

Save the Pine Bush

May Activities

05/19 • 33 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12210 • email pinebush@mac.com • phone 518-462-0891 • www.savethepinebush.org

Vegetarian/Vegan Dinner Wednesday, May 15, 2019 6:00 p.m.

Lou Sebesta

STAR – Stop Trucks Assaulting Rensselaer

David Ellis

Rensselaer Residents Against Toxic Dumping
will speak about

Done with Dunn Landfill: Negative Impacts of Dunn C/D Dump Operations

David Ellis will speak on the history of the Dunn Landfill property in the City of Rensselaer and the many negative impacts that this landfill has on the Rensselaer community and school district. Lou Sebesta will present on how the dump and its outrageously loud and dirty trucks pose an intolerable burden on the community as a whole and the school students and staff and residents of Partition Street/Broadway neighborhoods along the truck itinerary in particular.

George Keleshian

will speak about

The Potential of Zero Energy

George Keleshian will present his newly patented systems on zero energy and energy efficiency strategies can help greatly reduce fossil fuel usage. Learn about his innovative approach to reducing energy use!

At the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 85 Chestnut Street (people with cars can park in the lot near the door). All-you-can-eat lasagna dinner, with vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options, salad, garlic bread and delicious desserts. Only \$12 for adults, \$6 for students, and \$2 for children. People who make reservations are served first. For reservations, please leave a message for Rezsine Adams at 518-462-0891 or email pinebush@mac.com.

Interested people are welcome to attend the program beginning at 7:00 for no charge.

Albany Pine Bush Lupinefest! Saturday, May 18, 2019 at 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center

Andy Arthur will represent Save the Pine Bush by having a table at this year's Albany Pine Bush Preserve Lupinefest! Come to the Lupinefest; see Karner Blue butterflies, hike the trails and enjoy this annual festival. Volunteers are needed to help Andy at the table. To volunteer, email andyarthur.org@gmail.com

Mark Your 2019 Calendars Now!

Dinners will be the third Wednesday of every month in 2019 (no dinner in July)
at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 85 Chestnut Street, Albany, NY

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Wednesday, June 19, 2019

No dinner in July

Wednesday, August 21, 2019

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

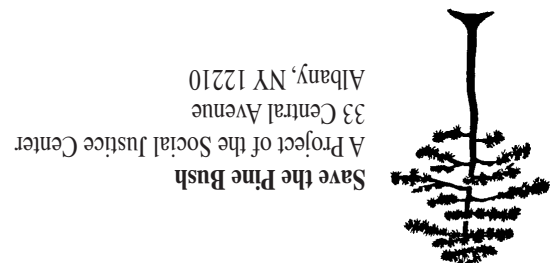
Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

We need volunteers to drive people to the dinners! We need people willing to pick up people in Clifton Park and Guilderland. Please email Lynne Jackson if you are able to volunteer at pinebush@mac.com.

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The March 30th Save the Pine Bush Hike

by Hugh Johnson

Well I did it! Broke the “Hughie curse” at least for one time and got 13 other folks to join me for a three mile hike, that was in fact, 3.1 miles (5K) due to walking a wee bit past the return point on the Red Trail. Nobody minded. In fact, I think all had a great time!

What was especially great was we had some pretty good diversity with hike. We had older folks, a few “Save the Pine Bush” regulars but lots of “outsiders” including a young couple with a baby! I am trying to get this young couple to join our cause but it is hard for them with their careers and raising a baby. I think I might have another person who will join.

The weather was wonderful, one of those few nice days we have had this spring so far. Temperatures started in in the 40s but a zephyr quickly propelled temperatures into the upper 50s during our 90 minute walk.

We looked for signs of spring. We did see a moth and I believe a budding flower or two. There were a couple of lingering patches of snow or ice but unlike last month, was mostly gone.

Luckily a local “Birder” really one of the best in the area, did identify 14 different birds he heard or saw, including a Hairy and Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Bluebird, Northern Cardinal, Brown-headed Cowbird, Turkey Vulture, Mourning Dove, American Crow, American Robin, Common Grackle, Northern Cardinal, Dark-eyed Junco (Slate Colored), Back-capped Chickadee and Tufted Titmouse. It was too early for the Prairie Warbler, which really likes to hang out in Pine Bush. They return around April 27th from Florida or the Caribbean, just in time for Claire Nolan’s hike! Neil Gifford, the Conservation Director, and his team has marked many male warblers in the past decade and found a lot of the males returned to the same place year after year from

Afterwards about half of the group ended up at Yonder Farms. YES they are still open and wonderful! A lingering group of four hung on to discuss “life” for awhile.

So, overall the hike was a success! As spring continues to “spring forward” there will be more and more wildlife, lupin, and hopefully some Blue Karner butterflies to see in the months to come. There might even be a few more birds to hear and see!

Hugh Johnson has letter published in the Times Union

Published in the Times Union Opinion Section on Published 3:06 pm EDT, Saturday, April 27, 2019

We need to have more ‘trail etiquette’ today

Now that spring is really here, folks are getting out and hitting all of our wonderful trails. Recently I have become a trail ambassador to both the Corning and Albany County Rail Trails.

All this means is that I get to monitor the trails, removing minor debris that could prove hazardous to bikers, walkers and joggers, especially broken glass. For bigger obstacles like large limbs, we contact the county. The other aspect of the position is to listen to trail-goers on what can be improved and to lead by example in regards to “trail etiquette.”

There are several such ambassadors assigned to both trails. However they cannot always get out to survey the trails. Most of the time while riding or walking any trail I have taken to the habit of removing debris, any other obstacles and the like, even when I am not on duty. Trails do not clean themselves. If everyone who has the time took a moment to remove a branch or a few pieces of glass, everyone would have a safer, cleaner trail to traverse.

We all also need to remember that trails are public domain, which means everyone has a right to be on them, and everyone should be treated with respect. Bikers should yield to walkers and everyone needs to yield to horses. When passing, we need to let the other trail-goer know, politely. And everyone needs to remember to clean up after pets and to dispose of those bags, which are not biodegradable.

Hugh Johnson

Albany