

# Bowling tourney at Slate Valley Center fun for residents

They came into the activity room, and the recreation department led by Andrea Kelley had it all set up: bowling pins, light bowling balls and even a "human ball return."

On Monday, March 7, close to 20 residents at Slate Valley Center had great fun bowling in the dining room. Residents rolled the ball down the chute and hoped for a strike. Some rolled the ball with more force to hit the pins harder to get a strike that way.

Many of the center's residents laughed and clapped, while others were a little more competitive in getting their best score possible. It was called the Slate Valley Center Tournament, so there was a bit of a competitive edge to it, but it was all for fun.

"It's still a bit chilly outside, so having a bowling get-together or tournament was great fun for everyone," Kelley said. "The residents who can get involved give it their 100%."



Resident Phyllis Hoffman, 79, in blue concentrates during her turn while resident Carol Cox, 87, in purple looks on.



Resident Mike Ross, 71, always has a great time.

## Slate Valley Museum's Ethnic Bread and Soup Night returns March 25

The Slate Valley Museum will host an evening of warm soups and breads with culinary roots that can be traced across the Atlantic.

Ethnic Bread and Soup Night will return on Friday, March 25, at 6 p.m., featuring recipes with ties to many of the immigrant groups that helped drive the region's slate industry.

"The slate industry that has helped shape and define our region brought with it people of many different cultures who also helped to shape and define our region," noted executive director Sarah Kijowski. "This event is a creative way to consider the lin-

gering influences and how families maintain some connection to their heritage."

Attendees will enjoy tastings of several soups including Irish stew, corn chowder and Italian wedding soup. Rock Hill Bakehouse will also provide a selection of its naturally leavened hearth breads including pane bello, whole wheat, rustic farm and sourdough.

"This event is about coming together to experience tastings of some of the ethnic recipes that have stood the test of time and continue to be a part of life for many people with ties to our

region," noted Kijowski. "Activities like these are especially meaningful in the world today, as the simple act of gathering to eat is perhaps more appreciated and helps to reinforce a much-needed sense of community."

Visitors can purchase their tasting cup for \$8 from 6 to 8 p.m. that they'll use to sample soups created by museum friends who have volunteered to share their favorite recipes.

Guests will also have the option to purchase a limited-edition bowl for an additional \$12. The pieces were created and donated by Slate Valley artist Victoria Whitney of North Granville

Pottery Company to commemorate the museum's 25th anniversary. There will be a limited run of 25 available for purchase, so it's first-come, first-served.

Space is limited, and RSVPs are required. Given the high demand, museum staff recommend that attendees reserve their spots early. Reservations can be made by calling the museum at 518-642-1417 or by emailing museum associate Wendy Bordwell at [associate@slatevalleymuseum.org](mailto:associate@slatevalleymuseum.org).

Slate Valley Museum is located at 17 Water St. in Granville.

## The impact of Covid-19 from school administrators' perspective

To gauge how the pandemic has affected both the profession of school administration and the school communities they lead, the School Administrators Association of New York State (SAANYS) conducted a recent survey of its membership that yielded 676 responses from around the state, according to a press release from the association.

The survey focused specifically on school administrators, those responsible for providing a quality education to students amid a myriad of current health concerns, social-emotional needs and numerous rules and regulations constantly in flux.

Of the 676 respondents, 75% hold the title of principal or assistant principal, with other titles including department directors, supervisors and other supervisory staff.

Importantly, the survey also asked these professional educators their perspectives on how students across the state have been faring throughout the pandemic. The data, and the hundreds of open-response comments, are telling and are summarized in SAANYS' recent special report, "The impact of COVID on school administrators."

Survey highlights include:

- 85% report that their traditional professional duties have been sidelined to fulfill Covid-related work.

- 28% believe that there has been significant learning loss across the general student population.

- 86% of respondents report an increase in student behavioral issues this year.

- 33% of respondents indicate that their retirement plans have been accelerated because of the pandemic.

- Of particular interest was the open-ended question that asked "What legislative or policy action (state or local) would be most supportive to you at this time?" There was significant frustration with previous masking requirements and Covid protocols, but there were also numerous comments regarding student assessments and teacher and principal evaluations.

SAANYS' advocacy regarding this year's state assessments parallels many of the survey comments received, which spoke of the desire to see a repeat of last year's scaled-down approach to state testing.

Said one respondent, "Remove assessments for students throughout the end of the year. There is much disruption to the learning process. We are

holding them to the exact same standards and providing interrupted learning. Fewer teachers mean more subs, quarantines and illnesses."

The "SAANYS survey on the impact of Covid on school administrators" is available along with additional summary data at [bit.ly/3MzrZmD](http://bit.ly/3MzrZmD).

SAANYS represents nearly 8,000 school administrators, supervisors and coordinators throughout New York

State. As a professional association, SAANYS provides direction, service and support to the membership in their efforts to improve the quality of education and leadership in New York State schools.

SAANYS is affiliated with the National Association of Elementary School Principals and the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

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