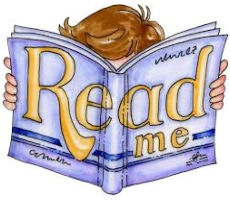


Spring 2020
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YATES COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS
Alphabet Soup

We are sorry to say that our **June YCREA meeting has been cancelled**, as with all other gatherings, due to the COVID-19 virus. We will surely miss seeing all of you, but will hopefully meet again in October. We are proud to say that even though Yates County is one of the smallest in NY State, our retired educators have been making a huge community impact during this time of the Corona Virus pandemic. Even before requests were being made to fill a need, many of our unit's members rallied together to begin sewing masks at home to be donated to workers in various medical and essential employment settings - not just in our community, but also by sending them to neighboring counties. Our retired educators have also been busy baking, supplying, packaging and delivering meals/food for families in need, while others are sharing their talents reading to children on Facebook and other platforms. Despite our June meeting being cancelled, we are trying to stay in contact with our members through this newsletter and other means. Many of us are participating in Take 5 for New York, the new county-wide campaign launched to encourage Yates County residents to take five minutes out of each day to call a friend, loved one, or acquaintance who may be alone and feeling isolated during this period of social distancing. We hope you are taking a part in this, and Thank You! It is safe to say that our community would be at a loss without our retired educators!

Supporting our High School Seniors

With Governor Cuomo's announcement that schools in New York State will not reopen this school year, students in their Senior year are set to miss out on many memory-making traditions. For high school seniors, casualties of the Coronavirus pandemic include a formal graduation ceremony and other time-honored activities.



In communities across the state and the country, parents and schools have been finding ways to honor their Senior students. In Penn Yan, those efforts will come in the form of banners honoring the Senior class to be displayed on the lamp posts along Main Street. In Dundee, a special drive-thru cap and gown distribution is taking place on May 19th. Students will also receive goody bags filled with graduation bears, glasses, picture frames and other items. Our YCREA executive team has approved funding both of these projects with a donation of \$100.00 to each school. We especially want to congratulate our seniors on their tremendous achievement.

College Scholarships

At our October meeting, we voted to create a college scholarship for high school seniors, as a way for our group of educators, to support student success in Yates county. Tom Abraham has been busy working on a draft for the application. Included below is the opening paragraph of the application for the two \$500.00 scholarships that we will hopefully be awarding in June 2021.



The Yates County Retired Educators Association Scholarship offers financial assistance and recognition to high school seniors in the Dundee and Penn Yan Central School Districts. The scholarships are designed to assist graduating seniors in pursuing a post-secondary education in any state at an accredited institution for the purpose of studying to become an educator. The scholarship may be used for any bona fide school related expense such as tuition, fees, books and room and board.

The criteria for the scholarship will be shared at our October meeting, and you may be hearing about some fundraising ideas before then, when we are at a point of being able to gather in groups. We thank Tom for his work and all of you for your support!

**FRIENDLY SERVICE:
ELAINE GLEASON**



In Elaine’s words:

From Friendly Service....check on your colleagues! Give them a call or send a note. We all need the extra boost right now.

The Friendly Service Team works behind the scenes letting members know they are being thought about during times of birthdays and celebrations and times of illness, loss and of course now, with our self-quarantining. Many of you have been recipients! Thank you to Amy Stewart, Jeanne Schuck, Carol Hall, Joan Rubin, Pam Ayers, Anne Meyer-Wilber, and Meredith Nielsen for sending cards of all kinds to members when they are needed. Last year this team sent over 250 cards to members of YCRE at their own expense. Their dedication is greatly appreciated!

As members of the Yates County Retired Educators you can help this faithful team by letting us know when these wishes are needed. If you know of someone who has a birthday, an illness, a family death, or just in need of a “thinking of you card”, please let us know! Contact one of us and we will see that a card is sent. **You never know how a card in the mail can brighten a person's day or week.** We lost many special members in the last year. Their names will be read at the October meeting as we think of them and the impact they had on the teaching profession and on the lives that they touched.

**Yates County Executive Team
2018-2020**

Co-Presidents:

Mary Hanlon..... jjkm114@gmail.com

Linda Snyder.....snyder2457@hotmail.com

Vice President: Ronald Miller.....rkmiller@linkny.com

Secretary: Amy Stewartkeuka445@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Deb Minor.....dbrminor@gmail.com

Friendly Service: Elaine Gleasonbug50@eznet.net

Membership: Kay Meisch..... meisch704@aol.com

Historian: Connie Castelluzzo....conniecastelluzzo67@gmail.com

Past President: Robyn Ballard robynblld@yahoo.com

Legislation: Tom Abraham abrahamtk@roadrunner.com

Community Service: Teresa Ballardtgballard@usa.com

**A NEW NAME
AND
A NEW LOGO**



“This world you live in today is a different world, it is changing fast. You must accept it and change”.

These words, were penned by NYSRTA’s first president, Robert R. DeCormier. Our current NY state president, Kevin Mulligan, reports that at the Annual Meeting held in October, 2019 the delegates voted in favor of NYSRTA taking on the new dba (Do Business As) **RENY** (Retired Educators of NY). The new name is all inclusive and covers all members of our profession: teachers, principals, superintendents, psychologists, and counselors.

The dba-RENY requires registering the new name with State of NY and it now becomes the job of all of us to use and “sell” the new name RENY. Kevin reports: Needless to say, the transition from NYSRTA to RENY will take a few years to accomplish. For example, the office still has several hundred old NYSRTA member applications that need to be used before new RENY applications are ordered. Never-the-less, we shall move on!

Speaking of State membership, our Yates County unit appears to be well represented with our number of state members. RENY is attempting to coordinate their records with ours. According to our latest responses from you, forty four members of our Yates County unit, are also state members. If you are not, Kay Meisch will certainly provide you with the information you need to join!



Executive Team Vacancies

Our executive team meets only 2-3 times per year, mostly for planning and striving to make our unit meetings enjoyable and informative for you, our members. Each team member serves a two year term, and since we’ve enjoyed participating in this cohesive group, many of us have served more. We currently have two openings for our 2020-22 term: **secretary and historian**. Please consider filling one of these, and if you have questions about the job duties, you can contact a team member. Our new term begins in the fall. Thanks to the returning team members, and we hope others will consider joining us!