The gifts of hope

Because of "The Winter that Wouldn't Quit," I haven't been feeling my usual passion for Fantasy Baseball this year. There's now less than a month to go before our annual Fantasy Baseball draft. In a normal year, by about mid-February, I'd start counting the days until the draft and filling my nights and free minutes studying players' statistics in an attempt to win our coveted league title. Not this year.

The record cold this season has most people thinking about firewood, not the sound of wood meeting ball with a resounding crack. While folks in the northeast have been united in a brotherhood of cold weather misery, the daily grind has become fatiguing. We've all been waiting for a ray of hope. Mine arrived courtesy of my daughter.

When my wife returned after taking our daughter on a "Birthday Shopping Day on the Town," it turned out that the Birthday Girl wasn't the only one who scored well-deserved presents. I was gifted with a Fantasy Baseball magazine! And I didn't even ask for it. Now, *that's* a good daughter.

Not quite time

Oddly enough, even though I was thrilled with having the magazine, I resisted opening the book for a number of days. I was building anticipation. Plus, I was spending all my spare time scrounging for firewood in an attempt to keep pace with Mother Nature's relentless cruel joke.

Something had to give, though. That "something" was, of course, the arrival of Cadbury Mini Eggs. When the season's first batch of these delectable treats was brought into the *News* office, I knew that the stars had aligned and it was OK to begin my annual Fantasy Baseball studies — accompanied by vast supplies of Mini Eggs. And milk. All the ingredients for Spring Training — Fantasy style.

Sure, the weather has remained an obstacle, but hope has arrived with the 40-something-degree days recently. Now, not only do I want to start some serious Fantasy Baseball research, I'm feeling behind. Fortunately, if you consume enough Mini Eggs, sleep doesn't come easily and you're able to put in some researching overtime.

You wouldn't understand

Of course, even though the baseball draft (if you have to ask what this is about, we already have a problem) is generally held in early April, there's no guarantee that it will feel like spring. A few years ago on Draft Night we had the windows open at our gathering place as temperatures hovered around 70. Other years, snow and whipping winds are in the air when we meet for this nerd-like ritual.

But, it doesn't really matter, because Fantasy Baseball and Mini Eggs will be linked in my mind with the arrival of spring and warmer days ahead. A Fantasy Baseball Championship Bobblehead at season's end, would make things even better. For now, though, I'm happy that the draft is quickly approaching and that I have one of the key food groups to help keep me alert during my Fantasy Baseball studies. Too bad I didn't know about Mini Eggs years ago, they would have really aided my late nights with the books during college. And helped with my Fantasy of being a straight-A student. **— Brian Sweeney**

Area Police News

Frank L. Osborne, 50, of Chichester was arrested by Shandaken Police on March 4 and charged with third-degree assault and criminal obstruction of breathing following an argument with another man at the Phoenicia Liquor Store.

Osborne was issued appearance tickets returnable in Shandaken Town Court on March 19.

Kenneth A. Jackson, 49, no address given, faces a number of charges following an incident on March 4 during which he allegedly backed into a market Shandaken Police vehicle several times causing damage while officers were trying to remove him from the vehicle. Police say the incident happened late Monday night on state Route 214 in Phoenicia.

Jackson was charged with second-degree reckless endangerment, DWI, criminal mischief, endangering the welfare of a child, aggravated unlicensed operation, unlicensed operation of a vehicle and unsafe backing.

He was arraigned in Shandaken Town Court and remanded to the Ulster County Jail in lieu of $5,000 cash bail to await further court action.

Two Andes men received tickets on February 28 after the car in which they were riding was stopped on Route 28 in Fleischmanns.

State police say they ticketed the driver, Ronald J. Boerner, 27, for speeding and a passenger, Casey J. Sidorowicz, 26, with unlawful possession of marijuana.

Both men were issued tickets returnable in Town of Middletown Justice Court on April 1.

Three area residents, Korey Bush, 19, of Kelly Corners, Racheal L. Carey, 21, and Roger L. Votee, 33, both of Arkville, were issued appearance tickets charging them with second-degree criminal trespass after they entered a rental property on Pavilion Road in Arkville.

Police say the complaint came from the owner of the property.

Gordan Lew, 56, of Margaretville was arrested by state police on March 3 and charged with third-degree insurance fraud after he allegedly placed insurance coverage on his car after hitting a deer and then filing a claim. State police say the case came to the front when they were able to provide the insurance company with photos of Lew's vehicle showing damage prior to when insurance coverage was put in place.

Lew was arraigned in Town of Middletown Justice Court and remanded to the county jail in lieu of $7,500 cash bail. He is scheduled to reappear on March 5 at 1 p.m.

Kristopher L. Walcutt, 19, of Roxbury was arrested by state police on March 6 and charged with second-degree criminal trespass and possession of alcohol by a person under 21 following a fight with two other men on Main Street in Fleischmanns.

Police say Walcutt was highly intoxicated at the time and that following the fight, he tried to enter a residence where the other two men had retreated.

He was issued an appearance ticket returnable in Town of Middletown Justice Court on March 18 at 10 a.m.

Aaron C. Anderson, 22, of Delhi was arrested by state police on March 7 and charged with DWI after he was stopped for speeding on Route 10 in Walton.

Police say that charged Anderson when his blood alcohol level allegedly tested .15 percent. He was issued tickets returnable in Town of Walton Justice Court on March 25 at 7 p.m.

Blood Drive March 27 at MRCC

The Auxiliary of Margaretville Hospital and Mountainside Residential Care Center will sponsor a Red Cross Blood Drive on Friday, March 27 from 1:30-6:30 p.m. at Mountainside.

Donors must be over the age of 17. Reservations are appreciated for the Blood Drive and may be made by calling 800 733-2767 or 845 586-4028. Walk-ins are also welcome. Mountainside is located at 42158 State Route 28, Margaretville.

Ulster planners weigh in

(continued from 1A)

identification of a responsible emergency access route or procedure to move guests off the site.

The record should be clear that adequate fire and emergency services exist for the resort.

For drainage, a detail should be developed to illuminate the areas where rock faces are expected to be encountered. Drainage swales at the base should be wide enough to accommodate snow storage and located in such a ways as to intercept seepage from the rock face.

The project will need to confirm the required water supply amount with the Ulster County Health Department.

The applicant should be required to move to LED lamps for outdoor lighting to meet energy efficiency goals. Pole heights should be restricted to the proposed 20 feet and all outdoor lighting should be required to meet the "fully shielded" definition adopted by the International Dark Sky Association.

Overall landscaping details should be provided for the project's roads intersections with CR 49A. Details of landscaping around the lodging units should be provided.

Parking garage

The planners should require the completion of the parking garage as a condition of the opening of the hotels absent a proof of parking demand can be met without it.

Rather than have all of the resorts building look the same, Planners should ask for meaningful individualization of the lodging units so as to present a more varied and unique sense of place. Details should include facade changes as well as alteration of typical building shapes.

On Monday, Shandaken Planning Board Chairman, Donald Brewer, said that the county's report has been put in the hands of the town's consultant team hired to help the planners with the project review.

Unclear, he said, is whether or not these modifications are truly mandatory. "Our attorney is looking it over," he said.

Brewer expects to hear from the consultants at the March 11 meeting, held at 7 p.m. in town hall on Route 28 in Allaben.

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ADVANCE NOTICE
AUCTION SATURDAY, MAR. 21
Look for more details in the issue of March 18
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Special St. Patrick's Day Menu
Tuesday, March 17
Pre-orders encouraged by Monday at noon
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Guiness & Onion Soup with Irish Cheddar Croutons
Traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage
Corned Beef & Carrots with Marmalade Whiskey Glaze
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My brother Bernie will turn
90 years young on
MARCH 23
If you know him, kindly send him a birthday card. You will help me make his 90th birthday even more special.
Thank you, his sister Carolyn Snyder
Bernard C. Davis 110 Kitty Lane
Interlachen, Florida 32148

ROAST PORK
Fundraising Dinner
Saturday, March 14

2 SEATINGS: 5:30 PM & 6:30 PM
Adult $10 Senior Citizen $8 A ges 6-10 $5
(Children 5 & under FREE)
Take Outs (from 5 PM) $10
Pork Roast • Mashed Potatoes • Green Beans
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Whole Peeled Beef Butt Tenderloins — Cut Into Filet Mignon — 8.98 lb.
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