



The Spectator

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MILL STREET, SPRINGWATER

Explosion rocks apartment

Martino charged after allegedly making homemade bombs

By Colleen Mahoney and Neal Simon
The Spectator

SPRINGWATER — A man allegedly manufacturing and stockpiling homemade bombs was arrested late Thursday after an explosion in his Springwater apartment, police said.

Joseph R. Martino, 34, of Springwater, was

charged with first-degree criminal possession of a weapon and first-degree reckless endangerment after an explosion inside an oven at 7898 Mill St. Authorities said there were no injuries.

Springwater Town Justice Donald M. Heywood, who arraigned Martino at 5 a.m., Friday on the felony counts, said he expects



Martino

“more charges after the (Livingston County) Sheriff’s Office finishes their investigation.” Martino was sent to the Livingston County Jail without bail. A court hearing is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon.

Martino, who lives alone and is believed to be unemployed, was being

SEE BOMB, A7



Emergency crews respond near the scene of an explosion and arrest in Springwater. JUDY TRIPP-NEU PHOTO

HOWARD FLATS FARM



Howard Flats Farm has been in the Bennett family for six generations now. JOHN ANDERSON PHOTO

Family celebrates 200 years

Bennetts have longest continuously-owned family farm in NY

By John Anderson
Regional Editor

HORNELL — Getting kids to do chores or work around the house, can be, in a word, a chore. Not for six generations in the Bennett Family in Hornell. On Saturday, it seemed the entire community of Howard (the sprawling farm does have a Hornell mailing address) came out to celebrate 200 years of operation of Howard Flats Farm. More than that, Howard Flats Farm is the longest continuously-owned family farm in New York state. “This is a part of American history, a tradition that started 200 years ago with the Bennett family and now working on its sixth generation,” said State Sen. Thomas F. O’Mara, who was among the last to leave, talking to family members and others in the farming community. “This is amazing ... I’m honored to be a part of it.” The family started with Daniel N. Bennett, then went to George Bennett, Bert Bennett, Byron Bennett and currently Phil



The Bennett family gathers after Saturday’s ceremony marking 200 years of family ownership. JOHN ANDERSON PHOTO

Bennett. With his wife, Juanita, they are now turning it over to the next generation. The dairy farm has around 150 cows over 700 acres of land. Assemblyman Philip A. Palmesano also stayed long past the average time an elected official stays at an event. He was pleased to see the support for the family. “This is not just about what they have contributed to agriculture, but what they have contributed to the community,” said Palmesano. “This is a great farm and a great family, which is evident by the amount of people in the community who showed up today to support them and



One of the Bennett family’s livestock is pictured Saturday on the farm. JOHN ANDERSON PHOTO

celebrate this milestone.” After receiving state and national recognition, the family hosted a catered family picnic for the community at its camp overlooking the farm.

GATEHOUSE MEDIA

Stevens named Regional Ad Dir.

The Spectator Staff

Shelly Stevens of Almond has been named Regional Advertising Director of the Hornell Market Group of GateHouse Media, announced Senior Group Publisher of Gatehouse Media’s North Atlantic Market Group Jim Murphy. “I am so excited to be back in the Hornell area, the members of this community are second to none! I look forward to working with local businesses to meet their advertising needs while providing the best possible customer service to them,” said Stevens. The group includes The Evening Tribune in Hornell, the Wellsville Daily Reporter, Genesee Country Express in Dansville, the Sunday Spectator, and a regional Pennesaver, as well as related Web sites. The group also represents Propel Marketing, which provides local business owners with an array of digital marketing services such as search engine optimization, search engine marketing, reputation management, social marketing, and more.

SEE DIRECTOR, A7



Shelly Stevens



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