

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Congratulations on the excellent publication serving our community with a variety of entertaining and informative articles.

I enjoy the articles relating to the history of this wonderful area. Mrs. Marion Dumond is to be commended for the research into the past that she presents to interested readers.

May I share with your readers my recent research of the **Bevier-Sax Dam** located on the **Fantinekill** that was published locally and in the *Accordian* this past year?

First, the stream that today is referred to as the **Fantinekill** was originally the **Fountainkill**. There is a stream in the Kerhonkson area by the name of Fantinekill and sometime in the recording of maps this was attached to the stream in Napanoch/Ellenville. At the time of the massacre, the stream was **Fountainkill**, named because the source was a "fountain."

Michael Sax was married to Elizabeth Bevier, and supposedly killed. But since he was not a Bevier, he might not have been included in the family grave. However, his name later appears in the Binghamton area and seems to match his date of birth records. How many Michael Saxs could there have been?

The name is definitely Sax and not Sachs or Socks.

While there is continued controversy over the Bevier deaths (for instance, there are no references to the deaths in the Bevier genealogy) there is no doubt about the following: there is no such item as Shawangunk granite! There are no accessible deposits of granite anywhere in this region, the name of the former *Granit Hotel* notwithstanding. The deepest wells in the area have not "struck" granite.

My inspection of the slab indicates that it is conglomerate sandstone – sometimes referred to as quartzite – typical of the **Shawangunk Ridge**, which is what would have been "quarried out of solid rock from the mountain..." Surely, someone must have information about the bluestone slab, as there is some visible inscription towards the base. Reference to the Budd house should be the Isaac Budd house. Two Budd houses in this area are (were) situated on inclines on roads so that they are both named **Budd Hill!** The other one I am referring to is the stone house probably built by John Budd, later owned by the Burhans (Burhance) along **Nevele Road**, across from the first green of the *Shawangunk Country Club*.

It is unfortunate that the monument is inaccessible to the public. Perhaps an access could be created to the north and east of the monument, with parking spaces for a half dozen cars. Informational plaques could be added explaining the recent history of the area with some facts about the local geology, especially in time for the 2006 celebration. Moving the memorial would be inappropriate, as it is believed that some of the family are buried there. In addition, the present site affords a commanding view of the valley and the mountains beyond and easily blends into the imagination of the events of those early settlers.

Sincerely yours,
Henry J. Bartosik
Ellenville
h.bartosik@att.net

(The writer received his BS degree in Geology from Queens College, CUNY.)

To the Editor:

I was born in Ellenville in 1936, and raised, off and on, around Napanoch and the Kerhonkson area till the early 50s. I haven't visited there since the 1960s and then only for my

father's funeral. I have fond memories of taking my shotgun to school in Kerhonkson, storing it and the ammunition in the cloak room, and hunting squirrel and rabbits on the way home from school, and also swimming at a place called "the Buff" in **Rondout Creek**, upstream from the Kerhonkson bridge. My half-brother owned a tavern in Kerhonkson some years ago too. I also fondly remember Herb Daniel's store in Napanoch and Herb wearing his bib overalls and railroad engineer's hat. Great times and I wish I could do them all over again.

Robert Wood
Orange County, CA
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To the Editor:

If people are looking for avenues to donate money to the Asian Tsunami Relief fund, it can be done through the *Kerhonkson Lions Club*. The following is from Dr. Tae-Sup Lee, Lions Club International Foundation Chair.

John C. Motzer Sr.
Kerhonkson
JMotzer@hvc.rr.com

Dear John,

The South Asian tsunami is considered the largest natural disaster in modern history. LCIF and Lions are responding accordingly. I am pleased to tell you that LCIF is initially committing US\$5 million to assist in the recovery. The funds will enable Lions in South Asia to provide for long-term reconstruction by building homes, school and child welfare centers for orphans.

The US\$5 million commitment is a matching donation from LCIF. Half of the US\$5 million will come from LCIF reserves, and the other half from the expected US\$2.5 million in donations to LCIF for tsunami relief from individuals, clubs and districts worldwide.

Lions in South Asia continue their vital relief operations. Lions there already have spent an estimated \$820,000 on relief, including \$220,000 in Emergency grants.

A tax-deductible donation may be made to the *Kerhonkson Lions* and the money will be forwarded to LCIF for the Asian Relief Fund.

Checks made out to the **Kerhonkson Lions Club c/o John C. Motzer Sr. PO Box 144, Kerhonkson, NY 12446**.

If you have any questions, please contact:
JMotzer@hvc.rr.com or **626-7536**.

To the Editor:

A Heartfelt Thank You... to all of the wonderful friends and acquaintances who have reached out to me in so many ways to offer comfort and support since November 26th, the day after Thanksgiving. when I was involved in a near fatal head-on motor vehicle accident with a drunk driver.

I am awed and humbled and so very, very grateful to you all. At this writing I am out of hospital and at home recovering from multiple broken bones to my right foot, leg and arm, leaving me non-ambulatory. I still mourn the loss of my beloved Pomeranian companion Kisses – it is so hard to face each moment without her. Ginnie, my other little canine companion, does her best to help me through and she herself is uninjured and doing quite well. I am just now able to begin to focus on more than just basic functions. Every day I challenge myself to make a little more progress both mentally and physically.

Again, I thank you for your much appreciated care and concern. May God continue to bless each and every one of you. Hope to see you soon.

Dianne E. Turner
Formerly of *Wags Pet Store*
and *Mother Blueberry*