



Volunteer Steve Cinquanti loads donated goods onto a tractor-trailer Monday to be delivered by Weedsport-based Page Transportation to hurricane and flooding victims in Texas.

Photos by Joe McIntyre/Staff photographer

## Locals send truck full of supplies to Harvey victims

By ROBERT CREENAN  
Staff Reporter

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CORTLANDVILLE — A tractor-trailer loaded with tons of supplies is headed to Texas from Cortlandville today, hauling water, cleaning supplies, food — and coloring books.

Deanne Marshall of Cortland brought her daughters, 12-year-old Emily and 6-year-old Sadie, with her Saturday to Cortlandville to help fill a tractor-trailer headed to Houston in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. They brought coloring books, writing utensils, school books, socks, cleaning supplies and pet food.

"I have four kids and do a lot of baby-sitting, so my first thought was about the kids, what they would want," Deanne Marshall said. She also said the schoolbooks would help kids focus on schoolwork even though they cannot attend.

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Kelly Bushnell, of Whitney Point, left, and Ethel McRae-Weibly, of Cortland, sort donated goods Monday while loading a tractor-trailer of relief supplies to be delivered to Texas.

### NATION

## Health insurance cost hikes loom

WASHINGTON — Millions of people who buy individual health insurance policies and get no financial help from the Affordable Care Act are bracing for another year of double-digit premium increases, and their

### WORLD

## Duchess expecting 3rd royal offspring

LONDON — Prince William's wife, the Duchess of Cambridge, is pregnant with her third child. The new baby will be fifth in line to the British throne.

Two older siblings will welcome the new

It was sun too early to be sure of its future track: "Everyone in hurricane-prone areas should ensure that they have their hurricane plan in place."

Irma's center was expected to move near or over the northern Leeward Islands late Tuesday and early Wednesday, the hurricane center said. The eye was then expected to pass about 50 miles from Puerto Rico late Wednesday.

Authorities warned that the storm could dump up to 10 inches (25 centimeters) of rain, cause landslides and flash floods and generate waves of up to 23 feet.

Government officials began evacuations and urged people to finalize all preparations as shelves emptied out across islands including Puerto Rico.

"The decisions that we make in the next couple of hours can make the difference between life and death," Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello said. "This is an extremely dangerous storm."

Residents on the U.S. East Coast were urged to monitor the storm's progress in case it should turn northward toward Florida, Georgia or the Carolinas.

"This hurricane has the potential to be a major event for the East Coast. It also has the potential to significantly strain FEMA and other governmental resources occurring so quickly on the heels of (Hurricane) Harvey," Evan Myers, chief operating officer of AccuWeather, said in a statement.

On Beat THE LIGHTER SIDE OF THE NEWS

## Chuck E. Cheese tokens not 'fine'

DANVERS, Mass. (AP) — A Massachusetts tributary is reminding residents that Chuck E. Cheese tokens are not an acceptable form of payment for



nal student role herself, and she lent and support she had received strators at the college. It led her doctorate at Syracuse University, the Central School and Eastern returned to OCC as a professor and never left.

Establishing coordinated relations four-year colleges, enabling ociate's degrees seamlessly into her work with the American In-sh she was an honorary life mem-ility to the business program at

rial summers in Poland, attend-iversity, meeting Lech Walesa, might have survived the Second ar found family there, she made

bout her childhood on a farm in her four sisters and one broth-Depression. From a one-room ever forgot her immigrant roots, lue of hard work and family.

on, William, of Oahu, Hawaii; i; daughter, Patricia of Lancast-irine (Ted Murowski), William, , Cristin (William Roach), John, aurie) Fusco; nieces, Christine rone, Margaret Morgia, Mary Uso, and Donna (Brad) Kirch, le loving home of Joseph and dren are forever grateful.

1 at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at icolic Church, 801 Hickory St., e in All Saints Polish National friends are invited to call from Harper Funeral Home, 418 N.

sider a donation to the Helen he OCC Foundation, 4585 W. 13215.

nd a message of sympathy via

N.Y., formerly of Syracuse, N.Y., died Sept. 2, 2017. Funeral ser-ices will be held at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at All Saints Polish National Catholic Church, 801 Hickory St., Rome. Interment will take place in All Saints Polish National Catholic Cemetery. Visi-tation will be from 7 to 9 p.m. tonight at Nunn and Harper Funeral Home, 418 N. George St., Rome.

## RELIEF

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About 30 volunteers showed up Saturday to help unload people's cars of supplies and put them onto the truck, which had a banner that reading "Relief for Texas" facing the street. The volunteers wore shirts that read "Relief for Texas" on the front and "Small Town, Big Hearts" on the back.

The trailer was already half-full when they started collecting donations in the morning on the second day of the three-day ef-fort. The 56-foot trailer is 8 feet tall, 7 feet wide and capable of hauling about 45,000 pounds. A second truck, slightly smaller at 53 feet long, was on standby if the first one filled up.

Jason McKrae, the owner of Stupid Choppers and main organizer, had been accepting donations since Thursday, a day before they were initially supposed to start.

"There were only two of us when we got started," McKrae said. "It got crazy really quick."

The donated items organizers requested included water, dia-pers, baby wipes, nonperishable food, towels and paper goods, mops, brooms, cleaning supplies, linens, bathroom supplies and pet food. McKrae said one person do-nated a gas-powered generator.

"People left their pets behind,

so there are a lot of homeless pets," McKrae said.

Harvey, at its peak a Category 4 hurricane, dropped 52 inches of rain on Texas and Louisiana when it made landfall on Aug. 25. It killed at least 31 people, forced 32,000 into shelters, damaged 50,000 homes and caused at least two explosions at a Houston-area chemical plant.

McKrae did not come up with the idea for driving a relief truck down to Houston. His friend Jim Grant, a truck driver for Weed-sport-based Page Transportation, volunteered his time, resources and truck to drive to Texas, leav-ing in the dark Monday morning. He expects to arrive tonight.

"I have a cousin in San Anto-nio, Dan, to help unload," said Grant, who will first go to the Golden Crescent Food Bank in Victoria, about 85 miles north of Corpus Christi, before heading to the Houston area.

Amy Bugges, an employment specialist for Cortland County, went to high school with McKrae and Grant. She was in charge of coordinating the volunteers and the sorting. She noted how the "Small Town, Big Hearts" quote on the back of their shirts rings true for the community.

"It's not about recognition, it's about giving," Bugges said.

to stop the flooding. Starry Sherwood said the man told him to get rid of the house — Sharon Sherwood's home since 1964. It is not such an easy task for the married couple on a limited budget.

The biggest problem with the house is it sits at the bottom of an incline off the road, and about 150 feet away from it is the East Branch of Owego Creek, which tends to flood. With about two weeks of heavy rain, it flooded the area worse than ever, Starry Sherwood said.

"The houses looked like they were in a big river," Sharon Sherwood said.

When the pool of water start-ed to form around and inside the house, Starry began moving the cars to higher ground, while Sha-ron tried to put as many items inside the house on shelves and counters as she could.

The water did not wait for her to finish. It rose almost waist high, covering cabinets and drawers. It rose so high, so quickly, Sharon said her dog al-most drowned.

The Sherwoods saved what they could, having to leave their light blue two-story house to the mercy of the weather.

### Looking for help

After the floods, they stayed in Sharon's mother's house for a couple weeks. The house was empty, as her mother had recent-ly died.

But Sharon Sherwood said her brother became executor of her mother's will, took control of the house, got a lawyer and had them evicted so he could sell it.

They moved into a motel, but with their limited budget, could stay only a few weeks.

The last option was to return to

the county must be in the same circumstance.

On Thursday, Gov. Andrew Cuomo called for the federal government to grant a major disaster declaration for Cortland and 14 other counties damaged by floods.

Roman said Friday if President Donald Trump signs the plan, the county would be reimbursed \$1.7 million. The plan includes both public and individual assistance — financial support or direct services to residents with serious needs and who are unable to meet them on their own. "Whether they (the federal government) authorizes that is another story," Roman said.

### New future

The Sherwoods do not want help with fixing their house. They want out.

"It is not worth it," Starry Sherwood said.

Sharon Sherwood added Cath-olic Charities of Cortland has offered to make a donation, but the Sherwoods do not want anything to go toward the house.

They are in the process of fig-uring out what they can do to get rid of it.

The Sherwoods were able to get out of the house on Saturday. Starry's niece will let them live in her camper in Freville until they can find somewhere else. And they already have their eye on a new home — a trailer in Etha, Sharon Sherwood said: "There is no flooding there."

## Lottery Winners

ALBANY (AP) — Here are the winners...