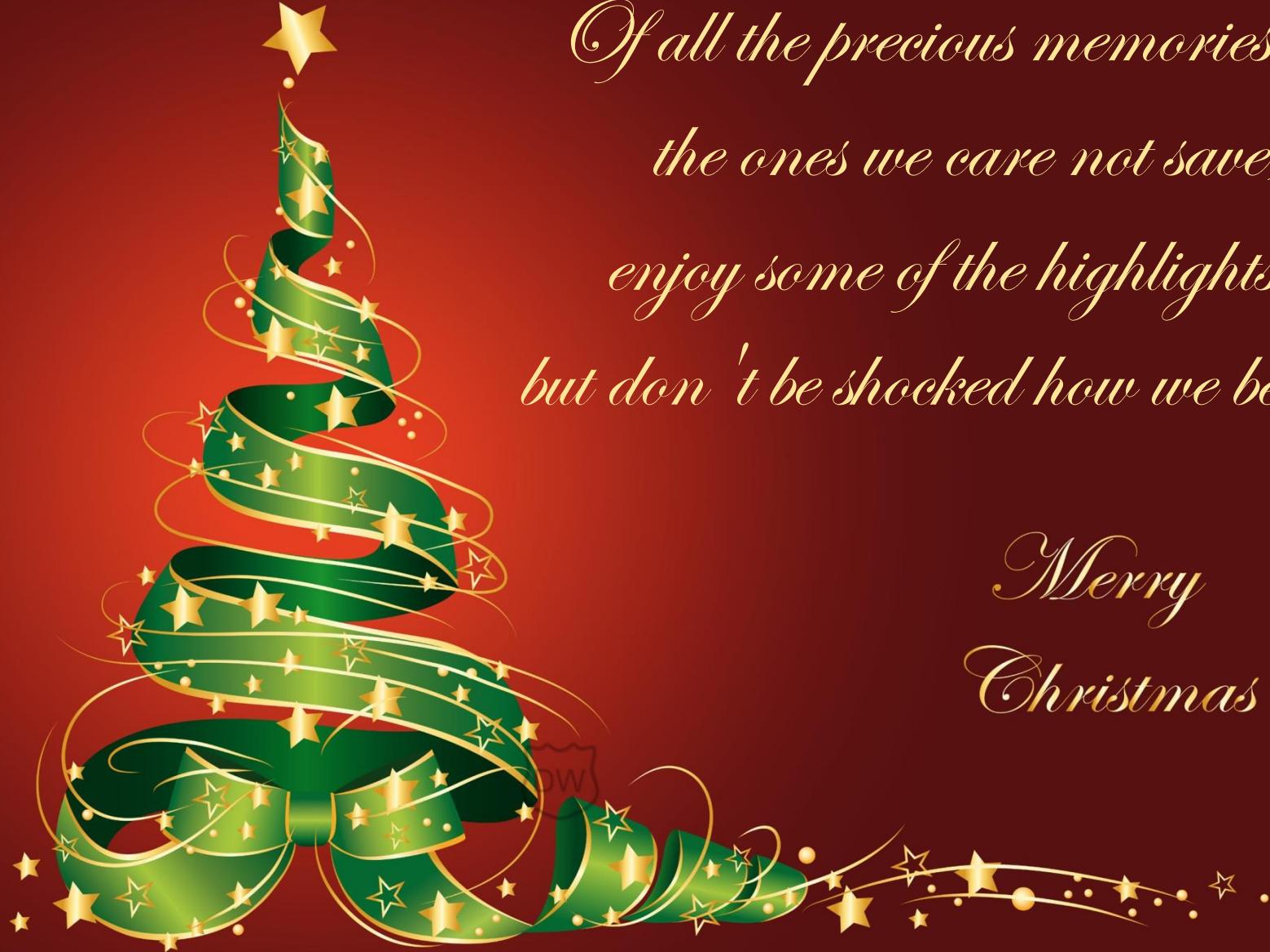




*As the old year passes,
And we wonder where it went.
We look back
upon the months gone by
To relive how they were spent.*



*Of all the precious memories and
the ones we care not save,
enjoy some of the highlights -
but don't be shocked how we behave!*

*Merry
Christmas*

At the start of the year when the twins turned nine,
I could hardly believe these big girls are mine!



A photograph of a young girl standing in a room decorated with a wolf theme. A wooden sign above her reads "WOLF DEN". The walls are covered in brown wallpaper with a wolf pattern. A green and yellow patterned blanket hangs on a wall. The girl is wearing a yellow dress with white polka dots and holding a pink object.

When asking,
"What shall we do
for your birthday,
Honey?"

They said, 'Take us to
Great Wolf
and spend LOTS of
money!"

So off we went for a
birthday bash...





...to play lots of games and
spend all our cash

A piano recital showed
Samantha's great spirit.





Grandma Loris came with us
so she too could hear it.



FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE
2014

SCHLEGE ROAD ELEMENTARY



Our girls are so pretty but sometimes remiss.
At the Dad-Daughter dance they won't give Dad a kiss.

At the height of the winter
its bitter cold out...



...but its time to sell cookies
and be a good scout.



Amy turned forty
when March came along,
and the Melting Pot menu
was not very long.



The price was outrageous for the fondue we had...



...but was tasty and fun.
And for that we were glad!



One stormy day it just didn't stop raining.

It rained 'til the flood waters rose.

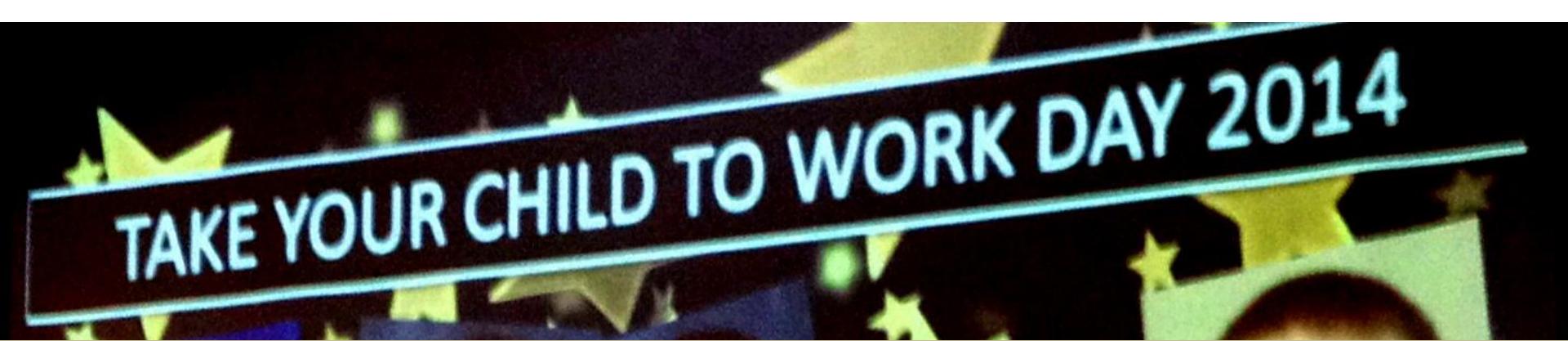
In PennYan and Branchport some buildings collapsed
and all the roads started to close.



A state of emergency stayed in effect until all the debris could be cleared.

Who would believe that such damage could happen, but sometimes the weather gets weird.





TAKE YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY 2014

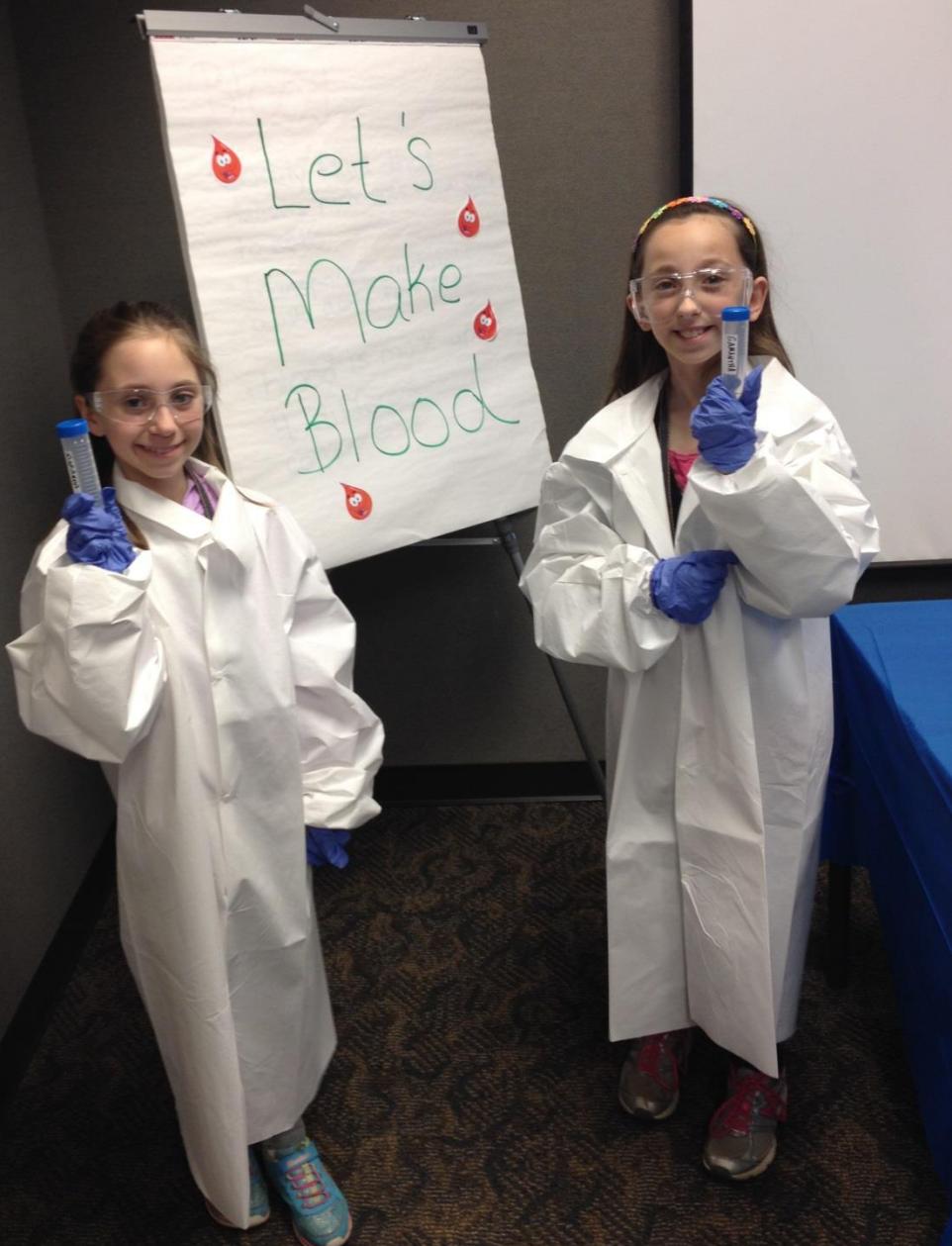
Finally big enough (they had waited for years),
the twins came to work with me to be Engineers!

They sat at my desk doing PowerPoint pages and did fun experiments that were fun for all ages.



I asked them if OCD had careers that were hot...





They replied;
“It’s fun to make
candy,
but as work...
probably NOT.”



In summer we traveled - but not very far.
We drove only an hour or so in our car.

At Darien Lake the girls
stumped the weight guesser
and each of them one a fun
prize...



We camped in an RV to see if we'd like it...





We enjoyed the location and size!



Where next on vacation?
"Stay close!" the girls beg.



So we traveled in time...



To the Renaissance Faire!





And we savored some roast turkey leg!







On our next trip we found at the border no hassle - and just beyond that was the great Dundurn Castle.





We went on safari with Grandma in tow.



There were monkeys...



Giraffes...





And an elephant show!



Back at home we would find we were far from alone
when we had a reunion with our family Vallone.



We ate lots of food and had quite a fling.
Then two of the cousins started to sing!



In our 'hood we found neighbors
who seemed mean and needy.

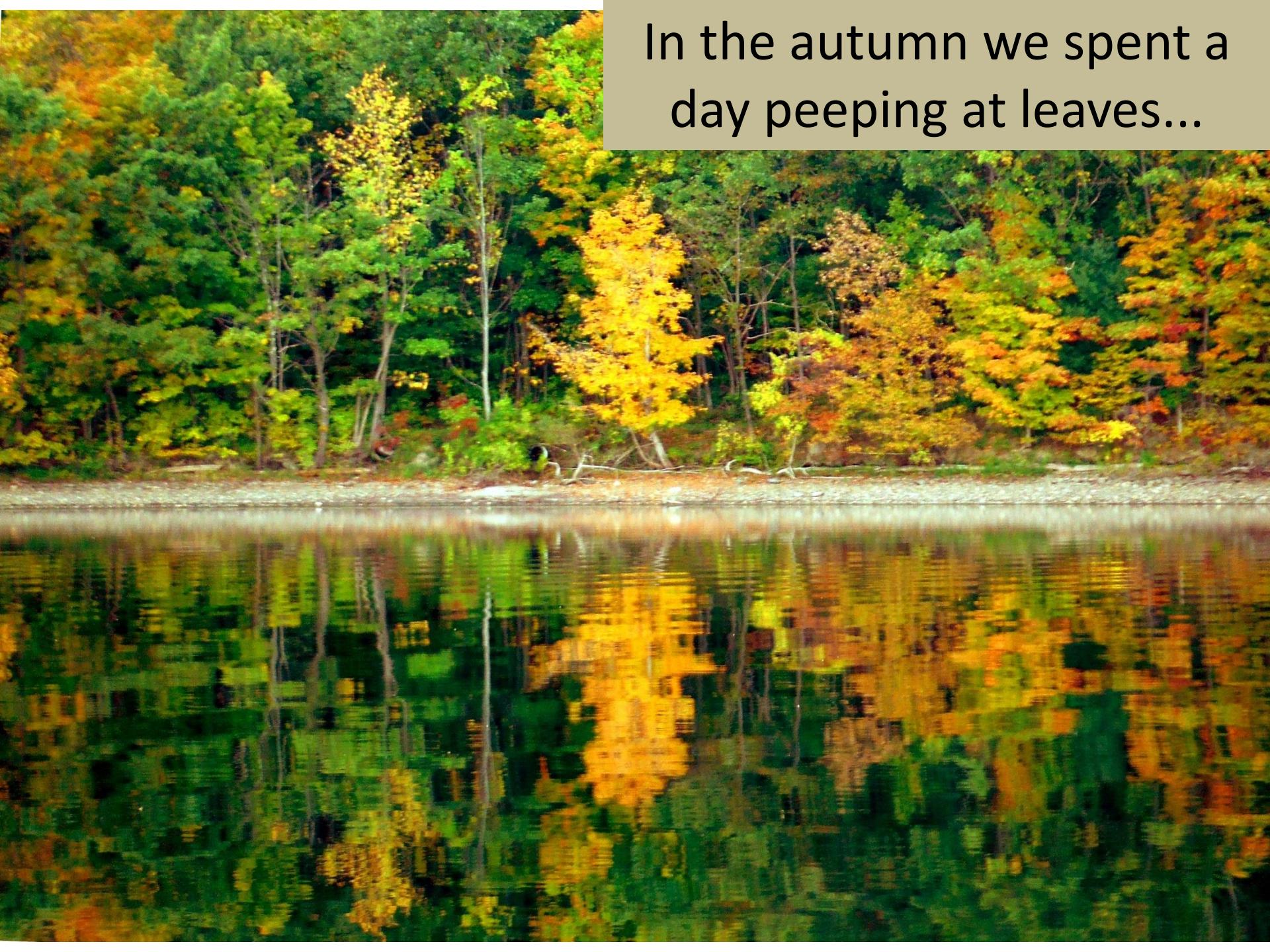


Through our back yard
they trampled...

painting racist graffiti.

They spoke not a word unless cursing did come,
and they wore their pants hanging
far under their bum.





In the autumn we spent a
day peeping at leaves...



A scenic landscape featuring a wide river or lake in the center, surrounded by lush green and yellow autumn foliage. Rolling hills and mountains are visible in the background under a clear sky.

Wine tasting, lunching,
enjoying the scenes.





I took a great photo - but at a great cost
because later I noticed my iPhone was lost.



The angels were watching cause when it was found
a call came to Amy to turn us around.

I was happy to see it when the finder said "Hi!" –
So happy, in fact, that I bought him a pie!

An early lake snow fell in most epic ways.
Seven feet buried houses and roads closed for days.

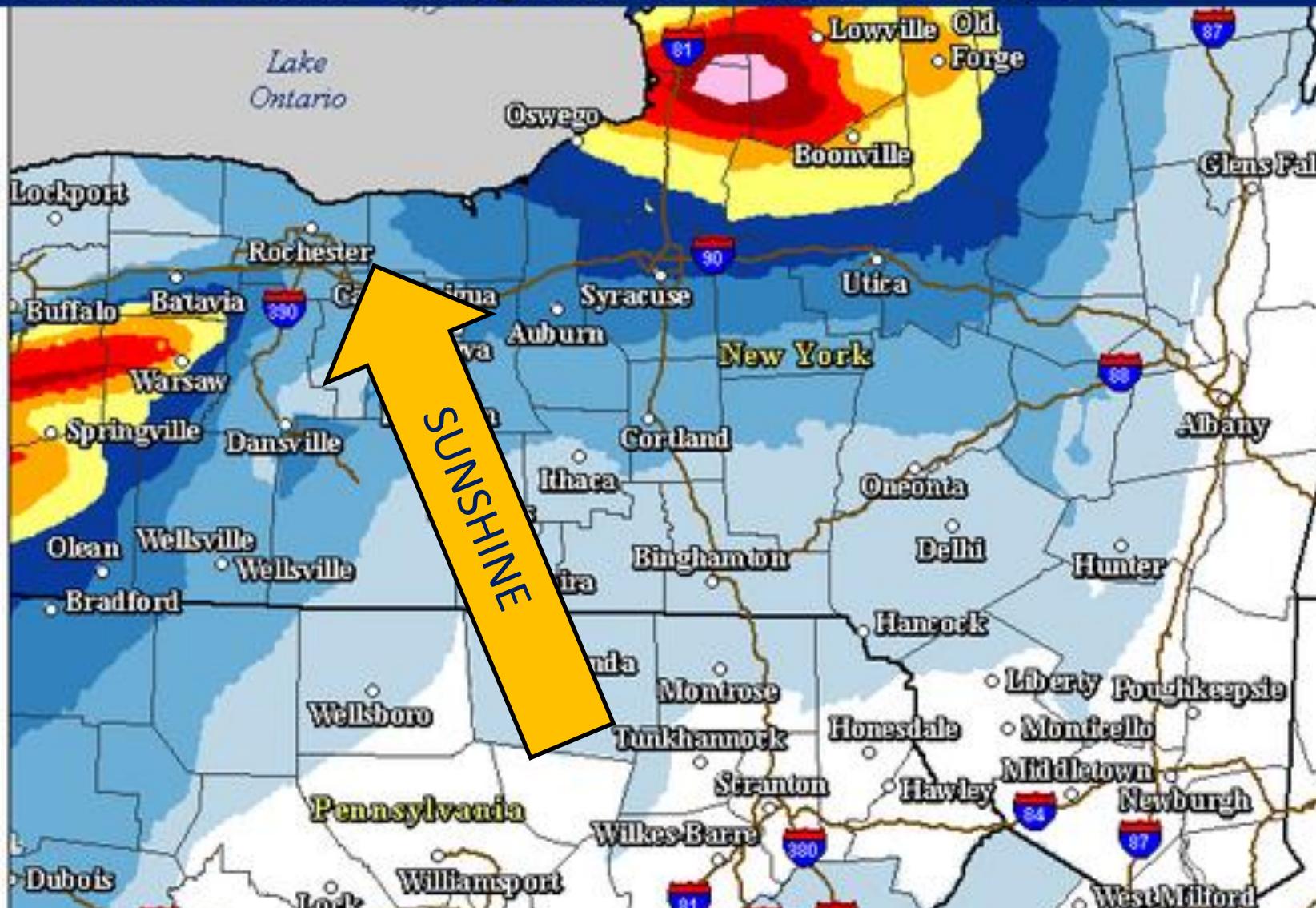
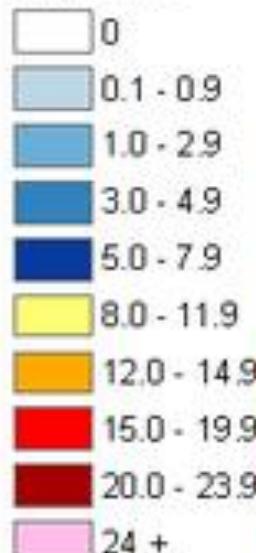


Just on the horizon we saw a big squall,
but it never moved closer to bury us all.



Total Snow Forecast - Through November 22, 2014 7:00 PM EST

In Inches



While in between Erie and Ontario bands,
we just enjoyed sunshine and sat on our hands.

In December we celebrate
a very special lady.





This year, Grandma Loris has finally turned 80!







As the season of turkey necks
came and passed,
we thought we would have
a White Christmas at last!

But as Christmas approached,
as it does every year,
a mild December
was certainly here.

While we caroled for Christmas
we hoped for our sake
that we'd see before Santa
even one tiny flake.

Now we're ready for New Year and be warm or cold...
May we treasure what's given us to have and to hold.



HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!