

THE TIMES OF HALCOTT

**SUMMER
2006
VOL 35**



**EDITORS: INNES KASANOF; PEG
DIBENEDETTO; JUDY DIBENEDETTO;
KAREN RAUTER; ART: NINA KASANOF.**

Did You Know?

Our very own newsletter, **The Times of Halcott** goes not only to residents in our Town, but also travels all over the world. It goes to Israel, thanks to the family of Paul and Lillian Steinfeld and our good friend, Helen Frenkley. It goes to Holland, to Laura Kasanof, the Halcott Fair Popcorn Queen. It goes to Moscow to Marc Neves' mom. A copy wends its way to Trinidad to Paul and Sybil Margaritis, when the international post office gremlins are in a good mood. And within the US, of the 288 copies that are mailed four times a year, 18 states are represented, from California to West Virginia. If you know of someone who would like to receive our newsletter, please let us know at inneskas@localnet.com or 813 Route 3, Halcott Center, NY 12430. Subscriptions are free, and we will happily accept donations during our annual March campaign. *IK*

LET'S HELP THE HOSPITAL!!

A facility that benefits all of us. A health service we have needed in the past, are using now, or will need in the future. An ambulance crew that will be at your door whenever called. These are the reasons why each of us should be willing and, it could be argued, are obligated, to support the Auxiliary of the Margaretville Memorial Hospital and Mountainside Residential Care Center.

Many of us were born in the old Margaretville Hospital [*Ed. Note: see "Pete's Pages from the Past"*] when it was at the end of Academy Street. After construction of the new hospital in the early 1960's, the present Hospital Auxiliary was formed. It is now in its 40th year, and has morphed into a helping hand for the Mountainside Care Center as well.

With the rising costs of health care and medical equipment, the Auxiliary has become

an indispensable factor in the equation of medical services in our area. The organization has been able, entirely through donations, to provide new ambulances for the ambulance squad, wheelchairs for patients, and very expensive, state-of-the-art medical equipment for the hospital, including a CAT scanner and a mammogram machine. These pieces of equipment allow us to receive top-notch care and testing locally, without having to travel to Kingston, Oneonta, or beyond.

Another important function of the Auxiliary is to serve as a liaison between the public, the hospital board, and elected officials, who at times are tempted to limit funding for rural healthcare.

The Auxiliary has been able to provide all of these goodies for us by annual fundrais-

ing activities, such as the summer Flea Market, the Harvest Moon Ball, Easter and Christmas Fairs held at Mountainside, and the Thrift Shop which sells quality clothing and surprising treasures at amazingly low prices. And 100% of the money donated to the Auxiliary is donated back to Mountainside and to the hospital.

A few decades ago, perhaps you gave a dollar, or five, for a lifetime membership. It seemed like a good idea at the time, but it was an ineffective way to maintain a membership roll. These days it takes an annual infusion of money to meet the Auxiliary's goals. So this year the Auxiliary is conducting a vigorous membership drive to sign up those within the use radius of the hospital. This includes our town, of course, especially since we are in a dead-end valley and are dependent on the Margaretville Hospital as our sole ambulance provider.

The Auxiliary welcomes everyone who would like to serve as a volunteer for any of the fundraisers. For more information, please contact the Halcott Membership Drive Coordinator, Jacki VanValkenburgh (254-5839, rjvan@wildblue.net) or the new Auxiliary President, Lee Austin (254-5924).

Please consider the annual membership as an investment in your healthcare future. To join the effort, clip the form on this page and mail with your contribution to:

Jacki Van Valkenburgh
595 Turkey Ridge Road
Halcott NY 12430

Thank you! *PD*

If It Floats Your Boat (Canoe)

Halcott Center was well represented at the 44th Annual General Clinton Canoe Regatta over Memorial Day weekend. Adina Johnson and Peg DiBenedetto rounded out the

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Name _____ _____ _____
Local Address _____ _____ _____
Permanent Address (if different) _____ _____ _____
E-Mail _____ _____
Phone _____ _____

roster of the Crazy Canoeing Conservationists. The team finished a respectable 11th place out



of a field of 33. Also canoeing in the mixed team event (meaning a male/female duo in each of 5 legs of the race) was Gale Neale, future husband of Erin Asher of Red Kill. Adina is hoping to gather a Halcott team for the 2007 event. The question is, can Halcott field a team that can answer the punishing and relentless challenges of the Susquehanna River? One canoe, 5 strong men, 5 strong women, and 30 miles. If you can handle it, give Adina a call (254-4274). *PD*

What's Happening at the Grange?

Halcott Fair July 22, 12 to 6 PM; Dinner Served from 4-6PM. Oh, we're going to have another douzy of a fair this year. The committee met and deliberated, and by the time we were done, our mouths were watering, thinking about a dinner of roast pork, roast turkey, stuffing, potato salad, dinner rolls, corn on the cob, and cake. Tickets will cost \$10.00 for adults, \$6.00 for kids under 12 and seniors over 60. Thank you to **Howard Van Loan** who donated a smoker to help with the cooking. Visions of perennial plants danced in our heads as we thought about yarrows and astilbes, goat's beard and asters, delphiniums and digitalises, (?) lilies and lilies, lupines and phlox, salvias and sedums. Dreams of treasures discovered at

Kari Pagnano's overstuffed tables delighted us. Kids' games and contests, grab bags and corn shucks. Hot dogs and quilt raffles. Auctions! 50/50! Church bake table filled with dainties from the kitchens of the community. Please come and help us make this, our eighth, our best ever. The Halcott Fair is for Halcott; the money raised at the Fair is spent in turn on the Town. The time we spend with one another is, as the MasterCard advertisement has pointed out, priceless. *IK*

Salsa Dancing continues every Friday night at 7! Lasting friendships are being made, pounds are being shed, and actual dance steps are being learned! And the Salsa Class has donated \$100 toward the installation of a new sound system! (Thanks to **Tony and Brett Marini** and to the Halcott Community Fund, we are now able to enjoy music upstairs and down, along with a microphone for the stage!) Attendance has been about 25 or more, except for when the road from Fleischmanns was closed and we lost half due to the lack of signage pointing the way to Halcott. Please come join the fun! No partner or previous experience is necessary. Comfortable shoes are a good idea. *PD*

Halcott Cemetery Association Pancake Breakfast, October 8th, 8-11am: It's never too early to learn about these affairs. So take your pocket agenda, flip to October and mark the date in red. Then, in the September **Times of Halcott**, you'll be so surprised to see that *you already know about it!* *IK*

Keep in mind that the Grange Hall is available for parties and gatherings. For a \$50 refundable deposit, and a \$50 fee, enjoy the convenience of the kitchen, bathrooms, and a wonderful dance space. Just think of the wear and tear it

will save on your kitchen, bathrooms, and dance space. Contact Karl VonHassel to make arrangements. **PD**

4-H IN THE TOWN OF HALCOTT

(The following was submitted by Mr. Norman Fuller, who will be remembered by many as one of the county officials who would make the trip over the hills to this far corner of Greene County. Mr. Fuller resides in Catskill. I remember, as maybe an 8 year old, Mr. Fuller looking at my primitive collection of moths and butterflies and suggesting that I do some research to identify them, and enter the exhibit in the county fair. Had I taken Mr. Fuller's advice, perhaps today I would be an entomologist of some renown. Darn. PD)

I served as 4-H Agent in Greene County from April 1962 to August 1969. I worked with the boys' projects and with Ward and Ruth Reynolds – they had the only 4-H Club in Halcott during this time period. It was a club made up of boys and girls.

My first trip to Halcott was made in 1962 with Natalie Straub, 4-H Agent -- Home Economics. I thought I was going to the end of the world. We took Rt. 42 out of Lexington, which went into Ulster, then Delaware, counties. When we arrived, Ruth Reynolds had coffee and something for us to eat, and we spent a couple of hours discussing their 4-H program. Ward served as assistant leader of the club. The families that I can remember being in 4-H in this era were the Johnsons and the Reynolds, but I am not doing justice to the girls that were in the Home Economics program. Alan Reynolds raised pheasants to release in the area. One year he won the National Commercial Bank and Trust Company Scholarship – only one is given out in Greene County.

Gloria Johnson was Greene County Dairy Princess one year. Ruth took Gloria and some of the other girls in the club to compete in the County Dress Revue.

When I came to Greene County, Ward was serving as Supervisor for the Town of Halcott. Each town only had one, and they ran the County. When Ward was serving as a County Deputy Sheriff, I got him to serve on the Advisory Committee for the 4-H Automotive Program. We had programs in Tannersville and Windham.

At one time we had 12 to 15 4-H Clubs on the Mountain Top. We have few, if any, left today. Like all youth organizations, 4-H Clubs need volunteer leaders. Any left?

(How about it? Anybody ready to start another 4-H club in Town?)



KNOT A NICE WEED

Japanese Knotweed has become a scourge to waterways everywhere.

Knotweed, known sometimes as bamboo, chokes up stream beds and causes damaging floods during storms. Anyone who has grown this noxious beast, knows that it can spread faster than fire on a windy day. Apparently, knotweed propagates from underground roots as well as pieces of stem as small as two inches. In England there are stories of the stuff growing up through concrete basements. As Halcott contains the headwaters of the Vly which runs to the East Branch of the Delaware, any knotweed that we may have endangers all the waters downstream of us. And we have it. Halcott is working closely with Delaware County Soil & Water Conservation District on stream management issues, and DCS&WCD has proposed a pilot project here in town to eradicate the stand of Japanese knotweed from the stream bed just at the junction of County Routes 1 and 3.

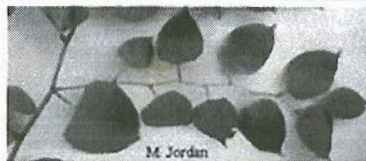
Stems will be hand cut, gathered, and dried for an hour in the sun, after which they will no longer be viable to reproduce. A group of hardy knotweed eradicators led by Dan Chesire began Project KnotaLot on June 13 and will revisit the site every month throughout the summer to keep the stems cut. The theory is that this will weaken the knotweed slowly to

any knotty wanderlust. On the other hand, the Highway Crew, while mowing the sides of the roads, has probably unwittingly spread the knotweed that grows along Dan Chesire's driveway entrance on County Route 3, by dragging bits of it in the mower. So if you have a patch of knotweed that you are knot too happy with, contact Dan at 254-4310 for information

on how our pilot project is doing. Or better yet, join us for some tying up of this knotty problem. *IK*

Japanese Knotweed

Polygonum cuspidatum Sieb. & Zucc.



- Aggressive perennial, forms thickets 3-6 ft tall
- Stems hollow, jointed, bamboo-like
- Leaves alternate, 3-6 inches long, leathery
- Flowers greenish white
- Grows in wetlands and uplands, especially troublesome along streams.

Patience: A Parable (in Survey Form)

[Submitted by Marc Neves as received from a friend.]

Number of blueberries needed for annual pie from two amiable but scraggly blueberry bushes: 300-400
 Number of blueberries at last count (11:14 a.m.): 45

Number of blueberries next day, 2:50 p.m.: 0

extinction.

If you have knotweed on your property, please help us to care for it responsibly. When cutting it back, make sure to dispose of the stems in a manner that kills them absolutely. Composting may not do the trick. Susan Benedetto grows knotweed as an ornamental. Admittedly, it makes a grand statement in a garden. She keeps it contained by mowing diligently around it, thus containing

The moral: Those who drink of the birds' song should not begrudge them good food.

Patience: A Recipe

2 tablespoons olive oil
 1 yellow onion, sliced
 6 large bell peppers, 3 each red and orange, seeded and cut into 1/2-inch slices
 Salt and freshly ground pepper

In a large sauté pan, heat the olive oil over medium-high heat. Add the onion and stir until softened, about 2 minutes. Add the peppers and stir to coat with the oil. Reduce the heat to medium and sauté until the peppers are softened and lightly golden, about 10 minutes. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Continue to sauté until the vegetables are tender and caramelized, 8 to 10 minutes longer. After about 5 minutes, when they're almost perfect, break the lid of your favorite vintage double boiler into the pan as you're preparing to make the polenta.

Do not serve. Do not lose patience.

Patience: A Lesson

Do not lose patience when you get two lessons in patience within the same hour. Sometimes these things do not take time.

HAL BRAND

How did Hal Brand get to Halcott?

Harold Brand: born in 1920 in Cypress Hills, Brooklyn, New York and at 21 years old a new recruit with the United States Air Force. But when medical difficulties prevented Hal from flying, he first flirted with the new and exciting work of radar technician, and then settled in



cryptography. In the 1940s, they were just beginning to use airplanes for the US mail; pilots navigated by dead reck-

oning. Radar brought new possibilities. Hal's unit was responsible for navigational systems, homing beacons, air to ground contact. He was shipped to Assam, a province in the northeast corner of India that had Burma on one side and China on the other. In what was called the "Hump Flight," troops flew supplies into China. For two years he and his unit watched over the bases all through and along the Brama Putra River, encompassing a tea-growing area then belonging to the British.

Hal returned to the States in 1945 and was by then a captain. He continued in the Reserves, and was called back during the Korean War, serving another 18 months in Syracuse, New York. Gradually, as he took more and more courses, he was promoted through the Reserves and when he left in 1970, he was a Lieutenant Colonel. Even today, Hal's car license memorializes this time in his life with the letters "AACs: Army Airways Communication System."

At a party in 1945, Hal met the pretty and vivacious Albertine (known as Tina) Streeter, who had been trained as a laboratory technician and was back from a job on the west coast. Albertine used to receive a metal box of eggs (Hal says that they'd always arrive safely) from her father in Halcott, every week, even while in California, and every week she'd send it back empty for more eggs.

They both landed jobs in New York City and started seeing each other. Hal was in charge of a communications center at LaGuardia Airport. Not two months went by, according to Hal, before she "dragged me up to Halcott." He loved it. On October 31, 1947 they married. After that they often weekend visited her parents (Ward & Bertha Streeter) on the farm. The adjacent farm and boarding house was operated by the Wadlers and it was not uncommon for them to borrow a bedroom from the

Streeters to accommodate overflow boarders. The house that Hal now lives in was built by Bernie Wadler in early 50's and acquired by Tina in 1989. Built by Roy Johnson, husband to Neva, Albertine's sister (Hal tells me that Roy built most of the houses "around here"), the house has a porch which was later added by Garold Johnson.

In those days, it was hard to get to Halcott from the City as Hal and Albertine didn't have a car. Bernie Wadler was the Town Supervisor and Garold Johnson was the Highway Superintendent. Albertine (in typical and time-honored Halcott fashion) asked Hal to come up from the City to vote during tight elections. He was carefully picked up and chauffeured from the bus to the voting booth and back. Hal remembers on another occasion asking Tina to help him arrange a hunting expedition for a general and two aides who found out that Hal had a connection in the Catskills and were avid hunters. Roy Johnson was a renowned hunter and offered to take Hal's guests hunting. Neva gave them breakfast. Everyone had fun, but Hal said sadly that the day was warm and there were no deer.

Today, Hal Brand is a snow-bird, spending winters in the warm, sunny south where a single tomato plant produces unreasonable amounts of fruit. But he is here all summer, and remains a great friend to the Town: Hal has donated many items including Albertine's piano which stands proudly on the Grange Hall stage and his latest kindness: an almost new refrigerator that Stanley Bates drove up from Hal's home in the south. Thank you, Hal for all that you have done over the years. *IK*

A Shepherd's Tale

In the last issue of **The Times of Halcott** we looked at the wonders of calving season. This

year our farm has been doubly blessed to enjoy both calving and lambing seasons with the arrival of our sheep. Yes, our sheep are here! Actually, they arrived just after Thanksgiving. Our small flock includes ten ewes (females) and one ram. Five of the ewes are of the Scottish Blackface breed. The Blackface sheep are rather distinguished-looking and one can easily envision them in their native Scottish Highlands. The ewes have long, wavy wool, mottled black and white faces and legs, and beautiful curving horns. Scottish Blackface wool is tough and thick and is used in carpet making. The other five ewes are Cheviots or Cheviot-Katahdin crosses. The Katahdin is a "hair" breed of sheep that sloughs its wool in the spring. They don't need to be sheared! Our ram, "Moses", is a large, handsome gent of Cheviot-Katahdin breeding.

Our flock has adjusted well to its new home. During the late fall and winter months,



before the ewes were too heavy with lambs, it was fun to work Bob and Corrie, our two trusty Border Collies, on them. In addition, we have enjoyed learning about the sheep (new tricks for old cow people!). It was particularly amusing to watch how the sheep would use their front hooves to dig in the snow to get to the grass below. I found relaxation in simply en-

joying their beauty as they ate or lounged around. Gradually, our flock became familiar with us through our daily interactions during feeding times. It's been neat to see the trust build to the point where the sheep will follow us anywhere and respond to our presence with joyful bleating (at these times it sounds like we have 100 sheep!).

As April lambing time approached (sheep are pregnant for about five months), we were filled with excitement and hope. Also, because this was the first year we had lambs born here, I was a bit concerned about how our old-timers- we have a few ewes that are about 8 years old- and first-timers would handle motherhood under the direction of beginning shepherds. All concerns aside, the lambs came, often late at night J, and the ewes proved to be terrific mothers. As a result, we now have eleven healthy, robust lambs frolicking in the pastures.

Although there were a few minor health issues with some of the lambs and ewes, they were easily rectified while giving us the chance to learn more about sheep husbandry. A couple of the older ewes were short on milk for their lambs so we have been bottle-feeding two lambs. Those two lambs are quite the friendly little characters!

Over all, keeping sheep has been a wonderful experience. We hope sheep will be a part of our farm into the future. To be entrusted to care for another little part of our Heavenly Father's amazing creation is both humbling as well as an honor. Indeed, the best part of living on a farm, with all its abundance of life forms, is having the opportunity to experience our awesome God at work on a daily basis. We can see His loving hands at work not only in the

beauty and intricacy of our lovely mountain and valley flora and fauna but also in our every day circumstances. Our loving Father patiently, faithfully teaches us, often using that which is right before us, that which is familiar.

A few months ago, I was blessed to receive a beautiful illustration, first-hand, using our little sheep flock, of how much our Lord loves us, longs for us, and rejoices when one of His lost sheep is found. Every once in a while, one of our sheep or cows will go AWOL. Usually, the animal has simply decided to go off to eat or rest by itself, usually in a place where it doesn't belong at that time. One morning one of our Blackface ewes was missing. I thought, "OK, she couldn't have gone too far. The field isn't that big so she's here somewhere." I began searching the field but to no avail. Now I was getting concerned. Where was she? I went back over the field. Was her head stuck somewhere? Had she found a weak spot in the fence? By now I was moving more purposefully, determined to find the lost ewe. We care about our livestock. That even one was missing was heartbreaking. I went back down by the old round bales along the fence at the far end of the field. Lo and behold, much to my delight was the ewe. She had her head buried into the core of the hay bale so that only a tiny portion of her back end was visible. She was so busy eating that she didn't even hear me coming or the other sheep going off to the hay feeders. With absolute joy, I called to her. She backed out of the bale, looked around, and realized the other sheep had left and were off feasting on better hay in the safety of the flock. She then quickly turned and ran to the others, back to where she belonged all along. What a relief for her! What a relief for me! And what a reminder of God's unfail-



ing care! *JD*

PETE'S PAGES FROM THE PAST

From May, 1906:

A party of six civil engineers in the employ of the Delaware & Eastern Railroad Company have been in town the past week making surveys and taking measurements on the Vega side, from the base to the summit of Round Top Mountain. When the base on the Westkill side is reached, the exact distance for the proposed tunnel will be known.

We are informed on reliable authority that three original surveys will be made by the company. The Halcott, Grand Gorge and Vega route will be surveyed before any definite action will be taken by the company.

A.H. Todd has commenced the work of extending his telephone system to Halcott and when completed long distance service will be availed.

The farmers in town have reported a large yield of oats and buckwheat but potatoes rotting and the hay crop nearly one quarter short. Ballard

& Gordon are running their steam thresher and corn cutter full time and can't keep up.

From 1945:

Cpl. Donald Ploutz of the 5th Army in Italy has been wounded and is in a rest camp.

Pvt. Charles Ballard, Jr. [*Pete's father*] is with the 10th Mt. Division of the 5th Army in Italy.



Pvt. Charles Ballard

Bernard Bouton of the U.S. Navy has been transferred from Sampson to Gulfport, Miss.

Mrs. Amos Avery has been sent a Purple Heart awarded to her son, Sgt. John Lucas in the Philippines.

Mrs. Carson Bouton and baby daughter have returned home from the Margaretville Hospital.

Greetings, Propane-burning Neighbors

I'm trying to guide our little cooperative through this period of intense change and cost increase in the energy industry. Suburban Propane declined to renew the terms established in our contract three years ago. They offered us 10% off the high-quantity retail price they charge large individual customers. That meant a considerable price increase from the deal we had. I declined to pass the offer on to you--and for the past six months we have been waiting for competing bids and reconsideration by Suburban. We got an interesting offer from Paraco, which has bought the Colonial Gas operation, and wants to gain more of a foothold in the areas. As **The Times of Halcott** goes to press, Suburban is a day overdue getting a revised offer to us.

My email address is alanadelson@verizon.net.

Please log in with me by email or send a note to me at 207 Turk Hollow Rd. with a stamped envelope and I'll keep you posted. And I will send updates through our great town paper.

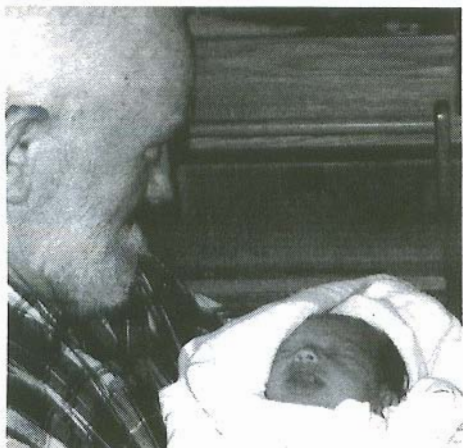
NEWSFLASH: Oil consumers may also be eligible for discounts. Stay tuned!

Alan Adelson



PASSAGES:

Welcome to **Ava Jaquelyn Fronckowiak** who was born May 20, 2006, 6.13 lbs to parents Chuck and Tonia. This little lady is



Pete Ballard & Ava Fronckowiak

blessed with grandparents: Vicky and David Carpenter, and GREAT grandparents, Pete and Nancy Ballard. Pictured here is the proud great grandfather flirting with Ava.

And on the same day, May 20th, **Sasha Kasanof and Jennifer Viau** were married in Frederick, Maryland by Halcott Town Justice, Anton Kasanof.

GRADUATES

We take a few minutes to recognize all those



Jennifer Viau & Sasha Kasanof

who have received degrees this spring. Congratulations to **Nichole Kelder, Russell White, Shadow Williams** and **Thomas Vitro** who all will graduate from Margaretville Central School on June 24th.

And congratulations to **Josh Pultz** who graduated from Pace University this spring with a degree in Business!

And for my favorite graduation tale: Halcott had not one but TWO proud families at the graduation ceremonies of New York University's Stern School of Business this past May. Two Margaretville Central School alumnae, **Andrea Lacey** and **Vanya Kasanof** were among the 359 men and women from all over the world who received MBA degrees at Madison Square Garden amidst cheering crowds of loved ones. There were so many people crushed together, that the two graduates called one another on their cell phones to determine a meeting place outside the hall. The parents came all the way from Halcott to shake hands

and congratulate one another and grin with pride. What a tribute to MCS as well as to the drive and energy of these two people. Vanya took off two years to attend school full time, but Andrea worked even harder, taking courses in the evenings to achieve the coveted degree while juggling a full-time job. Every graduation is a triumph. Congratulations to all Halcott's graduates. **IK**





**THE TIMES
OF THE
HALCOTT
METHODIST CHURCH**
Summer, 2006

Pattie Kelder, Correspondent

Summer News

Our summer begins with high school graduation. Awards in memory of Janet Kelder Riss were presented to four Halcott graduates from the Margaretville Central School this year - - Nichole Kelder, Thomas Vitro, Russell White and Shadow Williams. Congratulations to each of you!

During the summer, the church will be open for a time of prayer at 9 o'clock on Tuesday mornings. We are looking forward to this opportunity to learn more about communicating with God. All are welcome, so round up your prayer requests and come along.

There will be a bake table at the Halcott Fair again this year. Generous donors and generous shoppers are needed. You might even consider dropping hints about your favorite foods ahead of time... Now if I could just find the recipe for that pineapple pie Shirley Finch likes so much. And by the way, have you ever tasted her homemade rolls? Well, I could go on and on about the specialties of many a good baker! Hopefully, we'll soon savor the evidence.

We will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Upper Catskills Larger Parish on September 24th at 4:00 PM at the Margaretville United Methodist Church. Former pastors have been invited to attend. The service will feature combined choirs of the member churches and Bishop Park will preach. Dinner will be served afterward.

Life's Little Miracles

You may have heard - - Donald and Shirley Bouton are home! While wintering in Oneonta, each recovered from illnesses as family back in Halcott renovated the house in preparation for their return. (They welcome visitors). The attention received by the house was most timely and led to the discovery that major repairs to the bathroom floor and electric service were necessary before changes could be made to the house to accommodate wheel chair accessibility for Shirley. It is good that guardian angels work 24/7. Welcome Home!

Children's Events

On Memorial Day weekend several kits were assembled by some Halcott youngsters



and their moms. Two dozen health kits, a dozen school kits and some sewing kits are en route to the warehouse in LA as we go to press. And who knows? Some may even end up in recently devastated Java, near the missionary location of Roger Dixon who served as a student pastor in Halcott during the early 1960's along with his wife Janet. Small world. There will be opportunities to assemble more kits again. Perhaps there might also be interest in writing cards to cheer wounded soldiers or in working on PET components. Your input and ideas are most welcome as we continue to build a caring network of young people.

Vacation Bible School has not been scheduled yet, but is expected to be a lot of fun. Watch the mail for your invitation.

PET (Personal Energy Transportation) Update

Many of you will remember the hand operated vehicles for land mine amputees featured at the Hal-

cott Fair last July. It has been a busy year for the project with 1000 PETs nearing completion - except for some tires. Does anyone know of a contact person or a low cost source?

Even though PET is in the midst of completing paperwork for federal not-for-profit status, the operation is still small and depends heavily on volunteers. Currently, volunteers are needed in several areas. Just about anyone can participate, even on the most limited basis.

PET: THE CATSKILL-HUDSON DISTRICT MISSION PROJECT

OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER:

1. Communication

a. Fund raising

b. Publicity: Web page; Newsletter; Correspondence; Brochures; Presentation

2. Make parts at your location: wood; metal; painting; sewing; assembly and packaging

3. Transportation: parts; materials; PETs

If you are interested in being a volunteer, please contact PET New York-East Jewett, Inc., c/o Don Muth, 1008 CR40, East Jewett, NY 12424; e-mailed dmuth2@earthlink.net
