

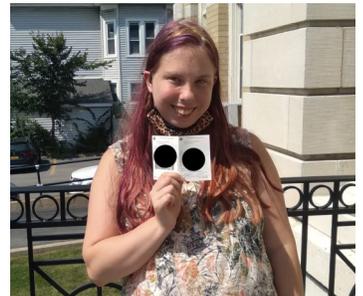
# LEXINGTON HAPPENINGS



Welcome to “Lexington Happenings,” a collection of things to do and see and experience at Lexington!

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2021

## #RISINGTOGETHER AT LEXINGTON!



- Lexington’s self-advocacy committee, Our Voice, held elections for their 2022 officers! Candidates campaigned through signage and Zoom debates and voting commenced through ballot sheets and boxes at Gloversville, Johnstown, Cobleskill, Oppenheim and Schoharie Day Habs. See page 2 for the election results! Pictured is Taneesh Mannion, candidate for public relations officer, casting her vote.
- Thanks to everyone who participated in the Trunk or Treat events at Schoharie, Gloversville and Oppenheim Day Habs! From the people we support, who dressed up in amazing costumes, to staff, who decorated their cars, handed out candy and set up games, everyone had a blast.
- Schoharie Day Hab is participating in the Middleburgh Scarecrows project, where individuals, businesses and programs make scarecrows and place them around town to celebrate fall! If you visit Middleburgh, keep an eye out for “Floyd,” the scarecrow that SDH made together.
- The team at Community Supports dressed up and handed out Halloween treat bags to the children they support in the community! Thanks to Heather Garcia, Sandra Miller, Terri Tracy and everyone else at Community Supports for all they do to connect with families and spread joy!
- In September and October, we held tent meetings and events at the Nigra Arts Center and in Schoharie! It was a pleasure to recognize staff who celebrated anniversary milestones this year and meet in person at Nurturing Environment Meetings. The meetings culminated in a special recognition of all who worked at Toe Path Industries over the years—pictured is Timothy Durrin, who celebrated more than 40 years at TPI!
- On August 28, Robin and Alan exchanged vows during their Commitment Ceremony! The whole team at Krumkill came together to set up the outdoor venue, take care of all the details and make the day magical. Thanks to all who helped and congratulations to Robin and Alan!
- The Feura Bush team experienced a dream come true when they went to a Yankee’s game at Yankee Stadium in October! The men enjoyed a great day of baseball thanks to staff Austin Fulton and Laura Berkeley, as well as everyone else who helped make this day possible!
- After weeks of practicing and hard work, Maggie Roarke passed the test to receive her driver’s permit this summer! Congratulations to Maggie on achieving such a big goal and taking this big step forward toward greater independence!

## ELECTION RESULTS FOR 2021-2022 SELF-ADVOCACY ELECTIONS

Lexington's Our Voice self-advocacy committee held their annual elections for officers, and over 100 ballots were cast by fellow self-advocates during the voting period! Congratulations to the following new officers:

- **Bridget Kennison**, President
- **Abby Tavoraro**, Secretary
- **Taneesh Mannion**, Public Relations
- **Mike Brooks**, Vice President
- **Ralph Orapello**, Treasurer

### NEW EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION INITIATIVE



We are happy to be able to announce Lexington's Holiday DSP Recognition Program! With the holidays approaching, we are pleased to be able to further recognize our employees who are showing commitment to their work schedule and those who are working extra shifts to help make sure the people we support have the care they need and deserve. Please see below for details on the three parts of the Holiday DSP Recognition program. It will run from November 8, 2021, to January 7, 2022. If you have questions or need more information, please contact your manager or Tina Olyer at OlyerT@thearclexington.org or at (518)736-4152.

#### 1. ATTENDANCE RECOGNITION PROGRAM (DSPs from IRA, DH and Community Supports)

- DSPs who work a pay period with zero unscheduled absences, and using no more than 2 days' worth of approved benefit time, earn additional \$100 recognition

#### 2. OVERTIME RECOGNITION (employees with a primary or secondary job as a DSP working overtime in the residential program)

- 16 hours of overtime within a pay period = \$75 recognition
- 24 hours of overtime within a pay period = \$100 recognition
- 16 hours of overtime during the "night" shift (11 p.m. to 7 a.m.) = additional \$75 recognition

#### 3. PART-TIME/PER DIEM RECOGNITION PROGRAM (all part-time/per diem DSPs working in the residential program)

- Part-time employees who work more than 35 hours per week earn additional \$75 recognition
- Per diem employees who work more than 20 hours per week earn additional \$75 recognition

### INFORMATION ABOUT TIME CHANGE ON NOVEMBER 7

This weekend, we gained an hour due to Daylight Saving Time. As a reminder, this affected scheduled/routine medications, tube feedings and treatments. Please do the following, and contact your residential nurse if you have any questions or concerns:

1. Change clocks if they do not automatically change.
2. Medications, tube feedings and treatments due after 2 a.m. on Sunday morning are to be given according to the new time, e.g. give the 6 a.m. meds at the "new" 6 a.m. It will not adversely affect people for one dose.
3. The only exception to this rule would be medications that are given every hour or two hours. See your RN for instructions if this applies to the people you support.
4. The Therap system will automatically do the time change.

### ARC NEW YORK SCHOLARSHIPS FOR EMPLOYEES

The Arc New York presents annual scholarships to those pursuing degrees in special education, physical or occupational therapy, or fields related to intellectual/developmental disabilities! Click the scholarship name below to access online applications. Each scholarship is \$3,000, paid in two installments of \$1,500 per semester. Funds must be claimed within four years of being awarded. Applications are due by **January 7, 2022**. For questions or information, contact Christina Canino at [caninoc@thearcny.org](mailto:caninoc@thearcny.org).

<u>ARTHUR W. PENSE SCHOLARSHIP</u>	<u>JAMES F. REVILLE SCHOLARSHIP</u>	<u>JONATHAN WEINGOLD SCHOLARSHIP</u>	<u>JOSEPH T. WEINGOLD SCHOLARSHIP</u>
1 scholarship presented to students seeking physical/occupational therapy degrees.	2 scholarships presented to full-time college students in a program related to the I/DD field, such as social work, nursing, behavioral sciences, psychology or healthcare admin and management.	4 scholarships presented to full-time Arc Chapter employees who wish to further their education with the intention of contributing to the field of I/DD.	2 scholarships presented to students enrolled in a New York degree program leading to a special education certification.

## LEXINGTON ACTIVITY AND RESOURCE CENTER

### OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR BENEFITS FOR ALL LEXINGTON EMPLOYEES

Open enrollment will take place from **8 a.m. on November 1 to 9 p.m. on November 19!** To enroll in your benefits for 2022, please visit [employeenavigator.com](https://employeenavigator.com) and log in with your RKSolution credentials. Failure to enroll in or decline coverage will result in the termination of your benefits, so don't wait! HR will host Zoom info sessions to help you understand each benefit option as follows:

Date	Time	Zoom Link	Zoom Call-in Number	Zoom Meeting ID
Tuesday, November 9	7:30 a.m.	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87472847071">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87472847071</a>	+1 646 558 8656	874 7284 7071
Wednesday, November 10	3:00 p.m.	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83369687251">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83369687251</a>	+1 646 558 8656	833 6968 7251
Wednesday, November 17	4:00 p.m.	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88926481610">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88926481610</a>	+1 646 518 9805	889 2648 1610
Friday, November 19	10:00 a.m.	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89299783938">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89299783938</a>	+1 646 518 9805	892 9978 3938

### ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GETTING THE COVID-19 VACCINE?

The CDC recommends that everyone age 12+ receive a COVID-19 vaccine! All COVID vaccines are safe and effective against the disease and all its variants. Infections happen only in a small percentage of people who are fully vaccinated, and those cases tend to be mild. The best weapon against serious disease and death caused by COVID is the vaccine!

- The **CDC** can help you find a vaccine near you: call 1-800-232-0233, text your zip code to 438829 or visit [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov).
- The **Fulton County Public Health Department** offers limited vaccine clinics. For details, visit [www.fultoncountyny.gov/covid-19](https://www.fultoncountyny.gov/covid-19).
- In **Schoharie County**, the Public Health Department can be contacted by calling (518) 295-8365.
- **Albany County Public Health** continues to schedule regular COVID-19 vaccine clinics. Details and registration can be found at [www.albanycounty.com/departments/health/coronavirus-covid-19](https://www.albanycounty.com/departments/health/coronavirus-covid-19) or by calling (518) 447-7000.
- To make an appointment at a state-run site, call 1-833-697-4829 or visit <https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov>.
- You can schedule a vaccine at CVS or Walgreens through the stores' apps or contact individual locations for details.

### COVID-19 VACCINE CLINICS AT BISHOP BURKE

**November 11 and 18 | 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. | Gym, 127 E. State Street, Gloversville**

Lexington has partnered with Fulton County Public Health and Adirondack Health & Wellness to hold **COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics** at the Bishop Burke gym! These clinics will offer free Moderna and Pfizer vaccines (first and second shots) as well as boosters for those who qualify. All Lexington staff who got any vaccine are eligible for a booster. Community members must have received a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine 6 months ago or longer AND be 65 or older, OR be 18+ living in long-term care settings, with underlying medical conditions or living/working in high-risk settings. All may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose. Anyone who gets vaccinated at these clinics will receive a \$50 gift card. Registration is required. Visit the following to reserve your spot:

- **Nov. 11:** [booknow.appointment-plus.com/6z7p0e2g/?e\\_id=3429](https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/6z7p0e2g/?e_id=3429)
- **Nov. 18:** [booknow.appointment-plus.com/6z7p0e2g/?e\\_id=3431](https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/6z7p0e2g/?e_id=3431)

If you need help registering, please call or visit the following staff members:

- **Vicki Scheuerman** at Oppenheim Day Hab (518 568-3102)
- **Nancy DeSando** at 465 N. Perry St. (518 736-3937)
- **Bahja Helou Haddawi** at Burke (518 775-1619)
- **Megan Balser** at the Nigra Arts Center (518 661-9932)

Questions? Please contact Patti Wrobel at (518) 775-5309 or [wrobelp@thearclexington.org](mailto:wrobelp@thearclexington.org).

### JOHNSON & JOHNSON VACCINES AND BOOSTERS AT BURKE CLINICS

For the remaining COVID vaccine clinics, we have been able to add Johnson & Johnson initial doses and boosters for Lexington employees only. If you would like a J&J vaccine or booster, please reach out to one of the above staff. You may not sign up for J&J at the links provided. Booster shots for the J&J vaccine are recommended for those 18+ who were vaccinated 2+ months ago.

### ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED ZOOM ACTIVITY CALENDAR

The Engaged and Empowered day hab program offers daily social groups, activities, wellness exercises, games, crafts, meetings and more to the people we support! See the full November calendar and participation information at <https://bit.ly/3pY38QA>.

## PAUL NIGRA CENTER FOR CREATIVE ARTS

Lexington employees get a 10% discount at the Nigra Arts Center! Just enter the code **LEXEMPLOYEE** at checkout to redeem. We offer free classes to the people we support. If your house, program or someone you know wants to take a class, please call (518) 661-9932 or contact Maria Nestle at [nestlem@thearclexington.org](mailto:nestlem@thearclexington.org) to sign them up. The Arts Center is located at 2736 State Highway 30 in Gloversville. For full listings of the classes and events offered, visit [www.pncreativeartscenter.org](http://www.pncreativeartscenter.org).



### COME SEE OUR NEW ART SHOW!

The Nigra Arts Center's current exhibition, the **2021 Fall/Winter Art Show**, will be on display until January 14, 2022. It features over 100 pieces, including 14 by artists from Creative Expressions, Transitions, Liberty Through the Arts and Saratoga Bridges Creative Endeavors Art Center! Come see the artwork weekdays 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. or Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The show will also be available to view as a virtual tour at [pncreativeartscenter.org/art-shows](http://pncreativeartscenter.org/art-shows) and [facebook.com/PaulNigraCenter](https://facebook.com/PaulNigraCenter).

### WEBER GRILL RAFFLE RESULTS

Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets for the Weber grill raffle to benefit the Paul Nigra Center for Creative Arts! The winners of the raffle were Frank Douglas and Maria Nestle. Congratulations! Special thanks to Ruby & Quiri and Michael Hutcherson for generously donating this grill as a fundraiser for the Nigra Arts Center.

### RESOURCES AND COMMUNICATIONS

Past resources can be found at [thearclexington.org/wellness](http://thearclexington.org/wellness), [thearclexington.org/family-connections](http://thearclexington.org/family-connections) or [thearclexington.org/vaccine](http://thearclexington.org/vaccine).

- **United Concierge Medicine: The Virtual ER**—Lexington's Telemedicine provider (1-844-484-7362).
- **Information on COVID-19**—News, info and resources about COVID-19 at [coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home).
- **COVID-19 Vaccine Information Sheets**—To help employees make an informed decision about the COVID-19 vaccine, we have created an information sheet with links to credible medical and scientific resources, videos and information from the CDC, the WHO and our Public Health Departments. The sheet can be found at <http://bit.ly/2NGINzf>.
- **COVID-19 Zoom Q&A with Lexington's Medical Director**—Visit <https://youtu.be/kvWE8d40hGo> to watch a Q&A with Lexington's Medical Director, Dr. Kevin Cope, where he discussed the COVID-19 vaccine, the Delta variant and more.
- **What to Expect After Getting a Vaccine**—Visit <https://bit.ly/345yGrG> for info on what to do and expect after getting a vaccine.
- **Project Connect Pandemic Helpline**—A 24-hour helpline to support people with disabilities, their families and members of their support teams. Click the link for details about what services are offered or call the helpline any time at **888-847-3209**.

### LEXINGTON'S MISSION

We empower people with autism and disabilities to live their best lives, every day, by partnering with their families, our employees and our community.

### LEXINGTON HAPPENINGS DIGITAL ARCHIVE

The online digital archive of Lexington Happenings, which includes active links to all the resources and documents highlighted, can be found at [thearclexington.org/lexington-happenings](http://thearclexington.org/lexington-happenings)! If you have questions or would like to submit information for a future newsletter, please contact Megan Balser at [balserm@thearclexington.org](mailto:balserm@thearclexington.org) or (518) 661-9932.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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