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## NEWS

### Hey Goldilocks, who brought the potato salad?

*Three Bears Picnic Area inaugurated, opening Fourth of July Festival*

**By Susan Campriello  
Hudson-Catskill Newspapers**

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CAIRO — A new picnic area in Cairo's Angelo Canna Town Park was opened Wednesday with the snipping of a ribbon and the unveiling of a sign to start a day-long Fourth of July celebration.

The area, called the "Three Bears Picnic Area," features shaded picnic tables and a custom-made sign donated to the town, according to officials.

Elizabeth Brinckerhoff, chairwoman of the town's parks task force, said members decided to create the picnic area after watching people eat lunch in the shaded area.

Bears seem to be a theme in Cairo, and the name evokes the song "Teddy Bear's Picnic," she and Town Supervisor Ted Banta said.

"Once everybody heard that we were going to call it the 'Three Bears Picnic Area' everybody fell in love with it," Banta said.

The new sign depicts three-bear family with a picnic basket reproduced from a painting by author and artist Iza Trapani.

Trapani donated her painting to the town's public library, and the sign was donated to the park by Manny Voss, of Round Top Knitting and Screening, according to Brinckerhoff.

"Her artwork is absolutely incredible," Brinckerhoff said. "It's the happiest, most beautiful artwork."

Trapani, who lives in Ulster Park, has had 22 books published. She signed her autograph for children and adults alike following the ceremony.

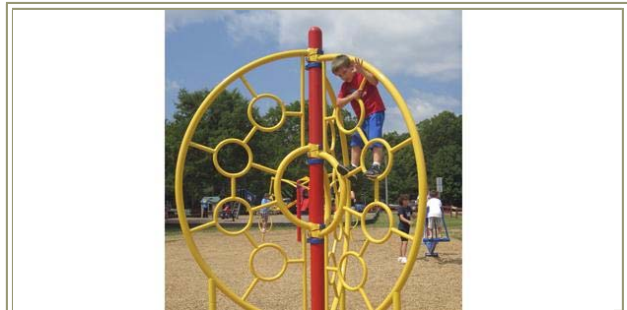
Town officials also celebrated Wednesday the installation of three new pieces of playground equipment colored almost-appropriately for the holiday red, yellow and blue.

The playground pieces, a gyro twister, a starburst climber and a stand-up seesaw, were purchased for about \$8,700 through park funding and donations, according to town officials. Donations also helped the town obtain playground mulch as well as the picnic area's tables and benches, according to officials.

The bright yellow starburst climber was an immediate hit with Connor Sutherland, according to his mother Brandi.

"He loves it," she said as the 4-year-old clung to the top of the circular piece shortly before the ribbon

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Connor Sutherland, 4, enjoys a new piece of playground equipment at Cairo's Angelo Canna Town Park Wednesday. Photo by Susan Campriello

cutting ceremony. "It was the first piece that attracted him."

The pieces were erected in the last few days, according to Bob Hempsted, who runs the town's parks, buildings and grounds department. A red swing set will be added to the playground, also with the help of donations, according to Banta.

Brinckerhoff said the new area demonstrates what can be accomplished when people work together, Brinckerhoff said.

The new additions, as well as plans to open concession stands for winter sledders, can help the park become an attraction year-round, Banta said.

"This is all part of our vision for making our park a destination location," he said.

Other scheduled holiday events included a reading of the Declaration of Independence and a fireworks display.

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