said Deputy Minority Leader Cindy Doran. "We urge you to stay informed and involved. You may call your state legislators and tell them you want a

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fair redistricting process; participate in community mapping exercises where citizens get together and jointly work on proposed solutions. In addition, the League of Women Voters will be active in keeping the public informed (<https://www.lwv.org/>); use them as a resource. Lawmakers, as well as advocacy and grassroots organizations, will also be good resources to help you get informed and involved," urged Doran.

Let's all be part of a process to assure equal and fair representation for all.