#### **TOWN OF CAROGA**

# Children take part in junior invasive species program

A total of 45 children participated recently in a Junior Invasive Species Training Program in the town of Caroga.

They learned good environmental practices to keep the area lakes and watershed clean.

Kayla Beck, a trained Invasive Species Steward from the Adirondack Watershed Institute, demonstrated how to decontaminate watercraft to avoid the spread of milfoil and other invasive species.

The town runs a program to inspect and decontaminate watercraft that is free to all boaters.

It is done to help keep the waterways enjoyable for these boaters and protect the recreational usage of the lakes, a statement said.

The town, Adirondack Watershed Institute and Canada Lakes Conservation Association operate the system and encourage all local and visiting boaters to cooperate with the stewards at the town inspection sites and decontamination station.



a trained Invasive Species Steward from the Adirondack Watershed Institute, is seen in the attached photo demonstrating how to decontaminate watercraft to avoid the spread of milfoil and other invasive species.

PHOTO PROVIDED

#### **AMSTERDAM**

## Knights of Columbus Feast of the Assumption Festival scheduled for Saturday

The Amsterdam Knights of Columbus Council 209 recently announced that its annual Feast of the Assumption festival will return on Saturday, from noon to 6 p.m. at 193 W. Main St.

The festival will kick off with a procession of the Blessed Virgin at noon, and the rest of the festivities will begin at 12:30 p.m.

The event, now in its eighth year, will offer a fun, safe, outdoor event. In addition to the main attractions of live music and the Classic Car Show, the festival will feature

free Stewart's ice cream, free popcorn, free cotton candy, free bounce houses and free kids games and prizes. The "Music for Life" twosome

of Dominic Megna and Pete Jorgenson will kick off the musical lineup from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., Batman will meet and greet fans from 2:30 to 3 p.m. followed by area favorites Jenna Sue and Steven Cowles from 2:30 to 6 p.m.

The Feast of the Assumption commemorates the day some Christian denominations believe the Virgin Mary was taken up into heaven body and soul.

The festival kicks off each year with the procession of a statue of the Blessed Virgin held aloft by an honor guard. In the eastern European tradition, the celebrant will then offer a "blessing of the flowers."

Finally, the faithful will be invited forward to pin a donation to Mary's shawl, a traditional act of piety in Italy. This year, donations pinned to the shawl will benefit the AMEN soup kitchen, which serves more than 700 local families weekly.

#### **Graduation ceremony**



Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara attended Liberty ARC's National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) inaugural E-Badge Graduation Ceremony in Amsterdam. Pictured with the assemblyman and the graduates are city of Amsterdam Mayor Michael Cinquanti, Liberty ARC CEO Jennifer Saunders, OPWDD Acting Associate Commissioner Alison Pingelski, NADSP NYS E-Badge Academy Administrator Kathy Brown, Liberty ARC COO Candace Opalka, Liberty ARC staff members Sarah Stygles and Melissa Lais.



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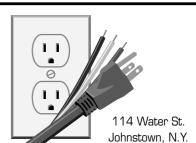
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