

Good Works

More Free Trees from the Garden Club

The members of the *Shawangunk Garden Club* will be giving away Kousa Dogwood trees to anyone in the community who will plant and nurture their tree.

The club began the project with a gift of 250 trees in 2002. Last year 300 trees were given away, and this year another 250 trees will be available for planting. This is one of the most important and expensive projects that the *Club* has undertaken. All of the funds for the trees have been raised by the *Club* to provide beautification of our township.

Kousa Dogwood was chosen for the project because of the beauty that it affords throughout the year. The tree is disease-resistant, and in summer has star-shaped flowers and red berries in winter.

Anyone who would like to have a tree is asked to send name, address, and phone number to the **Shawangunk Garden Club, PO Box 910, Napanoch, NY 12458**. According to *Club* president Dale Craft, all requests will be responded to and the first 250 applicants will receive their free tree.

The trees will be available at a date to be announced, probably in late April. 🌿

Shawangunk Valley Kiwanis

by Rosemary Melendez, *President*

The *Shawangunk Valley Kiwanis* is a fairly young club, only four years old. Our mission is dedicated to serving the children, young adults, the aging and the needy. We raise funds by raffles, golf tournaments and penny socials. We distribute food for the holidays, coats, books for children, and other miscellaneous items that will ameliorate the immediate need. We meet in Ellenville, so we can address the said groups above. Our home base is the **Ellenville Activity Center, 1 Bogardus Place (AAMA)**. We meet the **1st and 3rd Wednesdays** of the month, **6:30 to 8:00 PM**. In harsh weather we have been meeting at the **Ellenville Community Action**.

We sponsor the *Ellenville High School Key Club*, which presently is 21 members strong. It's a student-led organization that teaches leadership through serving others. As they continue to build themselves, their school and community continue to grow, leadership skills are developed, and business contacts are made.

Our next event will be charter night for the newly formed *Key Club* (stay tuned for a date on the event), and a *Springtime Penny Social* **April 24th at the Ellenville Activity Center**, doors open at **6:00 PM**, calling at **8:00 PM**. Proceeds to go to the Ellenville/Wawarsing Youth. 🌿



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Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Too many people are quick to complain, and I think our town workers should be commended for jobs well done, and be recognized for those occasions when they go beyond the normal scope of their jobs.

After the snowstorm on Monday night Jan. 26th, the lows came through my area and completed their task by 9:00 AM Tuesday. Alas, such thoroughness does not come without a price. My mailbox had been "decapitated" by the plow. Oh well... the trials of winter. BUT... much to my surprise, delight, and wonderment, the crew came back on Thursday and repaired my mailbox.

A mistake was made and corrected in a timely manner. Thank you to the staff at the *Town of Wawarsing Highway Department*.

*S. Bush
Kerhonkson*

To the Editor:

Hello, my name is Paul Galbraith and I am trying to find information on George H.T. Galbraith. He was a blacksmith in Wawarsing and was the son of James Galbraith and Catherine Reel Galbraith. They had twelve children including Hugh, William, Patrick, John, Minnie, Catherine, and Eulthia. Hugh was wounded at the Battle of Honey Hill during the Civil War and subsequently died in Hilton Head, SC. He's buried in the Beaufort National Cemetery SC.

If anyone has information on George or any other of the Galbraith's, I'd love to hear from you. Thanks!

*Paul Galbraith
pgalbraith1956@msn.com*

To the Editor:

Thank you so much for publishing my letter to Assemblyman Cahill regarding my proposal for a move-over bill to help insure the safety of tow truck drivers on the highway. I have received a lot of positive response to the letter and I am grateful for the support.

I am pleased to say that Assemblyman Cahill has proposed a law, I believe the number is 9621, which would require drivers on controlled-access highways to move over a lane when they see a tow truck working on those roads. This will make the highways much safer for everyone. I thank Assemblyman Cahill for his hard work. The process has just begun, but I will work with the Assemblyman to insure the passage of this bill.

We now need a similar bill introduced in the Senate. To that end I have sent a letter to State Senator John Bonacic, asking him to sponsor such a bill. Senator Bonacic has long been a responsive representative of his constituency and I hope that we can convince him to apply his influence to this cause.

To briefly recap: my son Kyle worked for a garage in Modena that had the job of towing vehicles on the NYS Thruway. On the night of August 27, 2003, my son was struck and killed by a tractor-trailer while he was assisting a disabled motorist on the side of the road. By all accounts Kyle was performing his job properly; he was not on the roadway itself. Kyle was only 21.

Over the past year, four tow truck operators were killed in a similar manner on controlled-access highways. Perhaps nothing could have been done to save their lives, but if the drivers on the highway had been required to move over a lane I am sure that Kyle would be here today and my family would not have daily sorrow we endure now and will for the rest of our lives. If such a law will spare another family the anguish of losing a loved one then it is one which deserves consideration and passage into law.

I hope that your readers will help me in this cause by writing to both Senator Bonacic and Assemblyman Cahill, ➔