

Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders

All In The Family

by Karen Hall

"I'm surprised you wanted to meet here. At least in Syracuse, Denny's has not been the most welcoming place." I say this to my second cousin, Phyllis, and her partner, Gloria. They are a mixed race couple of my mother's generation. Having been my grandparents' favorite niece, my cousin helped pave the way in my family for a smoother coming out for me. I like them and am glad they have made time to meet with me as they travel back to their home in Texas.

Their answers to my comment overlap: "We eat here a lot and never have a problem," says my European American, white cousin; "I think the service is always rude. They never talk to me, only to Phyllis," says her Mexican American partner. Later in the conversation a similar dynamic occurs when the topic turns to the Texas Rangers. "I always feel afraid when they are around. I don't look at them and just keep my head down" versus "They're a fine organization. We're glad to have them making our state safe."

I'm more saddened by my cousin's closed mindedness than surprised. When I visited them in southern Texas, Rush Limbaugh and Dr. Laura seemed to be the only thing playing on the radio. They joked about people in their gated golf community who couldn't figure out their relationship asking them if Gloria was Phyllis's maid. They laughed together, drank together, golfed together, and stayed together until Phyllis's death. After more than thirty years, they both still giggled about meeting

See "Family" on p. 7

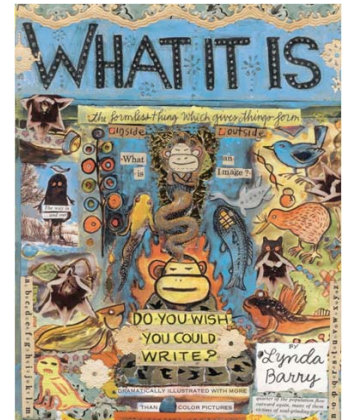
Yes! You Are A Writer

Beautiful objects and moments were created in the SAGE Upstate Art of Aging program, as were bonds and friendships. SAGE is committed to continuing arts programming. This month we introduce an ongoing writing group which will meet at SAGE on Tuesdays from 5 to 6:30 beginning September 20.

Whether or not you took part in the Art of Aging writing group; whether you fancy yourself a writer or not; whether a novel, poem or grocery list is bursting to come out of you, this is the group for you.

We'll use a most wonderful book as our guide—*What It Is* by Lynda Barry. The *School Library Journal* described the book as "a feast for the eyes with beautiful full-page collages of photographs, watercolors, ink drawings, and text . . . that explores and encourages writing in a combination of

See "Writers" on p 3



SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK

SAGE Upstate Program Resource Fair

September's Second Sunday Potluck spotlights SAGE's ongoing and start up programs. Come talk with group leaders and participants of our wide range of groups.

Music by Melissa Clark!

Potlucks held on the 2nd Sunday each month, First English Lutheran Church, 501 James St.

SAGE Upstate Center: 501 James St. ▼ Staffed: Mon - Fri 12 - 6 ▼ www.SAGEupstate.org

PO Box 6271, Syracuse, 13217 ▼ 315-478-1923 ▼ toll free outside local calling area: 866-717-2640

SAGE Upstate News is published monthly by the staff of SAGE Upstate for aging lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning persons and their allies in Central New York.

SAGE Upstate Staff:

Kim Dill, Executive Director
 Karen Hall, Program Coordinator
 Barbara Johnson, Office Manager

SAGE Upstate Board:

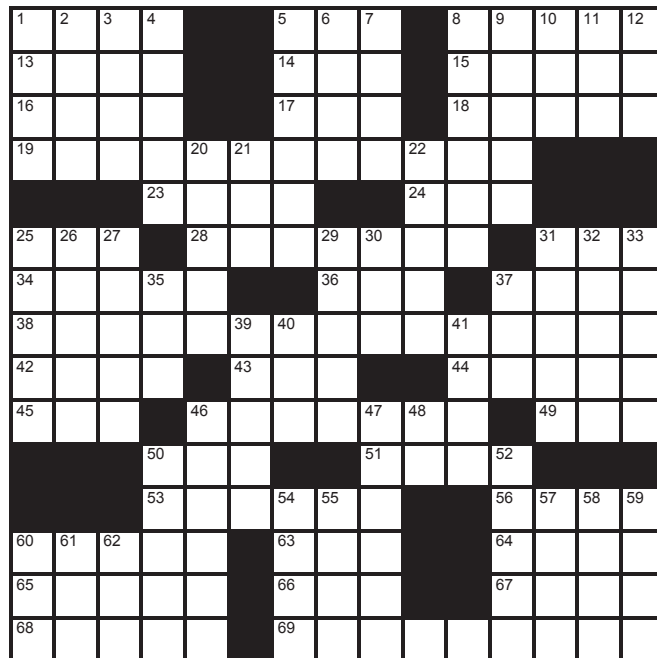
Barb Genton, Chair
 Arlene Ahl, Vice-Chair
 Jim Simonis, Treasurer
 Akosua Woods, Recording Clerk
 Forrest Antrum
 Ron Baldwin
 Dr. Betty Carlisle
 Amanda Furco
 Douglas Goldschmidt
 Maria Grice
 Helen Landfear
 David Leslie
 Ralph Valente

SAGE Upstate is a not-for-profit organization that promotes the health and well being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning people in Central New York as they age.

SAGE Upstate receives funding from members and donors. Additional funding has been received from the New York State Department of Health, the Central New York Community Foundation, the Gifford Foundation, and SAGE USA. SAGE Upstate presents a wide variety of programs that may entertain as well as provide information. These programs represent the views of the speakers only, who are responsible for the content and accuracy of their presentation, and should in not be considered an endorsement by SAGE Upstate.

Across

- 1. N-_____;
- Timberlake's old band
- 5. Support for more than half of us
- 8. Peer
- 13. General Bradley
- 14. "I'm Looking Through _____"
- 15. Ratched or Jackie
- 16. Farm unit
- 17. Ignited
- 18. Some have a sixth one
- 19. Circles coming this Fall at SAGE
- 23. Sew socks
- 24. Nimoy or Bruce, for short
- 25. Bleat
- 28. Paddington or Corduroy
- 31. "Dear" one
- 34. Pond buildup
- 36. Victorian, eg
- 37. Bad marks
- 38. Ellen, Rosie, or Graham
- 42. It comes before kappa
- 43. Sweet _____
- 44. United
- 45. Mattydale
- to-Fayetteville dir.
- 46. What the Bible was probably written on
- 49. "What's ___?"
- 50. Rep's colleague
- 51. Digging on
- 53. Don Draper's series
- 56. Horse house
- 60. Sing like Bing
- 63. _____ alive!
- 64. Soothing agent



- 65. It's three lines in length/have you ever written one?/this clue's a poem
- 66. Like a St. Rd. or Ave.
- 67. _____ the word
- 68. Arm
- 69. For those who can't commit to piercing

- 26. Chorus members
- 27. Marble
- 29. Break down
- 30. Medical review resource (acronym)
- 31. Brand that's an offspring of Toyota
- 32. Absurd
- 33. Please do this with your SAGE membership
- 35. Santa _____
- 37. Promo spots
- 39. _____ at 'em
- 40. Vigor
- 41. Wicked Witch's home
- 46. Oil source
- 47. Washer's colleague
- 48. International Organization (abbr)
- 50. Holy _____
- 52. 44th President
- 54. Muck
- 55. James of song
- 57. Graduate (abbr.)
- 58. Frolic
- 59. Capone pursuer
- 60. "Sweetheart of Sigma _____"
- 61. Amscrayed
- 62. Black gold

Down

- 1. Fly like an eagle
- 2. They have everything for young men to enjoy, including hanging out with boys
- 3. Buster?
- 4. Belief system
- 5. One if _____
- 6. Agitate
- 7. _____ pilot
- 8. Follows as a result
- 9. Drama or drag
- 10. Ashes holder
- 11. Beast of burden
- 12. "Malcolm X" director
- 20. No longer in
- 21. Fury
- 22. Twinkle
- 25. The Count of jazz

PROGRAM CORNER



Programs, Programs, We've Got Your Programs

by Karen Hall

If you look at the calendar for September, you'll see that there is something going on almost every day at SAGE. It's my goal to have EVERY month looking like this.

The Third Tuesday Night Movie will expand this month and we will show a movie every Tuesday night in September, always at 7pm. Two of our feature films should help folks get in the spirit for the race dialogue groups that we will be holding in November and December. *The Way Home* is a feature length film which captures an eight month long experience shared by sixty-four women representing a cross-section of cultures (Indigenous, African-American, Arab/Middle Eastern, Asian, European-American, Jewish, Latina, and Multiracial) coming together to share their



experience of racism in America. Their candid conversations offer rare access into multi-dimensional worlds invisible to outsiders. The abundance of photographs, dance, and music provides a sensual richness to this provocative piece.

The Color of Fear sits eight men down with each other to examine racism. It explores what it means to be white, and what it means to be a person of color. It turns out that much of what the group in the film talks about in the context of racism is actually fear. "I come from this real strong belief that anger is not a primary emotion. I think hurt is," says filmmaker Lee Mun Wah. "When hurt is acknowledged and invalidated, it turns into anger." Hollywood feature films will grace the other two Tuesdays: *The Business of Fancy Dancing* on the 6th and *Showboat* (see below) on the 20th.

September is a month of five Fridays. This extra Friday evening gives us an extra night to gather and socialize. We'll be holding a card night for everyone on Friday, September 30th. Come learn a new game, "5 Tricks," and share snacks and a pleasant evening with your friends at SAGE.

Want to put a word in and tell me what kind of programming you've been longing for? Just call or email (khall@sageupstate.org). And keep watching this page for info on upcoming programs.

Third Tuesday Movie: 9/20, 7 pm:



Showboat

September's Third Tuesday Movie Night will feature *Showboat*. In this MGM musical, the stars of the *Cotton Blossom* showboat (Kathryn Grayson, Ava Gardner and Howard Keel) are forced to abandon the stage due to the era's

miscegenation laws. Meanwhile, the daughter of the showboat's captain runs off to marry a ne'er-do-well gambler.

Writers, cont'd from p. 1

ways." Barry poses philosophical questions such as What is an image? Can we remember something we can't imagine? *What It Is* also serves as a workbook for writers. This group will be a feast for the mind, the heart and the inner eye. All you need to do in order to take part is sharpen your pencil, fill a binder with some loose leaf paper, and call us at SAGE to tell us you're coming! The class is free although we're asking participants to buy the book which we'll bulk order so that we get the best price. For more info or to sign up, contact Karen at 478-1923 or khall@sageupstate.org.

Linda J. Stein LCSW-R, PC
Psychotherapy for Discerning Individuals

Offering an eclectic blend of traditional and holistic therapeutic approaches tailored seamlessly to fit your specific needs. 23 years clinical experience.

LindaJSteinTherapy.com ▲ lindajstein132@windstream.net
 132 Albany St. Cazenovia, NY 13035 ▲ 315-655-0699

Join the Chorus!



Winter Season rehearsals begin September 12, 2011 with a pizza party @ 6:30 pm
 New members can join at the first three rehearsals: 9/12, 9/19, 9/26. Rehearsals take place each Monday at 7 pm at Plymouth Congregational, 232 E Onondaga, Syracuse.



Loretto

Committed to caring for Central New York's elders through:

**Home & Community-Based Care • Senior Housing
 PACE CNY • Rehabilitation • Skilled Nursing**

For more information, call 469-1991 or visit www.loretto-cny.org



30 minutes can impact your next 30 years.

Call me today at (315) 251-0512 ext. 209

Vivian M. Derrickson, CFP®, CLU®
 Senior Financial Advisor
 CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ practitioner
 Ameriprise Financial Services Inc.
 6319 Fly Road #2
 East Syracuse, NY 13057
 (315) 251-0512 ext. 209
 vivian.m.derrickson@ampf.com
 ameripriseadvisors.com/vivian.m.derrickson



Romano Subaru
 The #1 Subaru Certified Pre-Owned Dealer in America!
 Sales - Service - Parts/Accessories - Body Shop
 960 Hiawatha Blvd. West
 Syracuse, NY 13204
 (315) 475-7933
www.romanosubaru.com

Hansen's Advisory Services, Inc.
"Investing in companies that give a hoot"
 Susan S. Hansen, Registered Principal, CFP, CLU, AIF, AEP

specializing in
 focused holistic planning | socially responsible investing

Call or email us today! info@hansensadvisory.com
 315.637.5153 — 800.318.9780
 7067 East Genesee Street
 Fayetteville, NY 13066
www.hansensadvisory.com

James Flowers
 WE DELIVER
 • PLANTS • GIFTS • BALLOONS
 FRESH & SILK ARRANGEMENTS
 FLOWERS WIRED ANYWHERE
 WIDE SELECTION OF FRESH FLOWERS
TONI RITTER / OWNER
 CHARGE BY PHONE 463-8858 ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS
 1-800-836-4661
 374 S. MIDLER AVE., SYRACUSE, NY 13206
 M-Th 9-5:30 Fri 9-6:00 Sat 9-4:00
www.jamesflowersny.com

GEICO Local Office
 Lori E. Myers
 2735 Erie Blvd E, Syracuse, NY 13224
 lmyers@geico.com 315-479-2886
 All your insurance needs:
 domestic partners
 receive same discount as
 married couples.



Please support the businesses, professionals, and organizations listed on this calendar -- they support our local LGBT community.

Vera House
 Domestic/Sexual Violence Hotline:
 315-468-3260, 422-7273,
 Office: 315-425-0818; TTY: 484-7263
www.verahouse.org

Plymouth Congregational Church
 Welcoming LGBT community --
 God is still listening. Sunday svcs 10 am
 232 E Onondaga St; Park free across street
 Info: 395-1720 (Cindy)

Jeff Kreis Heating A&C
 469-7852
 Heatman315@aol.com

Syracuse University LGBT Resource Center
 443-3983

White Dove Releases
 315-875-5558
www.whitewingsovercny.com

Sparky Town Restaurant
 324 Burnet Ave.
 M-F 11 - 8, Sat 8 - 3

Cooperative Federal Credit Union
 471-1116 www.coopfed.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Weekend
SEPT 2011 Unless otherwise noted with * , all activities held at SAGE Upstate Center, 501 James St. @ Townsend in the First English Lutheran Church. Event details on page 8. Info: 315-478-1923.			1	2 Men's Night Out, 6	3 4
5 Monday Men's Group, 6	6 Movie, 7 <i>The Business of Fancy Dancing</i>	7 Knitting/Crocheting /Needlework, 7 *Bike group, 6	8 Q Discussion, 7	9 Daytime: Poker & Soup, noon Uzuri 6:30	10 11 Potluck, 4
12 Monday Men's Group, 6	13 Movie, 7 <i>The Way Home</i>	14 Knitting, 7 What Do Gay Men Want, 6 *Bike group, 6 *Paint Together, 6	15 Open Minds Mental Health Suppt. Group, 6	16 Men's Night Out, 6	17 18 Transpotluck, 5
19 Monday Men's Group, 6	20 3rd Tuesday Movie, 7 <i>Showboat</i>	21 SAGE board, 5:30 Knitting, 7 What Do Gay Men Want, 6 *Bike group, 6	22 *Q Discussion, 7	23 Women's Social, 6 pm	24 25 Karaoke, 6:30 Oswego, 2
26 Monday Men's Group, 6	27 Movie, 7 <i>The Color of Fear</i>	28 *60+ Circle of Friends, 12:30 *Bike group, 6 Knitting, 7	29	30 Fifth Friday Card Night: Five Tricks, 6pm	

YOU COULD WIN THIS AFGHAN!



Baby, It's (going to be) Cold Outside . . .

SAGE has a wonderfully warm afghan that will brighten those long winter nights. Ross Pickering, member of the SAGE Upstate Knitting Circle, has lovingly knitted this piece and donated it to SAGE to raffle off as a fundraiser. We're selling tickets for just \$2 and will pick the winner at the Thanksgiving potluck. Pick up your tickets at a 2nd Sunday Potluck or any SAGE program or event. You'll definitely want to have a few chances to win this afghan!

SEPTEMBER 2011

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Unless otherwise noted, activities below are free and are held in the SAGE Upstate Center, 501 James Street (corner of Townsend and James in the First English Lutheran Church). To register, or for more information, contact SAGE Upstate at 315-478-1923.

60+ Circle of Friends: 9/28, 12:30 pm. LGBTQ people age 60 and older meet for lunch. Call for location/details.

Bike Group: Meet at Onondaga Lake Park Wednesdays at 6 pm, weather permitting, in the parking lot by Griffin's Visitor Center. Some walk too.

Daytime Social: Come join us for poker game and lunch. We'll provide the soup and you can bring a sandwich to go with it if you wish. 9/9 at noon.

Fifth Friday Card Night: September is blessed with FIVE Fridays, so we are having a special social: Come learn a new card game, Five Tricks. Fun and snacks for all!

Karaoke: Come join your SAGE friends on 9/24 at 6:30pm for some song.

Knitting/Crocheting/Needlework Circle: Wednesdays, 7 pm, led by Deborah Hardy. For beginners and more experienced – open to all interested.

Men's Night Out: 1st/3rd Fri (9/2, 9/16), 7 pm. Join SAGE guys for games, movies & fun.

Monday Night Men's Group: Closed support group for men. Mondays, 6pm. New members accepted twice per year. Call for more information.

Movies!! Movies every Tuesday September Only (for now): 9/6, 7pm The Business of Fancy Dancing; 9/13, 7pm The Way Home; 9/27, 7pm The Color of Fear.

Open Mind Mental Health Support Group: Safe space/peer support group for LGBT people with a mental health condition. 3rd Thursday, 9/15, 6 - 8 pm. Info: 478-1923 or Vivian Chapellier, 315-475-1994. Co-sponsors: SAGE Upstate, Transitional Living Services

Oswego Network: 9/25, 2 pm, at Fallbrook, 103 Thompson Rd, Oswego. Bring a dish to pass if you are able.

Q Discussion and Social Group: 2nd Thu (9/8), 7 pm at SAGE Upstate, 4th Thu (9/22), 7 pm meets out in the community. Call for details.

Painting Together: Wed. 9/14 6-9pm. Bring your pastels and easel and join Wendy Harris and fellow Sage members at the intersection of Broad Street and Meadowbrook near Barry Park. Bring your own supplies. In inclement weather, the group meets at the Center.

SAGE Upstate Board: 9/21 at 5:30pm.

Second Sunday Potluck: Sunday, 9/11, 4:00. SAGE Programming Fair. Social: 4, Program: 5, Dinner : 6

3rd Tuesday Movie Night: 9/20, 7. Showboat. Pop-corn/soda served.

TransPotluck: 9/17, 5pm. Potluck for aging Trans people. Bring a dish to pass if able.

Uzuri: 2nd Fri 9/9, 6:30. Social group for aging LGBTQ People of Color.

What Do Gay Men Want? Wednesdays at 6 starting 9/14. Empowerment/Support Group for SAGE men facilitated by David Bullard, LMSW

Women's Social: Fri, 9/23, 6 pm. Cards, movies, soda, snacks. Come meet new friends and hang out with old pals at this gathering for SAGE women.

Solutions from last month

A	R	T	D	E	C	O		U	R	G	E	S		
S	H	E	E	R	E	R		P	A	N	D	A		
P	I	E	B	A	L	D		S	T	O	I	C		
I	N	N			E	E	R	Y		C	F	C		
C	O	S	T	A	R	R	E	D		C	I	A		
				B	U	Y		D	A	S	H	E	D	
S	T	O	A	T				I	N	I	R	E		
T	E	R	R	O	R			U	S	O				
A	L	E			P	A	R	T	Y	W	A	L	L	
R	A	G			I	M	A	M			B	A	A	
E	M	A	I	L				J	O	G	G	E	R	S
R	O	N	D	O				A	S	S	U	A	G	E
S	N	O	O	T				S	T	A	M	M	E	R

Common Ties:

- A. Peanuts, 50's TV, Australopithecus: Lucy
- B. Peanuts, Change, A Living: Things you work for
- C. Peanut, Alfalfa, Lentil: Legumes
- D. Peanut, Baby, Motor: Oils

Coming out should be easier! Answer: He waits until night to come out.

Penny for your thoughts: A

Family, cont'd from p. 1

each other in the ditto room of the school where they had both been teachers.

In November, SAGE will sponsor a six week race dialogue group. I can only imagine what a group like this could have meant for my cousin, her partner, and our whole family. Nothing I said to her was going to get through the wall she had built around herself, and during my week long vacation with them, I grew very distant from her. It's no fun to speak and not be listened to, and no matter the topic, I didn't feel she could hear me. Like most of the members of my family, she was a staunch Republican, a political and social conservative—being lesbian didn't change the beliefs with which she had been raised.

I felt much closer to her partner, Gloria. I listened to and could understand her feelings of isolation. She would never speak a harsh word against her partner—at least not to me—but I saw how their relationship confined her spirit and I blamed Phyllis for this. It's hard, if not impossible, to have an honest relationship with someone whom you blame for hurting a loved one's feelings.

What my family inadvertently taught me was how racism hurts all people. My cousin's racism put a wall between us that neither of us was willing to cross. Talking honestly in a safe space with others, being willing to take the risk to speak our feelings and expose our beliefs may bring short term conflict, but more importantly it brings long term understanding, compassion and commitment within a family and a community. I hope that you will consider taking part in the race dialogues. We each make the world a more understanding place one life at a time.

AROUND TOWN

▼ **The Women's Info Center** is hosting monthly salons, Delicious Desserts and Discussions. The first salon will be held on Tuesday, 9/27 from 7-9 pm. The topic is The Joy of Lesbian Sex after 50. It will be moderated by Linda J. Stein, LCSW. The Center is located at 601 Allen St., two blocks from Westcott St. There is a sliding scale donation of \$5-10.

▼ **Syracuse Community Choir Open Call for Singers: Holly Near Performance & Annual Winter Solstice Concert.** Singers are needed for two concerts this fall. Current rehearsals are preparation for a performance with Holly Near October 20th at St. Pauls Cathedral. Rehearsals will also include preparation for the Annual Winter Solstice Concert, on December 10th, which will honor the Syracuse Peace Council's 75th Anniversary. Interested singers are invited to an orientation and open rehearsal at the Westcott Community Center (826 Euclid), Wednesday September 21. Orientation will start at 6:15pm and the open rehearsal will begin at 7:00pm. Contact: Karen Mihalyi (Choral Director) at 315-428-8151 or kmihalyi@a-znet.com.

▼ On the 10th anniversary of September 11, **All Saints Church** will dedicate a bronze statue to honor **Father Mychal Judge**, an openly gay Franciscan Priest known for outreach to those who are HIV positive, homeless or otherwise marginalized. He died on 9-11 while ministering to the injured inside the World Trade Center. All Saints will hold a memorial and dedication service on September 11, 2011, 12:30 pm, at their location: 1340 Lancaster Avenue, Syracuse, NY. Father Fred Daley and All Saints are inviting all to the ceremony, which will be followed by a community picnic. They are welcoming donations in memory or honor of loved ones lost on 9/11, or due to AIDS/HIV, as well as those struggling with homelessness or addiction, or anyone you wish to include. For more info, please call 472-9934, ext. 4.

▼ **Line Dancing @ Twist.** Tom DeFrancisco will teach country line dancing at Twist (252 W Genesee in Syracuse) on Sunday Sept 11th at 7pm. There is no cost for this event.

▼ Local watercolor artist **Sandy Plumb** will exhibit recent paintings at May Memorial Unitarian Universalist, 3800 Genesee in Syracuse, from September 2 - 27. Sandy, a former SAGE Upstate board member, draws inspiration from the patterns of light and color that appear in nature. This show will include a variety of subjects including a babbling brook, florals, birds, portraits, and landscapes. For viewing info contact May Memorial at 446-8920.



PO Box 6271
Syracuse, NY 13217

Address service requested

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage Paid
Syracuse, NY
Permit 1930

Yes! I would like to join SAGE Upstate.

Name 1 _____ Name 2 _____

Address, City, State, Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Membership dues: *The suggested dues amount is \$35 -- more if you can, less if you can't*

- My dues are enclosed
- Please bill my credit card

\$150 \$100 \$50 \$35 Other \$ _____

Credit Card # _____ exp: _____

Name on credit card _____

Please check all that apply:

- Please use discretion when calling
- Include my information in the address list shared with other members
- I would like to volunteer
- Please send information about how to make SAGE Upstate a beneficiary in my will or donating other assets

Membership dues to SAGE Upstate are tax-deductible.

Mail to SAGE Upstate, PO Box 6271, Syracuse, NY 13217. Questions? 315-478-1923 or kdill@SAGEupstate.org