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Letters for December 18, 2007

Letter: OCCA got grant for lake work

The Nov. 26 edition of The Daily Star ran a front-page article about two grants given to target invasive species. One was to the SUNY Research Foundation for eradication of purple loosestrife and water chestnuts from a wetland near Oneonta. The other was for eradication of water chestnuts in Goodyear Lake.

As a member of the Goodyear Lake Association and one who has helped with eradication efforts, I would like for Daily Star readers to know that the latter grant, for \$15,600, was obtained by the Otsego County Conservation Association, not Otsego County, as the paper stated.

The grant will support education, eradication and community monitoring. This will allow us to be able to purchase a johnboat and six canoes so that more people can participate in more-efficient eradication efforts. Perhaps best of all, it will allow OCCA, the Goodyear Lake Association and other interested parties to get rid of this damaging invasive species by manual extraction, without the use of herbicides.

The Goodyear Lake Association is very grateful to OCCA for applying for and obtaining this grant on the behalf of all who use and value Goodyear Lake. Apparently, this grant application scored the highest of all applications, which speaks well of OCCA and its staff.

We are also grateful to OCCA for its assistance in organizing work days to pull water chestnuts in the summers of 2006 and 2007.

Vincent Stayter

Goodyear Lake