Legislature bonds $6.6M for county projects
Farley calls it ‘bad fiscal practice’
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In this week’s issue

Local salon helps Locks of Love
Danielle Abbruzzese, 9, of Altamont holds up a lock of her hair that she cut off at Creative Styles in Rotterdam to donate to Locks of Love.
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Board the ‘Orphan Train’
The musical “Orphan Train” being staged at the New York State Theatre Institute from April 18 to 25.
See Page 16

Going for the record
Rob Immel thought he was through with marathon dodgeball matches after setting a Guinness World Record in the sport one year, three months and 12 days ago. Not quite.
See Page 28

G’ville hopes for clear skies
Town ready to install solar panels on roof of municipal center

By SEAN AHERN
ahern@spotlightnews.com

The future looks bright for the town of Glenville municipal center.

The Glenville Town Board passed a resolution Wednesday, April 7, to solicit bids for the installation of a photovoltaic system on the roof of the Glenville Municipal Center at 18 Glenridge Road. The unanimous vote allows

Skies Page 18

Bomb threat at Draper defused
Local, state police called in for what was determined a prank

By SEAN AHERN
ahern@spotlightnews.com

A bomb threat at Draper Middle School in Rotterdam brought in local and state police to investigate, while students were moved to the high school gym, on Monday, April 12.

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A passion for cachin’
Glenville boy and his father create geocache with an autism theme

By SEAN AHERN
ahern@spotlightnews.com

Between two small trees on a swath of land off Swaggartown and Van Buren roads in Glenville, Nicholas McPherson, 8, hid an old army ammo box filled with trinkets, hoping to promote autism awareness through geocaching.

Geocaching is a hobby that combines the use of a handheld GPS device, the Internet and outdoor activities such as hiking and orienteering. Participants create and post online the coordinates of stash boxes filled with trinkets hidden across the globe to be found by fellow enthusiasts. When a geocache is found, participants are encouraged to take a trinket and leave something new in its place.

For Nicholas, who has been diagnosed with Asperger syndrome, geocaching is a passion that is fueled by his interest in computers and mapping.

“Daddy told me about it, and I got really interested in it,” he said recently.
His mother, Sheila, said her son has a keen sense of direction and is able to find hidden caches during day hikes and family trips, and geocaching helps him focus his interests into one activity.

“It’s good because it keeps him interested and breaks the trip up,” she said. “This ties it all together.”

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No spending increase in Schalmont budget
Tax levy increase covers state aid cut

By SEAN AHERN
ahern@spotlightnews.com

The Schalmont Board of Education unanimously adopted a $41.5 million budget for the 2010-11 school year at the Monday, April 12, meeting.

The budget includes a 1 percent increase in the tax levy, from $28,468,771 to $28,753,009, as a result of a cut of $1.2 million in state aid.

The final budget is the result of $1.5 million in cuts in programs and positions across the district, including the DARE program at a savings of $9,000; elementary summer school programs for a $25,000 savings; the gifted and talented program for a savings of $30,000; and a $26,058 cut in athletics.

According to information from the district, the largest cuts were the result of the elimination of 14 full-time equivalent positions, which helped the board better understand the needs of the residents.

Thompson said the community input helped the board better understand the needs of the residents.

A majority of expenditures in the 2010-11 school budget includes instruction and employee benefits, which make up for 74 percent of the budget, with 69.98 percent of the revenue coming from the tax levy.

Thompson said the board used $625,000 from the fund

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