Today 46°/36°
Sunday 61°/37°
Monday 66°/39°
Tuesday 64°/41°
Wednesday 62°/42°
Thursday 63°/40°
Friday 60°/45°

Inside this week:

Throttling
LR/CM football cruises to win on Le Roy's homecoming night

Sport, A6

Your hometown guide to news, events, local businesses, and more!

The Le Roy Weekend Gazette

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SAMUEL ZERILLO/THE LE ROY WEEKEND GAZETTE

Jim Bonacquisti greets former players and coaches during a pre-game ceremony honoring his final home game before retirement on Friday.

Le Roy Football Coaching Legend Jim Bonacquisti Honored During Final Home Game

By SAMUEL ZERILLO
samuelzerillo@gmail.com

Jimmy knows football

That's what former Le Roy football player and coach Pete Grow said during a ceremony held to honor long-tenured coach and current Rivals special teams coordinator Jim Bonacquisti during his last home game as Lancaster Rivals head coach.

Grow, who got chosen to speak on Bonacquisti's behalf during the ceremony after spending many years playing for and coaching with Bonacquisti, praised Bonacquisti's knowledge of the game and coaching prowess.

"He understands the game, the strategy, the history, and all the little details that make it great," Grow said.

The part Grow really wanted to emphasize, though, is behind all the things that make him a good coach on the field, his true love lies in the way he gets to mix with and praises the players on the team.

"But I think what Jimmy will be remembered most better is that football is really about people," Grow said. "It's about teaching young men how to live, we had to grow that he actually was behind them, that it wasn't really a memorial stone, and that that has occurred in some situations" Bellisclo said.

Grow, James, years since because he had died in 1815, which was before Machpelah Cemetery even existed. Bellisclo said that he helps of Trinita Rigi at the Acton State Veterans Cemetery in Middleton and is Pomeroy family. And so that was really kind of inspiring to

PROVIDED PHOTO

This photo, taken about 1925, shows the Le Roy Fire Department's 1923 Triple Action Stutz firetruck fitted out for Fire Prevention week. The two firefighters pictured are Joe Miller and Tom Phillips.

Le Roy Man Dies After Lima Motorcycle Crash

By BEN BEAGLE
ben@limaobserver.com

A Le Roy man was fatally injured in a motorcycle crash Oct. 16 on East Main Road near the village of Lima line, reports the Livingston County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies were called about 4:30 p.m. after receiving calls reporting a motor vehicle crash that had just occurred involving a motorcycle. Upon arrival, deputies confirmed that there was a crash involving a motorcycle and that the victim was being treated at the scene, according to the Sheriff's Office.

The preliminary investigation revealed that a vehicle driven by Jeffrey S. and by William Edwards, 55, of Le Roy was traveling west on East Main Road when the motorcycle left the roadway and struck a wooded area, the Sheriff's Office said.

Edwards was treated at the scene, but later died from his injuries after being transported to the University of Rochester Strong Memorial Hospital.

The crash remains under investigation.

Investigating the crash were the Sheriff's Office were members of the Patrol Division, Criminal Investigations Division, and the Major Crimes Identification Unit.

Assisting at the scene were the Lima Fire Department, East Avon Fire Department, and Livingston County ALS.

Fire Prevention Week

By LYNNE BELLISSO
lynne@lerwg.com

The Le Roy Weekend Gazette

The photos included with this article was taken about 1925 and shows the Le Roy Fire Department's 1923 Triple Action Stutz firetruck fitted out for Fire Prevention week. The two firefighters pictured are Joe Miller and Tom Phillips.

Looking Back with Lynne

a bed where fire hose could be stored. In addition to triple action trucks there are also "quint" trucks, which include a water pump, a ten gallon tank, a hose bed, as well as an aerial device and ground ladders. The department also utilizes rural departments to fulfill multiple apparatus roles with a single vehicle.

In most towns, which was the case in Le Roy, in the 1880s there were separate companies for fire suppression. This was a time when men and horses pulled equipment to fire in Le Roy there was the Oatka Hose Cart Company and a hook and ladder company. There was also a Hook and Ladder Company which was located on the second floor of a building that included a horse barn. They had been formed in 1913 by Humphrey Nourse and Frank Bowen and founded Pierce Auto Body Shop. The Pierce Company of Appleton, Wisconsin made the fire truck. It they built custom utility bodies for Ford Model T's per-

PROVIDED PHOTO

The fire swept through Le Roy's business district on a very windy day in October 1915, destroying the Bowen Block, Sixty years later, on October 27th, 1975, a fire started in the Le Roy Opera House, which was located in the Bowen Block. Sixty years later, on October 27th, 1975, a fire started in the Le Roy Opera House, which was located in the Bowen Block.

"I suggest the special dedication of improving upon the teachers and pupils in schools, and in factories, in industrial establishments, the importance of precautionary measures for avoiding fire. If the teachers, pupils, nurses, earnestly undertakes and vigorously enforced, we shall contribute to a vast economy of the national resources of the people and to human effort; as well as to a great reduction in the sum of human losses now needlessly sacrificed."

Governor Charles Evans Hughes issued new building codes which required that construction in central zones be of fireproof materials. Wooden shingles were banned and encouraged the world's first fireproof office building, a 12 story building in Chicago, was a 10-story building designed by William Le Baron Jenney. It was the first building supported by an internal steel framework.

Interestingly, the offices of Herman and Jacob Le Roy, who had moved to Le Roy and located in lower Manhattan were destroyed by the great fire, which also destroyed the Merchant's Exchange, the Stock Exchange, the post office, and countless banks. The fire contributed to the Panic of 1835.

Jacob Le Roy, who was born in Le Roy, New York, died in Europe in 1837.

This year in 2026, the theme for Fire Prevention Week is "Every Second Counts: Plan Escape Routes Before Fire Strikes." This reminds us that we have only seconds to escape the fire and that simple habits can help save lives.

Use approved chargers, avoid plugging too many cords or cords, and unplug devices when not charging. And it doesn't hurt to know the Fire Department's "Stop, Drop and Roll" technique. Check out your furnace & pipes before starting fires."

Historical Markers Go Up in Le Roy Cemeteries to Honor the Town's Revolutionary War Patriots

By SAMUEL ZERILLO
samuelzerillo@gmail.com

Le Roy cemeteries with Revolutionary War patriots are now being given historical markers.

Last week, official historical markers made their debut in Le Roy Cemetery on East Main Road, the Oakhill Street Cemetery and Machpelah Cemetery on Munson Street, with plans to potentially bring additional flags to the big City Cemetery on Lake Street. The Foundation set up official flags early for new patriot cemetery markers.

"They provide markers to new almost across the United States for various topics, and I've been looking through them for buildings that are on the National Register, things like that," Bellisclo said. "But in the spring of this year, they announced that they were offering a review process to identify cemeteries where there were any veterans had been buried."

MARK GUTMAN/THE DAILY NEWS

Historical markers are being erected in Le Roy's cemeteries to honor Revolutionary War veterans buried within. A new marker recently went up at Bush Cemetery.

Edmund Beach Jr. enlisted in the Continental Army at just 16 years old, serving as a drummer boy and surviving many conflicts of the war. He eventually also relocated to Le Roy in 1815, where he would join the congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Oatka.

Beach died at the relatively young age of 43 years old, and is buried in Bush Cemetery on Bush Road. Bellisclo said that a work is now. Soon before relocating to a cabin in Le Roy.

Bruning is was a Private in a Massachusetts Regiment before moving to Le Roy at the war, and actually has a descendant, Candy Bowen, still living within the town limits.

Machpelah has three veterans buried in the cemetery, at just 16 years old, serving as a drummer boy and surviving many conflicts of the war.

Gannon is one of the most well-known Le Roy patriots, as during the war he marched to Lexington and is then fought at the famous Battle of Bunker Hill. Later in life, he started a mill in what is now. Soon before relocating to a cabin in Le Roy.

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Patriots

Page 4

...and last two weeks working diligently to gather evidence to provide sufficient proof for the patriots buried at Machpelah Cemetery, Oakhill Cemetery and St. Mark's Cemetery.

"There's a guy that we found in Batavia, I think maybe we can't find his military records, which would have been probably where he served, but there's no records said. "We think he's in the Battle of Saratoga, which the military records in Pennsylvania, and he's got a DAR marker on his grave."

So, we figured, okay, that's got to be a good indicator, that's got to be a good indicator that the Daughters of the American Revolution has information on him, but you know, we're going to spend 20 bill to get to that information, I guess. But I think Tom Hoggard found a, and he's going to be my next thing, is to send that information to Archivist.

The Patriot on Canandaigua

Chairperson, 770 S Main St, Canandaigua NY

some of these men's only indicators of membership is the Revolutionary War, are DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) ceremonies that will be held at their graves.

"Machpelah has a couple of weeks to put this research together and then we can add a couple more cemeteries to the list and put markers up," Bellisclo said. "I wanted to get across the first time around, because I'm not sure if there will be a second, or more of a challenge for me to get these in."

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MARK GUTMAN/THE DAILY NEWS

The Myrtle Street Cemetery historical marker, listing the Revolutionary War patriots buried within.

3 Displaced by Stafford Fire

Garage destroyed, home damaged in Wednesday morning blaze

By BEN BEAGLE and MARK GUTMAN
news@batavian.com

Two residents of a Horseshoe Lake Road home and their pet were displaced after fire destroyed a garage and damaged the home early Wednesday morning.

Firefighters from at least six area departments were called to the blaze at 5733 Horseshoe Lake Road in Stafford around 6:30 a.m. Wednesday.

Stafford Firefighter Chief Jason Lee said the fire was fully involved," said Assistant chief Brad Hewning.

A second alarm was called "very quickly" due to the volume and water concerns, he said.

Mutual aid came from Batavia, City of Batavia, Byron, Le Roy and South Byron also responded to the scene.

The garage was destroyed — only a few charred and melted metal beams and the garage's brick front remained standing.

The garage was detached from the home, but "very close" to the house, he said.

Hewning said the fire was accidental in origin. He said he expected that the house "should be habitable."

The Red Cross was assisting the home's residents.

It was the homeowners who first discovered called the fire, he said.

The homeowners were home when the fire broke out and were able to get away from the fire safely, according to Hewning.

MARK GUTMAN/THE DAILY NEWS

Firefighters from at least six area departments responded Wednesday morning to a garage fire at 5733 Horseshoe Lake Rd. in Stafford.

DOT Deploys Automated Flaggers During Le Roy Work

By BEN BEAGLE
ben@limaobserver.com

The state Department of Transportation deployed a different kind of flagger — a robotic device during a maintenance project in Le Roy that required traffic to be shifted to the left lane of the eastbound bareash the railroad overpass.

Instead of humans directing traffic on opposite sides of the road, an automated flagger assistance device, or AFAD, which resembles a traffic cone crossing gate, is a remotely operated system.

"While these devices may be new to some drivers in our region, they are a standard tool in the DOT's operational toolkit," Dennis M. Imdieke, a resident engineers for the state's DOT in Genesee and Orleans counties, said in a statement to The Daily News.

Previous DOT began using AFADs in a limited capacity for short-term maintenance and maintenance closures on one-lane, two-way roads with low traffic volumes, Imdieke said.

The Le Roy AFAD flagging was fixing a drainage inlet on Oct. 6 and the project was largely completed the same day. A plate remained in place until the concrete had cured and then the platform was removed, Imdieke said. Maintenance Mechanic

MARK GUTMAN/THE DAILY NEWS

Traffic traveling eastbound is stopped near the Le Roy underpass on Route 5 during an Oct. 6 construction project. The road was reduced to one lane and traveled was controlled by an automated flagger assistance device, or AFAD.

ciency and clearer motorist guidance, according to Imdieke.

The technology allows for a single operator to control multiple devices outside of active traffic lanes.

Traditional flagging requires personnel to stand in the roadway, exposing them to moving vehicles, Imdieke said. The AFAD system "reduces worker exposure to on-site at all times to maximize the devices and our fully trained flagging at a technical issue arises, Imdieke said.

The AFAD has chosen for this project following a safety and operational assessment to determine the best traffic control method, a process that every Flagger project undergoes, according to Imdieke.

The two-lane, two-way

St. Mark's to Host 'Schoolgirl Samplers of Western New York' Stitch Retreat in April

By LESLIE DELONGE
St. Mark's Episcopal Church

The second "Schoolgirl Samplers of Western New York" fall stitch retreat will be held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Le Roy on two days, Friday, April 17, and Saturday, April 24, 2027, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day.

Participants will choose one day to attend, and group sizes are limited to 12 people.

This retreat is a major fundraiser appealing to stitching enthusiasts and local historians, and all proceeds will go to the St. Mark's Parish for the Le Roy Historical Society. Two years ago, at the first event, attendees came from six states as well as from the western New York area. This year is already shaping up to be a big one, and registrations slots are invited to join.

The retreat will feature the very unusual 1841 sampler stitched by 12 year old Hannah Coughlant and which is part of the collection of the Le Roy Historical Society. It has several alphabets, a cherry and strawberry border, a large fruit basket and, because Coughlant was one of the school curriculum for girls well into the 19th century, numbers and pieces

PROVIDED PHOTO

The Hannah Coughlant sampler.

tory. Samplers are pieces of needlework that school children often worked in cross stitch (an s-shape over one or two threads) but sometimes with other embroidery stitches. They most often featured a variety of alphabets and borders and sometimes included quotations, various kinds of motifs, and scenes.

The day will include a historical talk on Hannah and her times, a fully lofted cotton batting, morning coffee and a catered lunch, sampler kits, and the chance to work on one's own stitches and pieces in the company of others.

"But I think what Jimmy will be remembered most better is that football is really about people," Grow said. "It's about teaching young men how to live, we had to grow that he actually was behind them, that it wasn't really a memorial stone, and that that has occurred in some situations" Bellisclo said.

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LWG SPORTS INSIDER

Le Roy/Cal-Mum Football Cruises to Win on Le Roy's Homecoming Night

6 players score touchdowns in Rivals win

By MIKE ROSE
mike@batavian.com

It was a complete team effort on Friday night as Le Roy/Caledonia-Mumford defeated Lancaster Central-Genesee Valley Rivals 48-7.

The Rivals had six players score touchdowns in the rout as the celebration for Le Roy's homecoming event snapped with the big win. Both Rivals' starting units ran impressive drives on their first possessions, and Le Roy/Cal-Mum never looked back.

Topping all of the Rivals' contributors in the win was Ireland Goodenough. He racked up 129 yards and two touchdowns on the ground. He also led the team with seven tackles, a tackle for loss and an interception defensively.

Zach Boop also had a nice night for the Rivals' rushing attack. He ran seven times for 58 yards and a score.

Quarterback Brady McClung was 6-for-9 passing for 84 yards and four touchdowns. He also completed both his passing attempts to Goodenough and coached his backup Jaxon Fridley.

The win was a great way for Le Roy/Cal-Mum to get back on the board after a disappointing 42-0 loss to Wilson-Pennbrela. The Rivals advance to 5-1 on the season and will host Lyndonville-Yates/Newfane (7-0) at 7 p.m. Friday. Wellsville/Gr-H (6-0) will try to keep its perfect season intact next week against Dansville/Wayland-Cohocton/Jr-(2-5).

Gailliard led the receivers with 41 yards and a touchdown. Goodenough secured a 38-yard grab for the Rivals. Aaron Silverleaf (7 yards) and Rudnett Cooper (4 yards) also made a catch for a score.

Le Roy/Cal-Mum's defense had three tackles in the win. Christ and Asher each added two tackles.

The game was also a big one for Le Roy/Cal-Mum's coaching staff as Jim Bonacquisti was coached his final home game on Friday.

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SAMUEL ZERILLO/THE DAILY NEWS

Rivals player Jude Christ celebrates with his teammates after getting an interception on the first play of the game.

SAMUEL ZERILLO/THE DAILY NEWS

Rivals quarterback Brady McClung takes a carry for a big gain.

LWG SPORTS INSIDER

RUSSELL J. SALVATORE FIELD HOUSE

The Le Roy Junior-Senior High School Marching Band performs Oct. 3 during the New York State Field Band Conference competition at Lancaster High School. The band finished first in the Small School 2 division.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Medina edges Le Roy in field band competition

GLOW schools set to face each other 2 more times ahead of Nov. 1 championships

By BEN BEAGLE
ben@limaobserver.com

The Medina Marching Band won first place in its division for the second time in three weeks, edging Le Roy High School by just 0.05 in three-tenths of a point in the New York State Field Band competition in Victor on Saturday.

Medina topped the Small School 2 division with a score of 79.55, while Le Roy finished with a score of 79.50.

For both schools it was their highest scores of the season, which concludes in three weeks with the New York State Field Band Championships at Rochester's Frontier Field on Nov. 1.

This was the fourth competition of the season for Medina. Le Roy has competed three times.

Medina is ranked third in the division behind Victor and fourth behind top-ranked Oswego and number two Mynderse. Rankings are based on each band's most recent score and change as additional competition scores are added. Le Roy is currently ranked fourth in the Small School 2 division statewide, including Horseheads, Hilton, Pittsford Vestal, Westmoreland, and Altmont City.

Medina and Le Roy will both compete Oct. 17 in Victor and Oct. 24 in Grove at Oswego High School in their competition set to conclude to begin at 6p.m. At both events, Le Roy is scheduled to perform in the time slot just before Medina takes the field.

During field band competitions, marching bands perform routines to stage their shows. Students play various instruments while moving around the field in choreographed patterns while playing and perform with flags, sabers and rifles.

Other competitors

include:

- Small School 1: East Rochester, 80.15; Fredonia, 80.05.
- Small School 3: Marcus Whitman, 79.80; Penn Yan Powahay, 80.45.
- Large School 2: Boonville, 85.125; Lancaster, 80.35; Silver Seneca, 78.10.
- Large School 3: Corning-West Genesee, 80.10; Cicero-North Syracuse, 85.70; Webster, 84.22.

Le Roy is competing in Small School Division 2 for the first time since 2019.

The Marching Knights performed a program titled "Riding on the Wall," about the legacy of statesman Alexander Hamilton. The roughly 9-minute long show includes the "Hamilton" title track, "Alexander Hamilton," "The World Turned Upside Down," "My Shot" and, "The Weight of Love" by Eric Clapton. Smith. The show also has visual themes such as oversized banners of words written with old-fashioned ink pens, and a historic podium.

Other highlights this season include "We The People" and celebrates America's 250th anniversary. The show features the music of American composers, including Aaron Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man" and "Appalachian Spring" and the works of composers George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and John F. Kennedy on the field.

Le Roy's percussion section, however, is now uniformed, consists of 36 students led on the field by Drum Major Ryan Lapez. Kyla Lenz-Dresser and Andrea Smith are the band's directors.

Le Roy is a Le Roy won the Small School 2 division at the Lancaster High School competition with a score of 74.80.

Five schools competed at the event, with the other four schools in the Large School division. Victor won first place with a score of 77.50. Other results in Large School 2 were Orchard Park, 77.00; Corning, 76.80; and Lancaster, 76.50.

Medina competed at Oswego High School in Oswego in Small School 1 East division, finishing fourth behind Oswego with a score of 77.15 and Fredonia, 81.35; Central Square, 79.30; Phoenix, 79.00.

Large School 3 finished the North, 71.550.

Small School 3 finished fourth in Pittsford-Mendon, 79.30; Pittsford-Sutherland, 79.80; Penn Yan Powahay, 80.45; Canandaigua, 78.85; West Seneca, 74.30.

BRENDA HOUGH PHOTO

Flags and banners are among the props used by performers during the Le Roy Junior-Senior High School Marching Band show "Writing on the Wall."

BRENDA HOUGH PHOTO

The Le Roy Junior-Senior High School Marching Band performs during the New York State Field Band Conference competition at Lancaster High School on Oct. 3.

BRENDA HOUGH PHOTO

Members of the Le Roy Junior-Senior High School marching band perform during the New York State Field Band Conference competition at Lancaster High School on Oct. 3.

Legend

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athletes how to work together, how to handle adversity, how to be accountable, how to care about something bigger than yourself," he said. "A person who makes a positive impact on the lives of others every day after they graduate days are ones."

Highlighting that connection to everyone within the program from past to present, former players and coaches from the Bonacquisti era lined the field to welcome him out, and the captains of the current Rivals team presented everyone at midfield to present Bonacquisti with a trophy as a token of appreciation for his years of dedicated work.

"He has a lot of stories," Green said. "[Bonacquisti] has never met a story he didn't like. Some of it you have been fortunate enough to hear the same ones more than once. But you know you're going to get a good laugh out of it. And he cared about the people that he coached. He cared about this football program."

He was who brought Bonacquisti into the program and who he has worked with for the last 20 years as Le Roy's Green Grey "Pop" Rogers, was also in attendance for the game and expressed how happy he was to see so many people come out to support his longtime friend.

It was great to see all the guys that I've had in the past," Rogers said. "I'm glad that they came out here tonight, every one of them seemed to have gone coach a big big and everything else. Jim's community, they really are family. It's a hell of a tribute to him."

Along with all of the alumni and players that were present for Bonacquisti's family was there to honor their patriarch. Bonacquisti's daughter Jessica Bonacquisti Lewis, who played basketball at Le Roy, was also in attendance, as was Bonacquisti's wife Jeanne.

Other Mystic Street patriots buried in the cemetery include Hannah Bowen, Hannah Bowen, Hannah Bowen,