

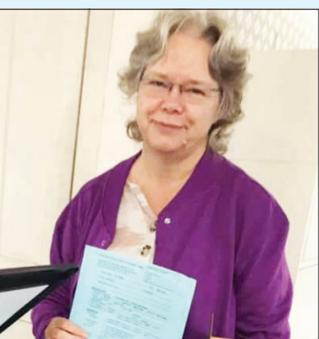
The Palladium-Times

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DayBreak



Provided photo

Debra Allen of the Oswego History Records Center scans documents from New Haven as part of a project to digitize the 1976 Heritage Foundation Architectural Survey of Oswego County Buildings. The project is funded through a grant from the Richard S. Shineman Foundation.

"History on Tap" to feature the Oswego History Records Center Nov. 3

OSWEGO – Come out for "History on Tap" to learn more about the not-for-profit Oswego History Records Center (OHRC). The illustrated program will cover the OHRC's mission and personnel as well as some of its past, current and future projects. The event is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 3 at G. S. Steamer's Restaurant in the Clarion Inn, 70 E. First St., Oswego.

OHRC Secretary Mary Kay Stone and member Debra Allen will discuss some of the local historical records, maps, surveys, photographs and documents that are being photocopied, scanned and digitized by the OHRC so that they may be made available to the public for research, inspection and copying.

The OHRC is working in partnership with the Heritage Foundation of Oswego and is using their headquarters on E. Second Street in Oswego as its operating base.

For more information about "History on Tap," contact Paul Lear at 315-343-4711 or paul.lear@parks.ny.gov. Program updates and details will be posted on the Friends of Fort Ontario Facebook page.

St. Francis phasing out memory care

OSWEGO — St. Francis Commons in Oswego is completing a transition as they phase out their special needs Memory Care services, which will allow the not-for-profit community-based provider to offer their traditional Assisted Living Program (ALP) to all residents. Those currently served on Memory Care neighborhood will not be impacted by this transition. When complete, all residents at St. Francis Commons will be served in their New York State licensed Assisted Living Program.

Anyone with questions or who is interested in beginning the residency application process can contact St. Francis Commons at (315) 326-0870. On the web at www.stfranciscommons.com.

OCSD Board meeting rescheduled

The Oswego City School District Board of Education meeting scheduled for Nov. 2 has been rescheduled to Nov. 9. The meeting with start at 5 p.m. in the Oswego High School Library, according to the district website.



City investing \$2M in eastside wastewater plant

By **MATTHEW REITZ**
mreitz@palltimes.com

OSWEGO — Port City officials are pumping more than \$2 million into wastewater treatment upgrades, with the bulk of the funds slated for an energy efficiency project at the Eastside Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Dubbed the Eastside Green Innovation Project, the roughly \$2 million wastewater plant upgrades would replace a series of aeration blowers that run around-the-clock. The Oswego Common Council earlier this month approved up to \$1.09 million for the project, which will also use up to \$1 million in grant funding to complete.

The move is the latest in a long line of wastewater and water upgrades made by the city in recent years that included the mammoth undertaking known as the sewer separation, or consent decree, to complete a federally mandated separation of the storm water and wastewater systems on the west

side of the Oswego River.

Oswego Mayor Billy Barlow said the east side project currently getting underway came from a previously conducted asset management plan at the facility, which city officials commissioned after a similar move at the west side wastewater treatment plant was deemed successful. Barlow said the asset management plan creates "a roadmap for a smart, strategic approach to plant upgrades."

"We conducted an asset management plan at the west side plant, followed it, and we've made considerable progress there, so it is time to do the exact same thing on the east side," the mayor said. "We did the west side plant first because it was in worse condition, and now we're starting to make progress on the east side plant."

Barlow said the Eastside Green Innovation Project would install new blowers and a new aeration system for the plant's clarifiers, which in turn will better treat wastewater and make the plant run more efficiently overall. Barlow noted the city has

invested heavily in both wastewater and water facilities during his time in office, bringing the city in compliance with state and federal regulations.

The significant upgrades will also improve operations and better serve the public, Barlow said, and eventually lower the cost of water and sewer bills. Barlow noted water and wastewater infrastructure is "never a political homerun" and often ignored, but he's proud to have reversed a trend of deferred maintenance to invest in the facilities and reduced taxpayer costs.

"Completing these projects, modernizing the facilities, improving operations, in addition to performing the basic maintenance these plants require, ensures we stay in compliance with regulatory agencies, improve services and prevent future mayors and councilors down the road from being handed the absolute mess we were handed due to years of incompetent leadership and total neglect

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Trick or treat



CTI Public Relations photo

Students from Mexico Elementary School are pictured at the beginning of their parade route, which wrapped around a block in the village of Mexico on Friday afternoon. Parents, families and community members lined the sidewalks to see all of the students from kindergarten through fourth grade decked out in their spooky garb.

Cuomo accused of misdemeanor

By **MICHAEL HILL**
Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Former New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo was accused in a criminal complaint Thursday of committing a misdemeanor sex crime, two months after he resigned under pressure in a sexual harassment scandal.

But prosecutors said Thursday they didn't know the document had been filed, and the woman's attorney said she hadn't been given a chance to decide whether she wanted to go through with a case.

The one-page complaint, filed by an investigator with the Albany County Sheriff's Office, accused Cuomo of putting his hand under a woman's shirt on Dec. 7, 2020. The document didn't name the woman but Cuomo had been publicly

See CUOMO, Page A-5

McBrearty seeking third term in Oswego's 1st Ward

By **EDDIE VELAZQUEZ**
editor@palltimes.com

OSWEGO — Oswego City Council member Susan McBrearty is seeking a third term on the city's governing body, aiming to address long-term issues as well as wrap up long-term infrastructure projects.

McBrearty, a Democrat representing the city's First Ward, said she was inspired to run for a third, two-year term due to the familiarity she has gained with her constituents over the

course of her tenure on the council.

"I really have enjoyed meeting the people in the First Ward, working with them to help them solve their problems and hearing their hopes and dreams for the city," McBrearty said. "That is why I'm running again."

In a recent interview, McBrearty reflected on how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted not only the first ward, but the city as a whole. In some cases, McBrearty said, state legislation preventing tenant evictions added layers of complexity to economic is-

sues exacerbated by the economic downturn brought on by the pandemic.

"The amended moratorium on evictions was a bit of a struggle sometimes," she said. "I mean, overall I think that it was necessary because obviously with people losing positions, not being able to work as much. But it also on the other side meant that when folks were having a difficult time, it made finding solutions more complicated than it had been before."

Despite the viral outbreak's adverse

impacts, McBrearty commended the city's response to the COVID-19 epidemic, highlighting the current administration's efforts to enforce mitigation strategies that curtail the virus' spread throughout the city.

"I thought that the city's response was very measured and something that I could totally get behind as far as making sure that we are masked up when needed, and following the safety protocols," she said.

See McBrearty, Page A-5

OSWEGO IN 35 OBJECTS

Photo provided

FORT ONTARIO POST CEMETERY

Located approximately 300 yards southeast of Fort Ontario, the Post Cemetery was established in 1759 and used during the French and Indian War until it closed in 1815. The burial ground was reopened in 1839 and remained open until 1901. While the cemetery is the final resting place for mostly enlisted men, who died from unexpected and or prolonged illnesses, some stones mark the graves of career retired military, such as Sergeant John S. Trowell, who died years after his military service concluded. According to historical research 12 gravestones marked "Unknown Soldier" are service members who fought with the 3rd U.S. Artillery Regiment and where killed during the British Invasion on Fort Ontario in 1814. Other occupants are speculated to have been associated with the British 51st Regiment of Foot and the Jersey Blues, two units stationed at the fort in 1755-56, who's original graves were discovered during the rebuilding of the fort in 1903.

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