

THE POST STAR

Est. 1904

Victims remembered

Event planned for survivors LOCAL, PAGE A3



Hometown column

Family visits trampoline park, celebrates boy's fight with Perthes LOCAL, PAGE A3

Former supervisor runs

Bruce Ferguson on ballot LOCAL, PAGE A3



CLOUDY AND COOL 70 • 56 FORECAST, A8

MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2017

poststar.com

2009 Pulitzer Prize winner



BRUCE SQUIERS

Dressed as Baroness Frederika Charlotte Riedesel, reenactor Debbie Bailey gives a program Saturday at the Marshall House in Schuylerville. In 1777, the house, which still stands, served as a refuge for the women and children who accompanied the British Army fighting at Saratoga, and the Baroness, wife of an officer and the mother of three children there, kept a diary account which was recalled by Ms. Bailey. To her left, seated in Revolutionary garb, is Joseph Marshall of Massachusetts, a direct descendant of the Marshall family.

SGF to digitize records

Employee handbook confusion sparked update decision

KATHLEEN MOORE
kmoore@poststar.com

SOUTH GLENS FALLS — The village is looking for help to enter the 21st Century.

After searching minutes by hand to try to figure out if the village had ever voted on an employee handbook, Mayor Harry Guthell wants a better way.

"I think we need to digitize our records, so they can be searched easily," he said.

He's hoping the New York State Archives will help. He also plans to apply for grants to get digitized. Interns might be available to scan in file cabinets filled with documents.

The village's records system has not been able to keep up with Guthell's demands. Most recently, on Wednesday, village officials could not immediately figure out how many local laws had been passed in 2017. They had to vote on draft legislation

...the Revolutionary War structure right now. His family has owned the Marshall House in Schuylerville for nearly one hundred years, and open their doors to every tourist who knocks.

History faces future

KATHLEEN MOORE
kmoore@poststar.com

SCHUYLERVILLE – As David Bullard gets older, his historic house weighs on him more and more.

Bullard, 86, can take care of the Revolutionary War structure right now. His family has owned the Marshall House in Schuylerville for nearly one hundred years, and open their doors to every tourist who knocks.

But someday he won't be around. What will happen to the house that still has bloodstains from the battle that became the turning point in the Revolutionary War?

The weekend of Schuylerville's annual Turning Point Parade, Bullard hosted a family reunion at the Marshall House. It wasn't his family, but the Marshalls, who owned the house until 1930. About 40 of them came back to seriously discuss what to do with the property their ancestors owned.

"We have splendid people involved, first class, enthusiastic, good people. The level of interest and enthusiasm is very high," Bullard said. "Virtually all of this Marshall tribe are interested in (preserving) it."

They are leaning toward creating a trust, to which the Marshalls could donate and help run. After Bullard dies, his wife might sell the house to the trust.

"It's a cinch my wife could not live here by herself if I passed away. It's too much for one person," Bullard said.

And he wants to know that the property is protected before he's on his death bed.

"We can't direct anything from the grave," he said. "It would be satisfying, and I think appropriate, to direct it in a way that would be a benefit to the public."

He would love it to be a living museum, showcasing Revolu-



JENN MARCH, SPECIAL TO THE POST-STAR

Revolutionary War reenactment group Fives and Drums walks through downtown Schuylerville at the Turning Point Parade on Sunday.

tionary War items that are possibly held in private collections around Schuylerville now.

"We don't have a museum in Schuylerville, and this is where it all happened," he said. "I've been told by various and sundry, if there were a place in Schuylerville where things could be displayed and enjoyed by people, these things would come out of the woodwork."

Goodness knows he's had no trouble finding things. He walks the grounds with a metal detector every few years, after frost heaves move items closer to the surface. He's found four cannon balls, each of which he dug out of the ground.

"They're 17 pounds. They're unusual – there's no record of 17-pound guns at Saratoga," he said, referring to the battle.

Those have joined his collection, which includes three other cannonballs that struck the house during the closing days of the Battles of Saratoga. The Americans attacked the house for days, believing it to be the opposing army's headquarters.

Actually, it had been occupied by the wife and young children of Major General Friedrich Adolf Riedesel, who commanded the German contingent in the British army at the battle. Other women also took shelter at the house, as did injured soldiers.

Baroness Frederika Riedesel described the days and nights of bombardment in her diary, creating one of the few first-hand accounts of the battle.

"Eleven cannon balls went through the house, and we could plainly hear them rolling over our heads. One poor soldier, whose leg they were about to amputate, having been laid upon a table for this purpose, had the other leg taken off by another cannon ball, in the very middle of the operation," she wrote.

Between the sounds of the weapons, the screams of injured men and her children's crying, she could not sleep and lost all appetite. Throughout the seven days in the house, she only ate "crusts of bread dipped in wine," she wrote.

But it was not all hardship.

"We don't have a museum in Schuylerville, and this is where it all happened."

David Bullard

One of the injured officers would imitate animals sounds in the night to comfort her 3-year-old daughter – one of three young children she had brought with her to the war. She kept them close, even laying on top of them at one point to prevent them from being shot as she rode a carriage to the house.

She came to the war voluntarily, at her husband's urging, as soon as she had given birth to their third child. Her diary doesn't describe any doubts about bringing her children with her, but they were apparently a help when the army surrendered.

She had been afraid of what might happen when she rode into the Americans' camp.

"On the contrary, they all greeted me, even showing compassion on their countenances at seeing a mother with her little children in such a situation," she wrote.

The Marshall family bought the house in 1817 and have remained attached emotionally even though the family sold it in 1930.

"It's a wonderful story," said family member Elaine Gardella. "My grandmother talked about the house quite a bit, even though we were born in Colorado."

She was one of the many who attended this weekend's family reunion. She also dressed up in historic garb and rode with Bullard in the Turning Point Parade.

officials could not immediately figure out how many local laws had been passed in 2017. They had to vote on draft legislation without that detail. The laws labeled "local law" numbers will be determined at a later date.

Village Clerk Dannae B... who takes the minutes, asked to leave the room to try track down a number before the board voted. It was not added to the legislation prior to the vote.

"We're not where we should be on records," Gutheil said.

The issue began when Public Works Superintendent Brian Ab...

are resigned in May. He asked to be paid about \$20,000 for his unused sick time, citing an old employee handbook. At least one version of the handbook promised that those

Please see RECORDS, Page A8

China boosts pressure on North Korea

JOSH LEDERMAN
Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines – A global pressure campaign on North Korea propelled by sharp new U.N. sanctions received a welcome boost Sunday from China, the North's economic lifeline, as Beijing called on its neighbor to halt its missile and nuclear tests.

The Trump administration cautiously embraced China's apparent newfound cooperation, while putting it on notice that the U.S. would be watching closely to ensure it didn't ease up on North Korea if and when the world's attention is diverted elsewhere. But there were no signs the U.S. would acquiesce to China's call for a quick return to negotiations.

The diplomatic wrangling sought to build on the sweeping new North Korea sanctions passed by the U.N. Security Council a day earlier – the strongest in a generation, the U.S. said.

Please see CHINA, Page A8



Check out poststar.com for breaking news, like us

CLASSIFIED C1-8 HOROSCOPES A4 NATION/WORLD A5



his way to avoid crossing paths with Ri.

Though Beijing repeated

no plans to interact with Ri.

Tillerson, who was scheduled to attend a gala

needed to strike American soil with a nuclear-tipped missile.

new one even
dating them
In the end

House

From A1

She lives three hours away, in Massachusetts, but she wants to help ensure the house is preserved after Bullard's death.

"Most importantly, to make sure this house is never sold to someone who guts it and turns it into something modern," she said. "This is the reality. It's happening all over America with historic houses."

She also doesn't want the house to sit vacant as a sterile museum.

"All houses, I think, need someone living in them," she said. "I've been to historic houses where no one's living in them. They have a dusty, static feel to them."

While no decision as to a trust or other arrangement has been made yet, Bullard and Gardella are confident that plans are moving forward.

"Nothing definitive, but

the conversations were good," Bullard said. "We'll be around for awhile and I hope in this period, we can work something out."

You can reach Kathleen Moore at 742-3247 or kmoore@poststar.com. Follow her on Twitter @ByKathleenMoore or at her blog on www.poststar.com.



FLOORMASTER
CARPET ONE FLOOR & HOME

102 QUAKER RD.,
QUEENSBURY
793-3367

floormastercarpetone.com

INSTANT
IN-STORE REBATE

SAVE \$3 SQ. YD.

AVAILABLE ON SELECT
SMARTSTRAND® POWER CLEAN™ STYLES

Sale ends September 5, 2017

