

The Mountain Eagle

Serving Schoharie, Delaware, Greene and Northern Ulster Counties

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FRIDAY, February 10, 2023

\$1.00

Coordinator Shares New Tech

Crime Scene Reconstruction Equipment & County Ambulance Reviewed

By Mary A. Crisafulli
DELHI - Delaware County Public Safety Committee members heard updates on the new FARO accident reconstruction software and the county ambulance on Feb. 6.

The software was budgeted under the sheriff's department equipment fund for 2023. 911 Coordinator Mark Rossley displayed images of the equipment in use. During training, staff used the software to construct interactive photos of the public safety building at 280 Phoebe Ln, Delhi. Rossley could click on various images in the pictures to zoom in and examine different areas of the room.

Undersheriff Kim Smith said two deputies and two

emergency services staff members began training on the equipment. Another three-day intensive training is scheduled for March.

The emergency services deputy director Margaret Wilson is being trained on the equipment. Once all photos are taken, they are linked together to recreate the scene, and then hyperlinks can be applied to the scene for closer images of collected evidence or various crime scene needs. She added that the equipment could be used for accident and crime scene reconstruction and virtual tours of buildings.

In another discussion, Emergency Services Director Steve Hood, Rossley, and Wilson provided an update



on county ambulance services. The county contracts

Andes Supervisor Wayland Gladstone, committee chairperson, asked if any adjustments to dispatch protocol will be made after AMR had been in service for approximately two months. Currently, each fire district is able to set regulations for mutual aid. Some districts have mutual assistance called at the same time as their service is toned, while others have waiting periods. All life-threatening calls are toned with mutual assistance at the same time.

The Fire Advisory Board will continue to discuss options for mutual aid tones, reported Hood.

Wilson expressed concern about having mutual assistance tones in some districts that overlap outside county lines. If the county ambulance is closer, or the county is unable to respond to a call, AMR should respond and otherwise default to the municipalities ambulance service, she said.

In another discussion, Hood said Fire Advisory Board members agreed the proposed laws to offer a 10% property tax exemption for volunteers should stipulate eligibility is contingent on meeting membership regulations as imposed by each fire district.

A state executive order passed in 2022 authorized municipalities, school districts, and fire districts to offer residential property tax exemptions of up to 10% to eligible volunteer firefighters and emergency responders. Participating municipalities must adopt a local law, ordinance, or resolution before Dec. 9, 2025. Qualifying candidates must serve for a minimum of two to five years prior to receiving exemption status as set by the municipality. A lifetime exemption may be offered to individuals that have served over 20 years of volunteer service.

The next public safety committee meeting is scheduled Monday, Mar. 6, at 11:30 a.m.

Delhi Mayor Will Not Run for Reelection
Local Zoning Codes Not Followed, Trustee Says

By Mary A. Crisafulli
DELHI - Delhi Mayor Sridhar Samudrala announced at a trustee meeting on Feb. 2 he withdrew from the upcoming village election.

"Over the last two years, the village has made great strides," said Samudrala. In Brief, Samudrala named endeavors initiated during his term, including a sewer line extension, electronic billing for water and sewer, opening new businesses, installing four EV charging stations, extending recreational activities and park development, various facility improvements, and more. Samudrala plans to spend more time with family in Florida and Asia and travel the world with his wife, Kelly Samudrala.

Elections are scheduled for Tuesday, Mar. 21, from noon until 9 p.m. at the village hall, 9 Court Street, Delhi. Petitions are available for the Mayor and two trustee seats and are due to the village clerk by Feb. 14 at 5 p.m.

In another discussion, Trustee Janet Tweed said that after reviewing various court rulings, she found only school districts and state entities to be exempt from following village zoning codes. Tweed suspects the county violates following such regulations as they are not a named exempt entity. She suggested trustees consider options for enforcing or pursuing code violations. In collaboration with codes, building and planning committee members, Tweed will continue researching the issue.

Trustees also discussed continued concerns regarding foreclosed properties.

When the county forecloses on a property in the village, there is no guarantee the village will receive back taxes, reported Trustee Jeremy Fitch. Trustees should review the county foreclosure list to determine how many village properties are on it and consider other options for such properties, he added. According to Fitch, school districts receive back taxes when the county forecloses on a property.

The establishment of a blight fund for the village to pursue foreclosure themselves would help keep revenue in the village, said Samudrala.

Foreclosure can only be pursued once a property owner has back taxes for over three years, said Village Clerk Kimberly Cairns. The village sends a letter to delinquent property owners each month informing them of owed taxes which are fined at an increased rate each year starting at 5%.

Trustees entered into an executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular individual, no action was taken.

In other business: Justin Mohr was reimbursed \$1,900 for construction of cabinets and desks for Delhi Police Department.

The resignation of Samuel M. Nichols as a part-time police officer was accepted, effective Jan. 27.

The sewer committee was authorized to accept a back-up bid for \$3,200 from Absolute Auctions for a CAT 3150 diesel generator if the lowest bid does not work out.

Trustees authorized a Delhi Area Chamber of Commerce request to conduct a

St. Patrick's Day parade on Mar. 18 along Main Street, operating under village insurance. Chamber members can now request permission to use Main Street with the New York State Department of Transportation.

Trustees seek a volunteer head basketball coach for the summer recreation program.

Fair on the Square fireworks are scheduled Jul. 7 with a rain date of Jul. 14.

James Smart was appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term to fill a vacancy left by Bryan Boyer. There is one additional vacancy on the board.

An engagement letter was signed with EFPR Group for auditing service from May 2022 until Jan. 17, 2023, for \$19,000.

The police department

responded to 103 reported incidents, issued 78 arrests or citations, and drove 4,884 miles in December.

During mild weather events, the streets department has been working on preventative equipment and truck maintenance.

Rechargeable truck work lights were purchased for the streets department for \$756.33.

The average daily sewer flow in December was .729 million gallons per day, a 30% decrease from the 19-year average.

The clerk will advertise bids for the Depot Street wellhouse fluoridation equipment replacement project.

The next trustee meeting is scheduled Thursday, Mar. 2, at 5:30 p.m. following a public workshop regarding possible parking concerns along Main Street.

Catskills Pathway To Recovery A Multi-Faceted Approach

By Robert Brune
CATSKILL REGION —

"Recovery and care are rooted in community," says Dr. Diana Mason, founder of Catskills Addiction Coalition (CAC) and Catskills Pathways to Recovery (CPR) Board Chair.

"Catskills Pathways to Recovery seeks to involve all segments of our local population in our efforts to reduce the pain and suffering of people affected by substance use disorders and mental illness - and, ideally, to

save lives," adds Dr. Mason.

Catskills Pathways to Recovery was formerly known as Catskills Addiction Coalition. The Mountain Eagle recently met with Executive Director Michael Reichman at the Catskill Recreation Center in Arkville to discuss the program.

Continued on E7

with AMR (American Medical Response) for supplemental emergency response support. AMR responded to 167 calls in January and contacted a patient on 112 of those calls. The number of daily calls is less than the five projected, though they are expected to pick up as the weather warms, said Hood.

The average reply time after being dispatched by 911 is two and a half minutes. The average time from being dispatched to reaching the scene is 20 minutes.

The response time to scene is excellent, considering before the supplemental service there were average response times of up to 50 minutes in some areas, said Hood.

Masonville Supervisor Betty Scott noted that there are still some recorded response times of up to 40 minutes, but for the most part, they are around 10 minutes.

Most calls were in Delhi, with 37, Stamford with 29, and Walton and Davenport both with 21.

While Delhi has an ambulance service, Hood said, AMR has provided them relief from answering calls at the Delhi Rehabilitation and Nursing Center. Approximately 20 of the 37 AMR calls were to the nursing center.

INDEX

Obituaries Page 2 of Sections
Here's the Scoop Section E
Windham Weekly C1
TriCounty News D1
The Catskill Geologists D1
Editorial D4
Whittling Away D
Classifieds D

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Construction Progress Discussed By Shared Services Committee

By Mary A. Crisafulli
 DELHI - Delaware County Shared Services Committee heard progress updates on various build outs by maintenance and information and technology department heads at a meeting on Feb. 6.

Maintenance Superintendent Pete Montgomery reported nearing completion of renovations to 97 Main Street, Delhi, for relocating Board of Elections (BOE) offices from 3 Gallant Avenue. Some wiring will complete the project and BOE voting machines have been transported to the new building, he said.

BOE commissioners have requested two designated parking spots in the lot adjacent for BOE staff, said Tina Molé, Bovina supervisor and chairperson to board of supervisors. They have also requested two temporarily assigned parking spots for early voting, she added.

Montgomery said the staff parking spots can't be accommodated as the lot is typically full by 9 a.m. every day. The two temporary spots can be marked off for early voting as previously done for Department of Health Covid-19 clinics.

Reconstruction on the soldiers' monument at Court

House Square in Delhi is delayed until spring. Supervisors approved \$500,000 in American Rescue Plan Act dollars for its restoration in February 2022. Montgomery reported that additional testing and monitoring are scheduled for spring, which will require minor excavation.

The soon-to-be Department of Social Services (DSS) South facility at 1 Hospital Road, Walton, the former mental health clinic, will undergo renovations in the coming weeks, said Montgomery. DSS staff expected to move into the space by April, which will be delayed due to repair work, he said. Work is expected to be completed by summer.

Walton Supervisor Joe Cetta will inform O'Connor Hospital they are to discontinue the use of the parking lot by Apr. 1 to create space for construction vehicles.

DSS administration signed an agreement with the county information and technology (IT) department for the DSS South facility to be connected to the county network, said IT Director Joe deMauro. The agreement states DSS staff will adhere to county security procedures. DSS previously utilized a New York State net-

working system set to shut down soon.

Work is nearly complete at the new Department of Public Works and Planning Department administrative building on Main Street, Delhi, reported deMauro. Fiber wires need to be placed between the floors and can only be done once the contractor completes the flooring, he said. Before relocating staff, the fire alarm system and elevators need to be tested, which can only be completed once the fiber is placed, deMauro added.

The floor should be completed in the next coming weeks, said Kortright Supervisor George Haynes.

In other business: The network upgrade project, funded by county American rescue funds for \$2.6 million, is nearing completion, said deMauro. The last buildings needing connection are the public safety building at 280 Phoebe Ln, Delhi, and the county office building at 111 Main Street, Delhi.

Committee members approved purchasing several IT items for \$196,500 for a server update, monitors, server storage, and more.

The next Shared Services Committee meeting is scheduled Monday, Mar. 6, at 1 p.m.

LOCAL HISTORY WITH KAREN CUCCINELLO

6 Hobart Road/Rte 10

This property was originally part of the David Squire land then owned by the Bathgate-Becker families about 1880's. They built Craig-Gowen that became Bathgate Hospital in 1932 which became the site of Stamford Hospital in 1959; now Robinson Terrace.

Charles S. and Amelia L. Blume, of Bethpage, Long Island NY, bought the property at the corner of Rte 10 and Rte 23 about 1954 and lived in the house where Hillhaven Farms (opened in 1997) is now at 2 Hobart Road. Charles was born 1906 in Barnersville, PA and married Amelia L. Benkerk 1939 in Bethpage, LI. Charles worked at Grummon Aircraft Corp. in Bethpage for about 20 years even for a few years after moving to Stamford. Charles died in Stamford 1971 and Amelia 1984, burial in Stamford Cemetery.

The Blume's created the Stamford/Blume's Trailer Park then in 1962 they started building Melody Pines youth recreation center, in front of the trailer park, that opened in 1963. They were open noon to midnight with a snack bar and dancing to a juke box every night, and live music on Saturdays. They got a liquor license in 1964 and opened a cocktail lounge.

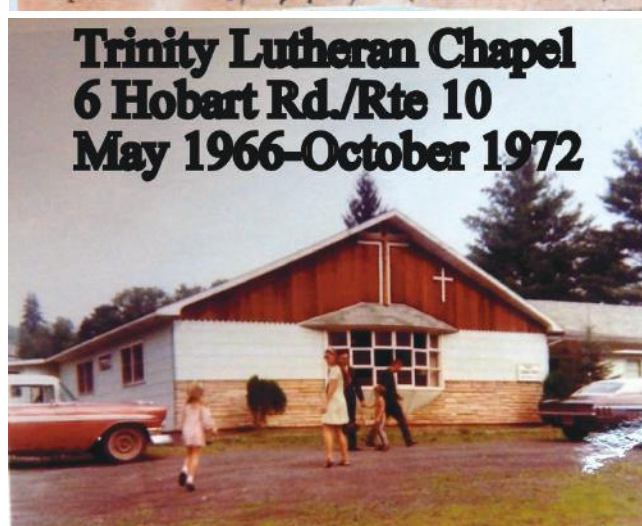
Their house at 2 Hobart, said to have been built in 1856 by David Squire, was razed and replaced by a Texaco Station in 1965. It was Ron's Texaco Service Station owned by Ronald C. Shipman from 1967 to 1977 and then was a Chevron Station in the 1980's.

Melody Pines was short lived as it became the first Stamford Lutheran chapel. Trinity Lutheran Church was organized in 1966 under the leadership of Rev. Arthur Geidel, of Delhi, who served until 1969. Their first service was May 29, 1966. Rev. William Otten was installed in 1971 and helped with the new church at 126 State Rte. 10. From 1972-1975 the congregation shared and met in Grace Episcopal Church at 45 Main, until their new church was ready to move in. The first service in the new church was November 2, 1975.

The Alliance Church Christian and Missionary Alliance held services at 6



GIVING UP CIGARETS — State Trooper, Joe Moore, of the Margaretville sub-station; Charles Blume, who with his wife own and operate the Melody Pines, near the intersection of Routes 10 and 23 in Stamford, stand by the cigarette machine, which sometime early Monday morning was broken into and rifled by thieves, who also stole the cash from a juke box, bowling machine, and several bottles of liquor. 5/27/64 (Star Staff Photo)



Trinity Lutheran Chapel
 6 Hobart Rd./Rte 10
 May 1966-October 1972

Seniors Should Know Exemption Levels Increased

By Liz Page

With counties and towns opting to increase property tax exemptions for senior citizens, those over the age of 65, one local assessor is urging taxpayers to review their income level to determine if they qualify for a partial exemption under Section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law in New York State. Seniors have until March 1 to file with the local tax assessors.

The state recently increased the income eligibility with the increase in Social Security benefits, which could have raised some seniors who have been receiving the exemption above the eligibility limits.

Delaware County supervisors passed a resolution last week, updating the eligibility guidelines and several towns and villages have also increased the income guidelines to the new state levels, according to Harpersfield Assessor Laurie Bedford. School districts may also grant the exemp-

tion. Harpersfield is expected to adopt the new figures in February and other towns have already adjusted their eligibility guidelines to match those of the state. The newest guidelines are:

Real property owned by one or more persons, each of who is 65 years of age or over, or real property within the county owned by husband and wife, one of who is 65 years of age or over, shall be exempt from county tax levy according to the following schedule based on income of the owner or combined income of the owners of the property for the tax year immediately preceding the date of application:

Income below \$22,000	50% exemption
Income range of \$22,000 - \$22,999	45% exemption
Income range of \$23,000 - \$23,999	40% exemption
Income range of \$24,000 - \$24,999	35% exemption

exemption
 Income range of \$25,000 - \$25,999 30% exemption

Income range of \$26,000 - \$26,799 25% exemption

Income range of \$26,800 - \$27,700 20% exemption

Income more than \$27,700 NO exemption.

The income guidelines are based on the 2021 income taxes and there are other ways to prove income for those who may no longer have to file income taxes, according to Bedford. She will be mailing out postcards to each property owner advising them of the increased income eligibility and ad

Anyone with questions may contact their local assessor and income forms are available online, along with instructions. Form RP-467, Application for Partial Tax Exemption for Real Property for Senior Citizens or renewals are available on the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance website www.ny.gov/pit/property/exemption/seniorexempt.htm

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Hobart after the Lutherans left and Amelia Blume continued to live there.

Melody Pines was sold to Lowell Lewis, owner of the Red Carpet Motor Inn, in 1985 and to Harpersfield Properties Inc. in 1989.

Photo from Stamford Library history room.

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Goodyear Lake Polar Bear Plunge Set For Feb. 18

By Liz Page

STAMFORD - The hype has started as the countdown begins for the annual Goodyear Lake Polar Bear Jump, with eight recipients tagged to receive funding this year. One of the local sponsors, TP's Café, was a beehive Saturday afternoon with former and current recipients and former and current jumpers getting together for a photo shoot with the Goodyear Lake Polar Bear.

The TP's team, which includes 20 brave individuals who will take the icy plunge, is raising money along with many others for this longtime, worthwhile cause.

One of this year's recipients is Waylon, is a two-year-old little boy from Stamford. He was born via cesarean at Albany Medical six weeks premature due to pre-eclampsia that progressed to HELLP Syndrome. Waylon was born with cleft palate as well as cystic kidneys. After genetic testing Waylon was later



Part of the crew gathering at TP's Café in Stamford on Saturday, to pose with the Polar Bear; included, from left: Mindy and John Snellbaker and their son, Waylon, who is one of this year's recipients. They are pictured with past recipients: Ruby and Kristen Wright; Darren and Jamison Hanway with their son Finnley; Liza Magnan and her son Myles Magnan and Scout Lamport. The team at TP's is known as the Frozen Hot Mess and has set a goal of \$5,000. If you would like to help, visit Goodyear Polar Bear Jump on Facebook.

diagnosed with Trisomy 13 and offered palliative care as most children with this

syndrome do not live beyond one month. Waylon was transferred to Boston

Children's Hospital and spent 9 months undergoing multiple surgeries; tra-

cheostomy placement, LADDS procedure, open heart bypass surgery, a peritoneal drain and many more tests and imaging. Waylon has come a long way since that first year. Waylon utilizes sign language to communicate as he still has a trach and ventilator. He loves being outside on his family farm, riding in the tractor with his daddy and feeding the sheep and goats with his mommy. On January 25, 2023, Waylon will have the first of two surgeries to repair his cleft lip and palate. He will undergo his second surgery this spring. His ventilator trach will be removed dependent on the malasia in his lungs. His kidneys will be closely monitored as he has CKD. Waylon is the strongest little boy.

He was enjoying the gathering and posing with some of the previous recipients on Saturday. You could immediately see the bonds that are formed and how much the annual effort

helps these families. The TP's team is known as Frozen Hot Mess.

The Goodyear Lake Polar Bear Jump is a non-profit organization that annually raises money for local children, adults, and other local organizations. We complete this task by the many individuals that volunteer to jump into Goodyear Lake in Mid-February. In the month and a half prior to the jump, these individuals receive monetary donations from the surrounding area. They also engage in other fundraising endeavors in this time with the help of countless volunteers to afford the items needed to run the jump. The total amount raised within that year is divided among all of our recipients. We donate 100% of the funds raised to these recipients.

You may sponsor a jumper or send a check, payable to Goodyear Lake Polar Bear Jump Mail to: P.O. Box 298; Milford, NY 13807.

The Hait's Have Been Valentines for More Than Seven Decades

By Liz Page

EAST MEREDITH - "We have been Valentines for quite a while," smiles Mary Hait. She and her husband Herb are high school sweethearts who have kept love alive and have been committed to one another for more than 70 years. They celebrated their 71st wedding anniversary in January.

Their love has lasted, they concur, because they have always worked with each other and always discussed things to work out any problems they had. They have seen heartache and good times, always together.

Herb Hait was five months shy of his 21st birthday, so he had to ask permission from his mother to get married. "If you were a boy under the age of 21, you had to have parental permission to get married," he recalls.

"We had a childhood love affair," confesses Mary. She remembers she used to help out in Prof. Burke's (superintendent's) office and Herb always seemed to manage to catch up with her near the Prof's office around lunchtime.

Both graduated from South Kortright Central School where their teenage love blossomed. "I was a cheerleader and he was a star ball player (an allstar basketball player). So, you know the cheerleader had to have the star ball player."

In those days, you had to double date and for the prom one year, they invited Mary's cousin Margie to go with Herb's brother Norman on a double date. As it turned out, Margie and Norman got married before Herb and Mary.

Herb loved to play ball. One of the conditions for him to play basketball in high school was that he had to deliver the milk to the creamery in South Kortright before school. He took the milk from his dad's farm, his uncle's farm and the neighbor's farm in the pickup truck. He knew he had to get there ahead of the Bedford's and the Gunthers, otherwise he would be late for school. He was late a few times, but he said Prof Burke always gave him a permission slip for class.

Ed and Betty Burke would eventually become good



Herb and Mary Hait's 70th Anniversary photo.

friends and Herb and Mary often visited them in Florida. "Betty always gave us advice on what we ought to do, but we became good friends," said Mary.

Two years ahead of Mary in school, Herb graduated and went to work on the family farm. The Korean War was brewing and he was needed at home to help his mom with the farm. He was the youngest of eight Hait children and his dad had passed. His three older brothers were gone and he was the only one remaining to help with the farm. "I needed to stay to help with the farm."

The farm has been in his family for more than two centuries. Relay Farm is named for the relay stop along the way for travelers and horses. It sits at the top of Roses Brook.

So, Herb and Mary got married and became farmers, Mary picking up her share by milking cows and helping with other chores until the girls got old enough. For a while Herb played ball, traveling to Delhi, but

he said it got to be too much.

So, the young couple made their home on the farm, where they worked together and began raising a family. Mary would also work at the South Kortright Nursing Home and the Delhi Hospital in the evenings when Herb could watch the kids. They had five children, losing Allan Douglas, the eldest, to a farming accident when he was just 11.

Laurie Bedford, who is the next to the oldest daughter said she grew up in the barn. She said she was like many farm kids who spent time sitting in a feed cart while their parents did chores. When each got old enough, they began helping chores.

Mary, who Herb said gave up her talent for decorating to marry him, might have attended art school. Mary said her parents couldn't afford it. However, she turned her talent to decorating cakes and helping with parties and weddings.

"I remember my dad delivering wedding cakes. She



Herb and Mary Hait on their wedding day January 20, 1952.

is so artistic and she had such steady hands," recalls Laurie. Mary recalls the kitchen table being crowded with graduation cakes.

Her first wedding cake was the first year after they were married, for Dave Post's sister's wedding.

Her wedding cakes have traveled far and wide, including Florida, New York City and California. She would fly them with her, putting them in the baggage area above her seat and assemble them when she arrived at the destination. Many of the long distance cakes were for family mem-

bers. And there are many people celebrating 50th wedding anniversaries for whom Mary likely made their wedding cakes.

"We took a big risk in 1959 and built a new barn," said Mary. Herb said it was the first one with a milking parlor. It drew many weekend visitors to see the parlor and the Hait family operation. Farming remained a main focus as the girls grew up.

All of their children, Patsy, Laurie, Allyson and Christy learned the love of cows.

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- Worcester CSD

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Letters to the Editor

Prattsville Positive

Dear Editor:

Until Nov. 2, 2009, I was involved in many aspects of Catskill Mountain life, business and culture. My Roxbury family life traced back to the period in the Catskills from Long Island right after the Revolution to settle in Roxbury. Due to life situations beyond my control, I had to leave my beloved Catskill Mountain life to move with my wife to a Mennonite retirement community in Gordon, Indiana.

I remained heavily involved in Catskill Mountain life and culture at various stages of my life. My connections began around 1971 with summers from 1974-1981 and fall time from 1985 until November 2009, when I addressed a major life issue and had to enter a Mennonite retirement community in Gordon, Indiana.

Prattsville writers have especially caught my attention. I had positive music and cultural contacts with the Pratt Museum with Carolyn Bennett and the family of the area as a result of violin players pageant and other activities. I also had positive life experiences with the Mountain Bible Conference. Another positive Prattsville experience took place when I attended as a single man some highat the Reformed Church when Pastor Jones of Roxbury was pastor there, before he returned to be a missionary source in South America.

I know that the Prattsville flood damage has caused some major upheavals, but I wanted to let your readers know that I have been the recipient of positive Prattsville experiences and enjoy reading of the positive scenic and historic stories in connection with Pratt Rock.

David Scudder

Gas Stove Debacle

A group of so-called "scientists" on the west coast did a study that showed that 12% of the children living in homes with gas stoves developed asthma. I have questions about the validity of this study. Did these scientists check the families' medical history to discover if asthma ran in the family? Did they do a similar study with the same number of households to discover how many children in homes with electric stoves developed asthma? I do not think so, causing this to be a very flawed study. Also, let's point out that this study means that 88% of children in homes with gas stoves did NOT develop asthma. They just sort of overlook this fact because it goes against what they want to prove.

So, instead of letting the people decide to switch to

electric stoves because they were concerned, this newest bastion of wokeness has decided to ban gas stoves for everyone (88% suffer because of the 12%.) They tell us we can still cook with gas if we prefer, but no one will be allowed to manufacture gas stoves any longer. And gas stoves will not be allowed in new construction. Does anyone else hear the sound of our right to choose how we prepare our food going down the drain? Because if companies are not allowed to manufacture gas stoves, consumers can not buy them.

Another concern, aside from the taking away of our rights, is for those of us who live in rural areas. During our frequent power outages, we are still able to prepare a meal if we have a gas stove. Most of us use propane, of course. Many of us have generators because of outages that last for DAYS. The generators enable us to stay warm and keep our homes and water line safe. But generators also run on propane. It seems we will all suffer some more for the 12% to be comfortable.

These same "scientists" say that we breathe toxins from our stoves because our homes are too well sealed. For this to be true, no one would be able to enter or exit because an open door means your house is not completely sealed. This is so outrageous that it is unbelievable, windows, no matter how good they are, leak air even when closed, too. We are in and out of our home many times a day for various reasons. And people with older homes would have to upgrade their electrical systems to accommodate the mandatory electric stove if you need a new one. These upgrades are costly and unfair.

It is time to stand up for our rights. The gas supply companies and appliance manufacturers should also stand up. This is the beginning of a slippery slope of rights being taken away. These folks are now invading our homes with their nonsense. Make noise, folks! Let your elected officials know that this is a bad idea and you will not stand for it.

I have done better and more accurate science studies with my 3rd grade students!

Stephanie Torkilson-Bambina MS. ED

Crute for POTY

I read the letters to the Editor nominating Deb Crute, Heart of the Catskills Humane Society Director, as "Person of the Year" and see that she made the nominee list this week.

As a volunteer, and as Deb's friend, for over 20

years I would like to say that all that was written is only the tip of the iceberg of what can be noted about this remarkable woman.

In addition to being responsible for the daily operations of the animal shelter, Deb interacts, participates and partners with....to name a few:

- Local Law Enforcement
- Local Judicial System
- Local Social Services
- Local Schools/College
- Local Senior Care Facilities/Dept. of the Aging
- Local Historic Societies
- Local Libraries
- Local Veterinarians
- Legislation
- Businesses

Other Humane Societies/Rescue Groups

Within each of these categories there are stories that would tell volumes of her altruistic character. The stories would tell of many acts of kindness that are not in her job description.

Deb is a HUGE asset to our community and an in-

credible friend. Whoever has the honor of working with her or calling her "friend" couldn't have asked for better.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ann Lukin
Margaretville

70th Anniversary, Continued from A3

Patsy and Laurie were Delaware County Dairy Princesses. Allyson was an alternate dairy princess. Christy was involved in showing cows, but was not in the dairy princess program. By that time, Herb and Mary had moved on to their next endeavor, as owners of the Hidden Inn in South Kortright. They purchased the Inn in 1980 from Harry and Hope Boslin.

"That was Mary's dream," said Herb, who continued to operate the farm and served as maitre de at the Inn on the weekends. They also continued the catering business.

With the rules changing about baking in your home kitchen, Mary said it was necessary to have a commercial kitchen and she always wanted to own the Hidden Inn. When it went up for sale a third time, they made the commitment to buy it.

While Herb continued to farm, a couple came along who wanted to rent it. They rented the farm for five and bought most of their dairy.

When they got ready to retire from the Hidden Inn, Herb sold some parcels from the farm, with about 40 acres of Ezra Hait's original 120-acre tract still with the farm. It is now owned and operated as a horse farm by the Hait's youngest daughter Christy. The other girls have their own parcels.

The Hait's then built their retirement home, just the way they wanted it, not far

from the homestead. Mary continued to make cakes and baked goods, showing off the kitchen in their new home. "I loved it because it was set up the way I wanted it." They also had a pond where she took a picture of Herb in his row boat. That picture graced the cover of Dairymen's Magazine and she painted a replica, which is on the wall of their living room.

Mary learned photography from her father, Charles Reed and the two often did class photos and other assignments, developing the photos in her dad's dark room.

Now, Herb is 91 and Mary almost 89 are retired. Life is slower paced but as we all reflected, they still have a garden, using raised beds. It is harder for Herb to get around. "My legs are giving out," he said. For Mary, it's her eyesight. She is now legally blind, but the two count on each other to stay together and independent.

The couple has taken many bus trips and visited many places traveling all over the United States and abroad, including Switzerland and New Zealand. The trip they enjoyed the most was their trip to the Holy Land with seven other members of the church. "It was a real wonderful experience," said Mary. While there they were baptized in the Jordan River.

They hosted several exchange students over the years while their daughters



were students at South Kortright Central, including students from New Zealand, Australia, Germany, Tanzania and other countries. They still keep in touch with some of them.

They used to spend winters in Florida, first with a fifth-wheel camper, then buying a house. The last few times, the girls had to drive them.

Things change over time and they realize that, but they continue to be as active as possible, working as a team. "Things have always worked out one way or another," said Mary. "I needed him bad enough that I could-

n't do without him," she said, after joking she may have threatened to leave once or twice. Herb has helped her tremendously with the loss of her sight.

They are faithful churchgoers and Mary believes their faith has had a lot to do with their 71 years of marriage. They continue to depend on one another so they can live on their own and remain independent. Now living in the town of Meredith, they are close to Oneonta where they are still comfortable traveling to shop and they spend time with family whenever they can.

Sheriff's Office Gives Donation

DELHI - On Wednesday, February 1st, 2023 members of the Delaware County Sheriff's Office gathered in the Main Lobby of the Public Safety Building to present Mr. Charles W. Piper, Director of the Delaware County Veterans Service Agency with a handsome donation totaling \$1,690. The donation was amassed from participating employees of both the Corrections Division and the Road Patrol/Criminal Investigation Division of the Sheriff's Office.

Both Sheriff DuMond and Director Piper exchanged thank you's and expressed heartfelt gratitude toward each other's agencies. Additionally, Sheriff DuMond expressed his sincere thanks to all agency participants for donating a portion of their proceeds raised from "No Shave November/Double Down December" toward helping to fund the needs of Delaware County Veterans, as well as to Director Piper for providing such vital and necessary services to our valued Veterans.



Front Kneeling: Deputy Kyle Karcher and K-9 Eli
Back: Sr. Investigator Christopher Erwin, Sgt. Eric Alexander, Sgt. Tyler McAteer, Sheriff Craig DuMond, Director Charles Pieper, Lt. Alan Weaver, Inv. David Barnes and 1st Sgt. Ivan Brkaric

Sheriff DuMond later summed up the donation by stating that "In my opinion, there is nothing more noble than risking your life by serving your country. As a veteran, it means the world to me to see the members of the Delaware County Sheriff's Office support the needs of our Veterans, who have sacrificed so much in the name of freedom."

HELP WANTED

Roxbury Central School has the following immediate openings:
Certified School Psychologist
Certified School Social Worker

Available vacancies for the 2023-24 school year:
Certified 7-12 Physics Teacher
Certified 7-12 Biology Teacher
Certified Technology Teacher

Positions will remain open until filled.
Applications may be submitted online at www.olasjobs.org, or by written application to:

Dr. Joanne Shelmidine, Interim Superintendent
ROXBURY CENTRAL SCHOOL
53729 State Hwy. 30
Roxbury, NY 12474
EOE

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THE SCHOHARIE NEWS

LOTS OF SPORTS
GALLUPVILLE HOUSE GEARS FOR 2023

The Newspaper of the Schoharie Valley and Southern Schoharie County • A Section of the Mountain Eagle

Volume 8, No. 6 mountaineaglenews@gmail.com FRIDAY February 10, 2023 518-763-6854 \$1.00

M'burgh May See Housing Development on Upper Main

Valley Briefs

2023 Village Of Middleburgh Meeting Schedule

First Monday Of The Month @ 7pm
Location: 309 Main Street, Middleburgh, NY
March 6
April 3
May 1
June 5
July 10
August 7
September 11
October 2
November 6
December 4

MCS to Host Blood Drive on March 1

MIDDLEBURGH - Give the gift of life: The American Red Cross is experiencing an urgent need for blood donations, and the Middleburgh Central School District is ready to help by hosting a blood drive 12-6 p.m. March 1 in the high school library. It is an opportunity for students, staff and the community to come together for the community's benefit.

Students who are 16 and older can donate, but those under the age of 17 will need a parent/guardian consent form. Students may sign up in School Nurse Jennifer Adams' office or online. All other community members should sign up at redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: MiddleburghCS.

Appointments for students and staff to donate will be available from 12-3 p.m. Appointments for community members will be available from 3-6 p.m.

All donors will receive an American Red Cross branded item.

Questions? Call Ms. Adams at 518-827-3600, Ext. 2609.

MCS Valentine's Candy Grams to Support Honor Society

MIDDLEBURGH - The Middleburgh high school National Honor and Junior Honor Society is selling Candy Grams for Valentine's Day. All proceeds from this sale will be used for the end-of-year awards scholarships.

Two types of Candy Grams can be purchased from National Honor and Junior Honor Society members or via forms in the main office. Lollipop Bouquets can be purchased for \$1 and chocolate bars for \$2.

At the elementary school, order forms will be sent home in students' backpacks. Please return the order forms with payment to homeroom teachers by February 10.

Contact jessica.schoenecker@mcsdny.org or maria.sime@mcsdny.org with questions.

Rotary to host Brooks Chicken BBQ in M'burgh on March 18

MIDDLEBURGH - The Middleburgh Rotary is hosting a Brooks chicken barbecue on March 18.

The dinner includes a half chicken, a baked potato, coleslaw, roll and butter, dessert, and a drink for \$13.50. Sale is only by pre-sale only. Please mail a check to the Middleburgh Rotary, PO Box 1100, Middleburgh, NY, 12122, or buy a ticket in person at Lenny's Tire, Middleburgh Hardware, National Bank of Cossackie, Middleburgh Pharmacy, or Middleburgh Mercantile.

Pick up is from 2 to 4pm at the Community Center, the MEVAC bay, on Cotton Hill Road.

Village Residents Receive Info on Tax Exemptions

MIDDLEBURGH - Middleburgh village residents recently received information about the senior tax exemptions in the village.

The post card from assessor Marie Stuber stated, "Property owners 65 years of age or older may be eligible for senior citizen tax exemptions on their primary residence. Senior citizens have until March 1 to apply for such exemptions with the submission of renewal applications being required annually.

"For information, please call or write the assessor for the town in which your property is located. The name, address, phone number of the assessor is" the Village of Middleburgh, Marie Stuber, PO Box 946, Middleburgh, NY, 12122, 518-827-4887, ext. 103. The income limit is \$25,650

Those who have already applied for the exemption or are under 65 should disregard the notice.

By David Avitabile

MIDDLEBURGH - Middleburgh may soon be home to a new housing development on upper Main Street.

Resident Fred Risse spoke to the village board Monday evening about a housing development that he is proposing on the fields behind Andy's Auto. Phase one would include six acres. The plans still have to go to an engineer to lay out.

He needs to work with the village and state on an access road off of Main Street and with the village on a water main.

The fields are not in the floodplain, he said, though the area around upper Main Street is in the floodplain.

Building inspector Lloyd Stannard said the zoning in the area requires lots to be a mini-

num of about a half acre.

Mr. Risse said the development could house a senior home or residential housing. In all, there are 11 acres in the parcel.

The development would have to be a planned development district through the town zoning.

Mr. Risse, who is chairman of the planning

board, would have to excuse him from the vote, as would the vice chairman, who is his niece.

The town ethics committee could look into the matter and the planning board would have to choose a chairman for the issue.

Mr. Risse proposed an affordable housing complex about 20 years ago that did not proceed.

Schoharie To Sign With Grant Writer

By Joshua Walther

SCHOHARIE - On Wednesday, the Schoharie Town Board met to discuss their FAST Grant application, along with possible truck traffic control on Zicha Road and the candidates for the comprehensive plan.

The FAST Grant came into play at last month's meeting when the Board received a proposal from SEEC to pool funds from the Town, Schoharie County, and the High-bridge project for infrastructure renewal.

The Town indicated that they were interested,

and so SEEC sought out Sue Lombardi, a reliable grant writer, to take care of the FAST Grant application. On Wednesday, the Town was informed of the cost, totaling around \$5,200 from County ARPA funds to initiate the process.

However, the contract from Mrs. Lombardi was addressed to SEEC instead of the Town, and so Board members were not able to fully approve the application yet. Instead, they authorized the amount and gave Supervisor Alan Tavenner permission to sign a fu-

ture second contract addressed to the Town if the wording was the same as the original.

In other news, it has come to the Board's attention that large trucks often attempt to take Zicha Road as a shortcut on some of their routes. The problem is that they're unaware of the bridge along that road, and they usually find themselves stuck.

Supervisor Tavenner has expressed that this is a near-daily occurrence, and he's concerned that if the High-bridge or travel plaza projects are completed, the problem could be worsened. He's asked the Board if it's possible to include either a height bar or signs that indicate the danger that the bridge poses.

While there was little discussion on the matter, the Board will begin to look into the problem and research if there is a possible solution, tabling the matter for

later meetings.

Finally, Board members have compiled an extensive list of candidates for the joint comprehensive plan committee between the Town and the Village.

The candidate list reaches into the double digits, and members like Ben Oevering have expressed that they have a few more names to add. In comparison, Supervisor Tavenner stated that the Village has around three candidates selected so far.

While they haven't closed the list, Supervisor Tavenner believes that they have a good mix of business owners, town employees, and young people for enough diversity on the future committee.

The Board will begin to seek another joint meeting with the Village to select their committee members and begin to move the process forward.

M'burgh's MABA Looking to the Future

Next Meeting Set for Feb. 28 to Ready for 2023

By David Avitabile

MIDDLEBURGH - MABA is looking to the future with a new infusion of volunteers.

Several members of MABA, which was founded after the flood as the Middleburgh Area Business Association, have stepped back leaving few volunteers to plan events such as the popular Fourth Fridays during the summer and Miracle on Main Street in December.

After holding a meeting at the Middleburgh library on Saturday, it was decided that MABA will now be welcoming community members. The next meeting is set for February 28,

Nearly 10 people attended the meeting Saturday, including three village board members, Trustees Bob Tinker, Tim Knight, and Amanda Fernandez.

Main Street business owner Sean Lawton, who voiced his interest in helping at the January village board meeting, volunteered to lead

MABA as its new president. The group will meet again on Tuesday, February 28 to formally organize and begin planning for the 2023 Fourth Fridays and Miracle on Main Street.

Trustees Tinker and Knight chaired the meeting Saturday.

"As far as the Village Board is concerned, we are very happy to see a positive response from our community and interest in not only continuing MABA as a business association with more community support, but that our highly successful Fourth Friday and Miracle on Main Street events will continue into the future," Trustee Knight said.

Long-time MABA member Joan Wissert was not at the meeting but is hopeful about the organization's future.

"I hope that there is a way to keep events going because they are a great boost for our business community and for the overall health of the community," she said. "A healthy community makes it easier to

Continued on Page B8

No M'burgh Canoe Races This Year

MIDDLEBURGH - Though weather has not warmed up enough for venturing into the Schoharie Creek with your kayak or canoe, it looks like a popular water race will not be held this year.

The spring Middleburgh kayak-canoe races will not be held this April.

"We've lost the Regatta/Ironman/Triathlon (for this year at least) because no one from Rotary was willing or able to chair the committee," Mid-

dleburgh Rotary member Joan Wissert announced this week.

The popular races which ran for several years before the pandemic and returned last year drew numerous participants.

The races started at the parking area on Route 30 in Fulton and ended at the pavilion off Route 30 in the village. The races also had a triathlon portion that included running and bicycling.



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M'burgh Village to Get Info on New Crosswalk

By David Avitabile
MIDDLEBURGH - Village of Middleburgh officials are beginning to look into adding a new crosswalk across Main Street. They have been looking for a new crosswalk from Mrs. K's Kitchen on the east side of Main Street to the Middleburgh Library on the corner of Baker Avenue, Mayor Irish Bergan said at Monday night's meeting. Residents

have been "asking for years" for a new crosswalk. The village has begun looking into the addition and has found that it will be "quite a pricey thing to do," she said. The crosswalk could cost between \$20,000 and \$30,000. The village does not the money to put in the crosswalk but will begin on the engineering plans, she added. The village hopes

to get grant money to cover the costs. The state DOT has to approve any additional crosswalk since Main Street is part of a state highway. "It could take a while," she said. Resident Dave Jeremenko said that there are grant funds "out there" that the village could get after the plans are ready. "We're working on it," Mayor Bergan added.

Registration Open for Huyck Preserve Summer Education Program

RENSSELAERVILLE - Registration is now open for the Huyck Preserve Summer Education Program. Huyck Preserve summer education programs offer something for every student curious about nature and science. Younger students are immersed in the outdoors through hands-on science, exploration, and fun. High School students experience a significant ecological research proj-

ect and learn from visiting scientists, Huyck Preserve staff, and college interns. They always sneak in time for fun too - with a swim, hike, or other activity. Nature Study for grades K-5
Grades K-2 Class, July 10-14; 9am-12pm
Grades K-5 Class, July 10-14; 1-4pm
Grades K-5 option 2 Class, July 17-21; 9am-12pm
Grades 3-5 Class, July

17-21; 1-4pm
Ecological Explorations for grades 6-8
July 24-28; 9am-4pm.
Wildlife Ecology Research (WER) for grades 9-12
July 31-August 11 (M-F), 9am-4pm.
Email info@huyckpreserve.org or call the Preserve office at (518) 797-3440 with questions (office hours Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm).

Airline Officials Detail How a BOCES Education Can Help Students' Futures Take Flight

SCHOHARIE -- More than five dozen Capital Region BOCES students met on Jan. 31 with recruiters and managers from Piedmont Airlines who were in search of mechanics and other skilled trades workers.

The Piedmont officials detailed career opportunities as well as how they offer tuition reimbursement for students seeking to attend college for an aviation mechanics and who are willing to work for them.

"It seems interesting and a cool opportunity!" said Austin Lavoie-Polsinelli, an electrical trades student from Duanesburg.

"It seems like they offer a lot of experience in different trades," added Marc Hutchinson, a Construction/Heavy Equipment senior from Schalmont.

Representatives of Piedmont Airlines previously met with students in several Career and Technical School programs on the Albany Campus in search of students interested in careers as airline mechan-



Dezron Wilson and Bob Lang of Piedmont Airlines visit the BOCES Heavy Equipment Program and some of those students have already started work and school through Piedmont. "There's surprisingly a lot of jobs (for airline mechanics) in the Albany area—both for commercial and for private owners," said Mitchell Keegan, a 2016 graduate of Jefferson-Lewis BOCES who has launched a successful career as an airline mechanic with Piedmont. "If you get the training, you will have a job." Capital Region BOCES works with more than 300 business, union and edu-

cation partners—like Piedmont—to help fuel the regional and state economies. Through these partnerships, students are able to launch careers directly out of high school or land jobs that will help them pay for future educational opportunities. Many of these partners will take place in several career fairs BOCES will host later this school year. To become a BOCES business partner, please contact Capital Region BOCES Senior Business Liaison Nancy Liddle at nancy.liddle@neric.org.

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Gallupville House Gears Up for Eventful 2023



By Bradley Towle
GALLUPVILLE — The Gallupville House Association met this Monday evening to discuss and finalize plans for 2023. At the top of the meeting, the group discussed the upcoming Boston bus trip scheduled for Saturday, April 29th. Association members were enthusiastic about the number of reservations they had received, and at the time of the meeting, only eighteen out of fifty-six seats remained. With the trip gaining such positive momentum, discussions turned to the best options for parking on the day of the trip. While no one solution was agreed upon, several options seemed viable, with the neighboring Lutheran Church's parking lot as a strong possibility. Association

president Scott Hadam made sure that he did not want to make assumptions about the usage of the lot without consulting the church and cited a good working relationship with the organization. The jovial group then turned its attention to more immediate upcoming events. The Association plans to kick off its 2023 events with a contra dance scheduled for 2:00-4:00 pm on February 25th. Paul Rosenberg and Tamarac, a fiddle band playing traditional American, Celtic, French-Canadian, Old-Time, and original fiddle tunes, will provide the music for the dance. Registration is free and can be completed through the Gallupville House website at <https://www.gallupville-house.org/events/community-dance-featuring-paul-rosenberg-live-band-tamarac>.

The group plowed through every potential event spanning February to December, with some, such as an Easter Egg hunt on April 2nd and the annual Christmas tree sale in December, being nearly set, while others, such as proposed historical tours and ice cream socials requiring further planning and organization. The planned events promise to offer a variety of events as the envigorated Gallupville House Association continues to strive to connect the community to its past while breathing life into the Town of Wright's historic gem. For more information, go to <https://www.gallupville-house.org/>.

Schoharie Land Trust Honors Founder Ken Hotopp

The Schoharie Land Trust recently honored founder and long-time board member Kenneth Hotopp with a recognition dinner at Grapevine Farms in Cobleskill. Land Trust President Andy Mason noted, "The Schoharie Land Trust was established in 1990 by Ken Hotopp, Bob Smith, Mary Jo O'Donnell, Karl Westphal and other Schoharie Co. residents. Ken has served continuously on our governing board since then, and recently stepped down after over 30 years of service."

Karl Westphal and Bridey Finegan—Mary Jo O'Donnell's daughter—were also present at the ceremony.

According to Mason, the Land Trust has protected over 3,000 acres of land during Ken Hotopp's tenure. "That is a great legacy, ensuring that these areas, including farmed lands, will remain open space in perpetuity. Ken is to be commended for his vision and commitment to the natural beauty and agricultural heritage of Schoharie County."

Also noted at the dinner were Ken Hotopp's career with Cornell Cooperative Extension, as a Town of Cobleskill Board member, a volunteer for the Landis



SLT President Andy Mason (l.) congratulates Ken Hotopp

Arboretum, and as a private consulting forester. "Ken's expertise in forestry was a particularly valuable asset for the Land Trust," said Mason. "He was able to evaluate and advise the organization plans for these properties. His talent and knowledge will be greatly missed." The Schoharie Land Trust, a non-profit, all vol-

unteer organization, protects open space primarily through conservation easements with property owners who wish to preserve their lands for future generations. The group also owns the Paulson Preserve, a 342 acre property in the Towns of Jefferson and Summit, open to the public. Further information can be found at www.schoharielandtrust.org.

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All About Racing

By Ed & Betty Biittig

Brett Deyo has increased his footprint in dirt track racing once more through an agreement with the Cathell family to promote special events at Delaware International Speedway in Delmar, Delaware for the 2023 season. The schedule works hand and hand with Georgetown Speedway.

"We appreciate the Cathell family offering the opportunity to promote events at Delaware International Speedway in 2023," Brett Deyo of BD Motorsports Media LLC said. "We've put together a schedule between Georgetown and Delaware International that gives Delaware racers approximately 20 races in their home state."

Delaware International will join Georgetown as a member of the NASCAR Roots Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series for both the Modified and Crate 602 Sportsman divisions.

Drellos Declared Winner at Sunshine Nationals:

After having a remarkable performance in only his second time in a Late Model at

the Sunshine Nationals in Florida in January, and finishing second in the opening night Pro Late Model feature, Demetrios Drellos of Queensbury was notified this week that he was declared the winner in his opening night feature after Michael Page was disqualified. Drellos said, "I don't really like to get a win this way, but it's a win."

According to Chance Smith of Crate Racing USA the organization that sanctioned the event in conjunction with DIRTcar, Page's tire samples did not clear the lab and they had just received the results from the tests this week. During the Sunshine Nationals event, Crate Racing USA sent samples from each of the feature winners each night.

Crate Racing USA is headquartered in East Aboga, Alabama and sanctions events for 604 and 602 Late Models, Crate Modifieds and Crate Street Stocks.

Palmer's Sponsor Hall of Fame Night:

Palmer's Service Center of Howes Cave will return this season and will present

Saturday, July 1, Hall of Fame Night featuring the Thunder on the Thruway Series for Amsterdam Truck Center, Modifieds, \$4000 to win, Swagger Factory Apparel Crate 602 Sportsman, \$1500 to win, and Below Zero Ice Cream Pro Stocks, \$1000 to win plus Montgomery County Office for Aging Limited Sportsman, Fonda Fair Four Cylinders and Mohawk Valley Vintage Dirt Modifieds. The event will be run in memory of Michael Keyser.

NASCAR and Fonda Speedway for 2023:

Modifieds, Crate 602 Sportsman and Pro Stock divisions will be sanctioned by NASCAR as part of the NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series. Modifieds will be listed as Division 1 and competitors will be eligible for National, Regional, State/Provincial and Track Championships, Rookie of the Year honors and ranking nationally in the Top-100 drivers. Modified drivers will be required to obtain a NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series Feature Division license.



Demetrios Drellos of Queensbury was declared winner in the Pro Late Model feature opening night of Sunshine Nationals in January. Facebook photo

Crate 602 Sportsman will be listed as Division II and drivers will be eligible for National, Regional and Track championships and ranking nationally in Top-100 drivers and will be required to obtain a NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series Charger Division License.

Pro Stocks will be listed as Division III and will be eligible for National, Regional and Track championships and ranking nationally in the Top-100 drivers. Drivers will be required to obtain a NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series Charger Division license.

vision license.

Licenses are available now at <https://license.nascar.com/> A single NASCAR license can be utilized at both Fonda and Utica-Rome.

All other divisions competing at Fonda and Utica-Rome will not be required to purchase a NASCAR license.

Fonda Opener Paying \$12,000

Although it's still the middle of winter, fans will be glad to have something to look forward to when the season opens at Fonda on Saturday, April 22 with the

Montgomery County Open in Memory of Jumpin Jack Johnson; 40-laps paying \$12,000 to the winner; plus Crate 602 Sportsman, Pro Stocks, Limited Sportsman and Four Cylinders. Points begin (25 show up points for Modifieds).

NESCOT (Northeast Stock Car Old Timers) will be holding a monthly meeting this Saturday, February 11, at 2:00 pm at Pine Ridge Estates, Route 9W, Ravena, NY.

Until next week please send all news and/or comments to biittig@yahoo.com

Library News

Middleburgh Library

2/14 - 10:45 AM = Drop-in Storytime - Join Miss Terry for this fun, interactive storytime geared toward little ones ages 0-5 and their caregivers! We will read books, sing songs and watch a short film based on our weekly theme. All children will go home with a coloring sheet and take home craft. No registration is required. 2/14 - 1:00-4:00 PM - Mahjong - Come join the ladies in a fun afternoon of Mahjong. If you don't know how to play, they will teach you.

Creativebug - You're more creative than you think! Use your Middleburgh Library card and PIN to enjoy unlimited access to thousands of online art and craft classes available at Creativebug. Videos are produced by renowned artists and creative experts. You'll also find downloadable patterns, templates and recipes. Watch classes anytime, anywhere. Classes never expire, you can start and stop projects at your own pace. No pressure, just possibilities!

Display Cabinets - We have new displays in our foyer cabinets. Take a look. If anyone has a collection they would like to display in our cabinets, please contact us to set up a date. Please check our calendar on our website at www.middleburghlibrary.info for future programs. Also, don't forget our Facebook page.

Cobleskill Library

Cobleskill Library News February is Love Your Library month. Stop in and check out the Friends of the Library Love Your Library Book Bundle Sale. Pick up a bundle and donate. Bundles are created for all ages. New bundles are added weekly.

Thursday, February 9 at 1pm Library Board of Trustees monthly meeting. The Trustees meet upstairs in the Community Room and meetings are open to the public.

Thursday, February 9 All Ages Craft Buffet 4-5:30pm. All ages are invited to join us for open craft time. We'll have tables full of craft supplies available for participants

to use. Whether you want to do some coloring or painting or paper crafts or knitting or whatever, you're welcome to join us for some relaxing, creative time. Come let your imagination inspire you to create whatever you choose!

Thursday, February 9 at 6:30pm Teen Board Game Night We're breaking out the board games! Middle and high schoolers (ages 11-18) are welcome to explore our collection of board and cards games and play with other teens. We've got classics like Sorry, Life, and Monopoly as well as lots of newer favorites like Fluxx, Dixit, Bears Vs. Babies, and many more! Snacks and drinks provided.

Friday, February 10 at 4pm Paws for Reading Stop by the library to read to our favorite therapy dog, Nico! Nico loves to meet patrons of all ages, but he especially enjoys hearing kids practice their reading. Open to all ages. No registration necessary.

Saturday, February 11 at 11am Do you love Elephant and Piggie? Do you think the Pigeon should get a chance to drive the bus? We certainly do! Join your friends at the Community Library as we celebrate the birthday of beloved children's author Mo Willems! We'll read some favorite Mo Willems stories, enjoy birthday treats, play games, and make a craft. You won't want to miss this fun family event!

Tuesday, February 14 and 28 at 6:00 pm The Short Fiction Workshop: This monthly writing workshop for teens and adults features writing prompts, exercises, and moderated feedback sessions where authors working on short fiction can practice their craft, develop new skills, and get constructive input from other writers.

Tuesday, February 14 at 6:00pm Do you love anime and manga? Or maybe you're curious about these Japanese stories but aren't sure how to get started? Check out our Anime Club for teens! We meet once a month to watch anime episodes, eat snacks, and try Japanese-inspired crafts. Open to 6th-12th graders (ages 11-18). No registration required.

Thursday, February 16 at 5:30 pm Teen Advisory

Board Help us make the Community Library a better place for teens! Join our new Teen Advisory Board and help the library choose new teen books, plan programs, and make our teen zone a fun space for teen patrons. Snacks provided. Open to 8th-12th graders (ages 13-18). For more information, email clittle@mvlis.info.

Thursday, February 16 at 6:30 5-Minute Experts This new event is a fun, fast-moving, educational program where 4-5 presenters deliver five-minute talks on a specialized area of expertise. Each presenter must prepare a slide show of 10-20 slides and the presentations may not exceed 5-minutes. Topics will be as varied as the participants' interests. For audiences, it's an opportunity to learn something new and different, with less likelihood of getting bored by a long-winded presentation. It's like TED Talks for audiences with short attention spans! If you're interested in presenting at a future program, contact Adult Services Librarian Don LaPlant at cob-adult@mvlis.info

Tuesday, February 21 at 6pm Adult Gaming Group: Adult Gamers interested in role-playing games, card and board games are invited to gather at the library for fun and games with other game fans.

The Award-Winning Trivia Night@ the Library! February 23 at 6:30 pm. If you would like to be a 2023 sponsor please contact the Library. Special thanks to The Friends of The Community Library for sponsoring the snack table.

Wednesdays weekly StoryTime at 10:30 with Miss Courtney is for children ages birth to 5 and their caregiver featuring stories, songs and fun activities.

Families Count bags are now available to check out at the Community Library! These bags cover a variety of math topics and are aimed at elementary schoolers. Each bag includes lesson guides, books, and hands-on activities that help families build math skills together. Stop by the library to get started!

Want to learn a new skill, enhance your hobby skills, or try something new? Watch classes online, anytime from anywhere, just log in to Creativebug with your Community Li-

brary card and the last four digits of your phone number to get started. Once you create an account you can save your progress and save your favorite videos. The Library's landing page <https://www.creativebug.com/lib/communitylibrary>

The following museum passes are available for check out with your library card. The Adirondack Experience, The Empire Pass, The Iroquois Museum, and MiSci. Each pass has specific access and one pass can be checked out for 7 days but they can't be used for special events at these locations. Please check each location for specific requirements prior to visiting.

You can also checkout games with your Library card. Visit the second floor near the teen area to see what we have. A special thanks to Games A Plunder for their support of this collection.

Tuesdays join your neighbors and make new friends during the Tuesday Knitters group! You can find them in the program room at 1pm. Bring your own supplies and learn something new while you chat, listen or just get in your zone.

The Library has started a new program called Tabling Tuesdays. Where we invite social services organizations to staff a table and share information with our patrons. Our visitors for February:

Tuesday, February 21 from 2-6pm a representative from The Cancer Services Program of the Central Region will be tabling at the Library. The program provides no-cost breast, cervical and colon cancer screening to qualifying individuals. February is Black History and National Cancer Prevention Awareness Month and CSP is spreading the word!

Screening can prevent cancer and CSP is here to make sure everyone gets screened. They will answer your questions and help determine if you qualify for no-cost screening. CSP will be back March 14 from 10-2.

Tuesday, February 28 from 3-7pm a representative from Berkshire Farm Center & Services for Youth will be at the Library. Berkshire's mission is to strengthen children and families so they can live safely, independently and productively within their

home communities. Berkshire will have information on becoming a foster parent. There are currently over 17,000 children in foster care in NY with more than 6,000 coming into care every year. Berkshire will be back March 7 and April 18.

Do you have used Inkjet or LaserJet toner you want to recycle? Please bring them to the Library. We recycle and use the rewards to supplement our office supply budget. We can't recycle the empty toner containers from your copier so please don't bring us those. The recycle box is under the card catalog by the water fountain. We really appreciate the donations we have received.

The Library continues to offer curbside pickup.

A reminder that our weather closures will be posted on TV, our Facebook page and web site. If Cobleskill-Richmondville School District is closed the library will automatically move to a delayed opening at noon unless it is determined unsafe for staff to travel and then the Library will close.

To receive Library News by email sign up here <https://mailchi.mp/287db1f866ef/news> Follow us on social media for library news, event information, volunteer opportunities, new book announcements and more! It is easy to find age-appropriate programs on the event calendar visit <https://communitylibrary.mvlis.info/>

Schoharie Library
Schoharie Library Hours: MTF 11am-6pm, Wed. 5-8pm, Thurs. 12pm-7pm, and Sat. 10am-2pm

Drawing Classes with Maeve McCool: Thursdays, February 9, 16 & 23 and March 2, 4:15pm. All ages are welcome. Sign up: <https://bit.ly/DrawingwithMaeve23>

Teen Thursday: Every Thursday 5-7pm. Come hang out in our Teen Room - socialize, create in our Makerspace, play board games, code with

our Dash Robot, share book recommendations, and much more!! Ages 13 - Young Adult Welcome! No registration required.

Storytime with Yvonne: Fridays at 10am. Stories, songs, fun activities!

Writing Club (Virtual): Mondays at 6:30pm. <https://bit.ly/SchoharieLibraryPrograms>

No-Sew Heart Decoration: Monday, February 13, 4:15pm. Make a simple stuffed heart to hang up. <https://bit.ly/NoSewHeart23>

Knitcetera at the Library: Tuesday, February 14, 10:30am-noon. Embroider, sew, knit, anything goes!

Middle Grade Book Group: Monday, February 20, 4:15-5pm: Children grades 3rd - 6th are welcome to join us. Refreshments, track reading to earn prizes. Sign up today at <https://bit.ly/MGBookGroupSHO>.

Learn to Crochet: Mondays, February 20 & 27, 4:15-5:30pm. Signup: <https://bit.ly/Crochet1-24-23>

STEM kit play all day: Monday, February 20 through Friday, February 25 during library hours.


Make a Friendship or Paracord Bracelet with Heather: Tuesday, February 21, 2-3:30pm. We provide beads, string, or paracord, you bring the creativity! Signup: <https://bit.ly/BraceletMaking2-21-23>

Owl Ecology with George Steele: Wednesday, February 22 at 6:30pm. Learn about owls, and go outside to listen for owl calls. Dissect an owl pellet to see what they eat! Registration appreciated: <https://bit.ly/OwlEcology2-22-23>

Virtual UFO Club: Thursday, February 23, 10am. Work on projects and chat on Zoom. Signup: <https://bit.ly/SchoharieLibraryPrograms>

Coding Club Intro Meeting: Friday, February 24, 4:15pm. Signup: <https://bit.ly/SHOCodingClub>

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Mayfield Downs M'burgh 58-37

MIDDLEBURGH - Mayfield downed Middleburgh 58-37 last Wednesday night at the Knights' senior night. Mayfield jumped out to a 17-6 lead after the first eight minutes and 37-20 at the half. Trevor Ruberti led Mayfield with 27 points.

Senior Troy Cammer led the Knights with 13 points. Lucas Shaw added seven points and JJ Narzyski and Ethan Trombley scored six points each.



Above left: #34 Sean Foreman grabs a rebound between Troy Cammer & JJ Narzyski
 Above center: Lucas Shaw shoots over two Mayfield defenders in Mayfield's victory in Middleburgh's senior game.
 Above right: Nate Wood scores two with this fast break lay up.
 Left: Jump ball to start the game. Ethan Trombley for Middleburgh & #34 Sean Foreman for Mayfield. Photos by Bob Roney.

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Community Calendar (Including Cancellations)

Ongoing

- 2022 Adult Grief Support Group, Cobleskill United Methodist Church, 107 Chapel Street, Cobleskill, NY 12043, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
- Free Story Times each Tuesday at The Book Nook, 645 Main St., Hobart. 2:30 p.m. for toddlers 18 months to 3 years and 4 p.m. for ages 4 and older.
 - Family Support Meetings
- Open Arms Recovery Resource Center 289 Main St Schoharie NY 4 till 7 Thursdays. call Chrystal @ 518 605-4180 for details.
 - Open Arms Recovery Resource Center
- 289 Main St Schoharie NY 8:00 - 4:00 Tuesdays 8:00 till 7:00 Thursdays. Addiction and recovery information call 518 605 3867 for more details.

Feb 12

Souper Bowl of Caring from the Gallupville United Methodist Church. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., eat at location or take food to-go. Chili, soup, cornbread, and cupcakes. \$5 donation and a non-perishable item to support Two Local Food Pantry ministries. Church address: 120 Factory St., Schoharie, NY 12157

July 15-23

Sicily tour, small group 20 spaces available, extended to July 25 with Rome extension. grouptoursite.com/rosemariekeller or call 800-438-7672 group #60918243

August 5-13, 2023

U.S. National Park Tour: The Rockies, Arches, Yellowstone. 9 days. 13 days with Badlands and Mount Rushmore extension, through August 17. grouptoursite.com/rosemariekeller

August 6

The Lion King at Proctors Theater. 1 p.m. \$40 per person. Limited tickets. RSVP with payment by December 12. Contact Rosemarie Keller at keller22@gmail.com

September

Sicily tour, 13 days, with Rosemarie Keller. In the midst of the Mediterranean, discover an island with personality all its own—full of flavor and teaming with one-of-a-kind art and architecture. From multicultural Palermo to breathtaking Taormina, each stop on

this tour of Sicily reveals unexpected treasures. Visit goaheadtours.com/ZOM or call 800-597 0350

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MY LITTLE LOCAL HISTORY COLUMN WITH ANGELIQUE PIWINSKI

A Look at Victorian Era "Friendship Albums" and "Autograph Books"

Those of you who are older might remember those autograph books that we received upon graduating high school and sometimes grammar school. There was usually a beautiful or custom cover and lots of blank pages for your friends and family to write something to you, the occasion, advice, sometimes funny lines and even usually corny poetry. Some took the time to draw little pictures and almost everyone at minimum signed and usually dated a page in the book. Some included the location where they lived.

But "Friendship Albums" as they were called, go far back to the Victorian era. I

have several and they are fascinating unto themselves because most contain beautiful cursive writing, sometimes calligraphy, sometimes miniature photographs, beautiful color lithographs and more. I even found one in a box of old books that I bought at a local auction for a dollar 50 years ago. The book was entitled "Leaves of Friendship". It is of Civil War era vintage and contained a dedication to the owner; a Mrs. Miranda Cutler by a beautifully written introduction from a local pastor in 1862.

Many people signed this book and the author used it to chronicle family, family

events and dear friends met along the road of life. There were even little newspaper clippings. From all of the newspaper clippings and notes I was actually able to construct a family tree for this family from the late 1700s all the way through to the last entry in 1923, one hundred years ago, when apparently the daughter of the original owner passed away or lost interest.

What I found fascinating was that the woman's husband died from Smallpox in 1872 at the age of 41, leaving an infant and a 10

year old. The newspaper article is gut wrenching and I've included a portion of it here. The book even contains their marriage certificate dated 1855 in a pocket on the inside back cover.

When you think about it, this could be looked at as an early form of today's social media. But the only difference is that posts on Facebook etc. eventually disappear, but this book still remains 167 years later.

Gathering just autographs and messages from friends and family was also a popular pastime in Victorian

times, but with a different purpose. During the late 1800's it was considered fashionable for ladies to maintain Autograph albums with inscriptions from one's circle of acquaintances.

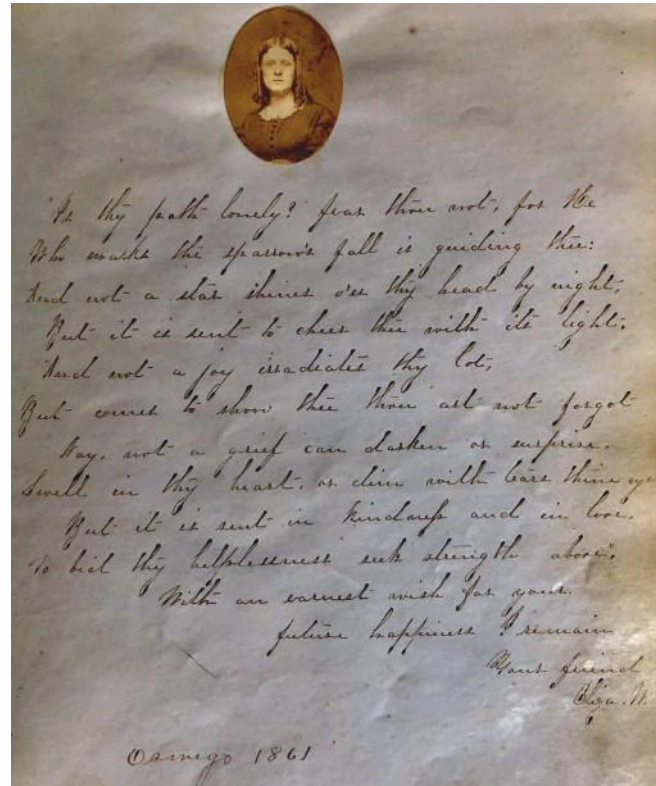
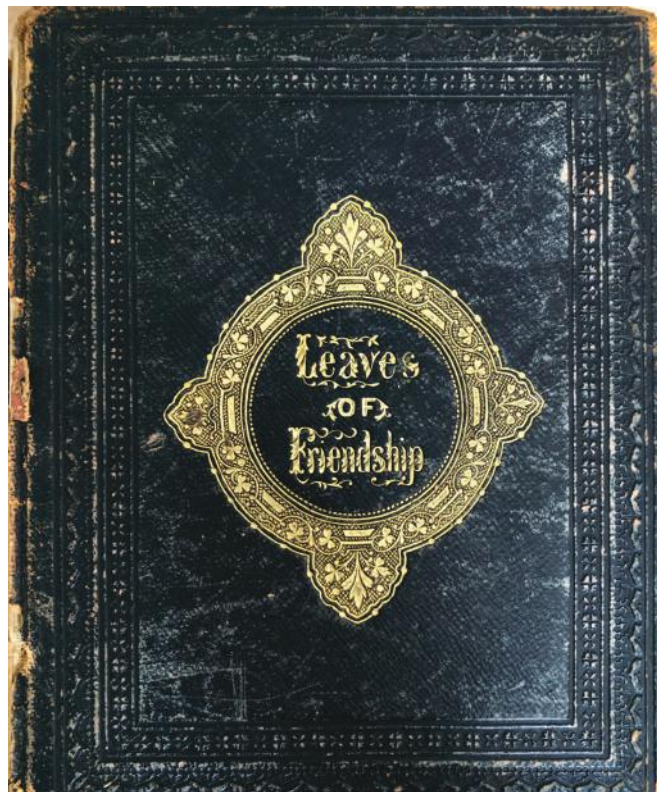
Calling cards might be pasted or drawn, while other entries might contain hand painted art, calligraphy or even a small photograph of the author.

Other forms of albums included charm albums or memory books, the frequent use of the phrase "forget-me-not" also gave some the designation as forget-me-

not albums.

Usually, album signers would include verses of original or borrowed poetry quotations from books, some published to help in choosing appropriate inscriptions.

I am including some photos I took of my collection to illustrate the variety and the care that went in to most of these entries. In the Victorian era almost all were serious heartfelt expressions of caring and friendship.



Far left: Civil War Era Friendship Album published by Leavitt & Allen, beautifully embossed and a gold overlay.

Center: A wonderful example of personalization even including the authors 1861 photograph Above: Some examples of Victorian Autograph albums in my collection.

Postal Service Recruits at Capital Region BOCES

SCHOHARIE -- A representative of the United States Postal Service recruited on Feb. 3 students on the Capital Region BOCES Career & Technical Education Center -- Schoharie Campus to fill a multitude of jobs.

Recruiter Aaron Quist spoke with students in the BOCES Electrical Trades, Construction/Heavy Equipment, and Automotive Trades Technology programs about careers keeping the Postal Service moving and on its mission of delivering packages across the U.S. and beyond.

Capital Region BOCES works with more than 300 business, government, union and education partners—like the Postal Service—to help fuel the regional and state economies.



Through these partnerships, students are able to launch careers directly out of high school or land jobs that will help them pay for future educational opportunities.

Senior David Foote said earlier this year he hopes to launch a career in the Postal Service.

"I think the Postal Service is a good place to work and it has great benefits," the Automotive Trades Technology student from

Cobleskill-Richmondville student said. "I would like to be able to use my skills I learned here in working for them."

Many of these partners will take place in several career fairs BOCES will host later this school year.

To become a BOCES business partner, please contact Capital Region BOCES Senior Business Liaison Nancy Liddle at nancy.liddle@neric.org.

Oberacker Meets with Youth Bureau



Senator Peter Oberacker meets with members of the Schoharie County Youth Bureau in Albany. From left, Schoharie County Youth Bureau Program Coordinator Assistant Susan Riquier, Jason Napoli, Ananda Wilding, Senator Oberacker, Cody Robinson-Bullock.

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Five Years of Valley Market Marked by Supermarket Sweep



To celebrate the store's 5 Year Anniversary, The Valley Market in Middleburgh held a Supermarket Sweep Raffle. Two customers and one market employee would all get two minutes to shop. The drawing for winners was on January 28th. Shopping began Saturday January 4th just after 8:30 am. Of the two customers who won the raffle, Rita Johansen of Middleburgh was there. The other winner had frozen pipes to deal with on the frigid Saturday morning, and called in and said he couldn't make it. Store owner Geanine Eisel decided the next customer to walk through the doors would be offered the opportunity. After a couple minutes wait a customer declined the offer, then, after additional waiting Ms Eisel decided it was time for the two winners to shop.

After the two minutes of shopping (everyone commented on how quickly it went by) one cart full added up to \$183.37, and the other \$247.66 in food and groceries.

Photos by Scott Keidong.



New Schoharie Dog Control Officer

By Joshua Walther
SCHOHARIE - During the Schoharie Town Board's monthly meeting, members discussed the possible reappointment of Joseph Durma, the dog control officer that's served for numerous years. In addition, they touched on a new law for campers.

The Town has held off on the reappointment of Mr. Durma pending discussion with other interested candidates for the position. Mr. Durma has had a history of disagreements and being hard to reach, leading to a handful of problems.

Supervisor Alan Tavenner voted to reappoint Mr. Durma for another year, stating that "He's done a decent job for three or four years." However, Town Clerk Pamela Foland didn't see it that way, and cited how she couldn't get ahold of him during critical times and his negligence when it came to following the state dog licensing law.

Upon hearing this, Mr.

Durma was no longer interested in the job, saying that there was too much drama. He also noted that he never billed the Town for transportation or dog food, both of which he provided. His closing remarks were "I'll do it until you get somebody else," and then left the room.

With the Board's opinions divided on what to do next, Board member Marion Jaqueway stepped out of the room to phone Megan Kramer of Cobleskill, the current dog control officer for Carlisle. After speaking with Supervisor Tavenner, Mrs. Kramer said that she would be interested in the job.

With a fresh face invested in the position, the Board unanimously agreed to hire Mrs. Kramer after negotiations, choosing to leave the history with Mr. Durma behind them.

In other news, Code Enforcement Officer Cliff Dorrough came forward during his report to state

that he'd like to see a law against using campers and RVs on private property as full-time residential units.

Mr. Dorrough testified that he first saw this trend during the pandemic, and quoted several instances of these vehicles failing to provide safety and comfort. In addition, they carry water, septic, insulation, and flammability concerns.

He suggested that residents should be allowed to do this seasonally, but there should be restrictions against full-time residential use.

Supervisor Tavenner and Board member Ben Oevering were hesitant to put anything into writing just yet. "We can't prevent people from using their property," said Supervisor Tavenner.

However, the Board agreed with Mr. Dorrough that it was a problem, and promised to look into the local land use law to see if there was anything that could be done.

Fort's McTaggart Shines in Appalachian Commision



McTaggart and participants at the Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga

By Matthew Avitabile
SCHOHARIE / THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS - Old Stone Fort Director Melinda McTaggart has learned a lot during her recent tenure working with the Appalachian Regional Commission. The Commission has a leadership program which the Fort Director and representatives from across the nation's eastern mountain range have participated in since late 2022.

The work has been both challenging and fun, said McTaggart.

"The best part is the people," she said.

The opportunity to share economic and cultural promotional ideas is crucial, said the director. It's also a chance to hone leadership skills.

"You're already a leader. You have the experience. You are a known quality."

This isn't the first time McTaggart has learned in the Appalachians. She is a former graduate of West Virginia University at Morgantown.

The Commission assignment included several trips to points of interests across the mountains, including a Volk-

wagen plant in Chattanooga, TN, and the University of Tennessee. She is currently heading out for the next stage of the program at a conference in Birmingham.

The leadership program is an annual one in which representatives from different regions in the Appalachians come together for a number of programs and to exchange ideas.

The Fort Director is one of forty participants this year, and one of several from New York.

Once McTaggart ar-
Continued on D8

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Sunday 10:30 AM, 326 Main St., Middleburgh

Middleburgh United Methodist Church
281 Main Street Middleburgh, NY holds services every Sunday at 11 a.m. (Children's Sunday School also at 11 a.m.)
Pastor Mel 518-827-5126 or Melenamoore2323@gmail.com

Esperance-Sloansville United Methodist Church
175 Main St. Esperance, NY 12066, at 11 a.m. on Sunday

Gallupville United Methodist Church
120 Factory St. Schoharie, 12157

Delanson United Methodist Church
112 E Shore Rd, Delanson, NY 12053

Our Lady of the Valley Roman Catholic Parish
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Facebook.com/our Lady-oftheValleyParish/
Main Street at Wells Ave. Middleburgh
Rev. Tom Zelker, Pastor 518-827-3301
Olv2009@midtel.net

Evangical Lutheran Church - Gallupville
Sunday Worship begins at 9:00 am every Sunday, followed by Adult Study at 10:30 am and Children's Sunday School at 11:00 am. Sarah's Pantry Second and Fourth Thursdays 12 noon-4pm

Grosvenors Corners United Methodist Church
1217 Grosvenors Corners Road in the hamlet of Grosvenors Corners, Carlisle meets for worship at 8:30 a.m. Sunday Morning.

The Sharon Springs United Methodist Church
511 US-20, Sharon Springs meets for worship on Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

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Summit UMC
2870 State Rt. 10 service 10 a.m. Pastor Jan Benson

Seventh Day Adventist
2861 State Rt. 10
Saturday Service 10 a.m. Pastor Reid 501-545-8351

Calvary Assembly of God
960 Mineral Springs Rd. 10 AM Sunday service. www.cagcobleskill.org

First Baptist Church
492 West Main Street, Cobleskill Sunday Service - 11:00 AM

Schoharie United Presbyterian Church
314 Main St. Schoharie, Worship Service: 10:30 AM Sundays

Lawyersville Reformed Church
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Eagles Defeat Schoharie



ABOVE: Matt Bernhardt keeps the ball away from the Duanesburg Eagles' Michael Leak.



A shot by center Nate Burke nets two points for Schoharie. Duanesburg notched a 63-34 win over Schoharie Saturday. Photos by Scott Keidong.

BELOW: Duanesburg Eagles players Michael Leak and Peyton Fall are all over Nate Towle, blocking and trying to keep him from finding an open Schoharie teammate to pass to.



Schoharie Elementary Adventure Club Explores Winter Landscape

SCHOHARIE - The Elementary Adventure Club partnered with Cody Robinson-Bullock from the Schoharie County Youth Bureau to host an adventure packed day at Mine Kill State Park. Students engaged in an animal tracking lesson and then were able to snowshoe on park trails to test out their new knowledge. Students also engaged in an owl pellet dissection lesson and several team building games and activities.



More Sports and Schoharie County News in D Section



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Village Looking into New Lift for Hall

Request for Temporary Home for Meetings

By David Avitabile

MIDDLEBURGH - Middleburgh village Monday evening began reviewing bids for a lift to make the village hall on Main Street handicapped accessible. At the same meeting, officials were served with a request to find a temporary home for future meetings so handicapped residents can attend.

The village received a bid from National Seating and Mobility of Clifton Park for a Bruno Commercial Vertical Platform Lift for \$11,940. This price includes installation but does not include breaking through the wall and window on the side of the village hall so people can enter the 142-year-old building.

The lift has a weight capacity of 750 pounds and is ADA-compliant.

The final cost will be "much more" than \$11,940, said Mayor Irish Bergan due to the work needed for the building and an en-

sure. Since the cost is more than \$10,000, the village needs to get at least two more bids on the project. An engineering design is also needed.

The plan is to have the lift installed on the south side of the building (the side closest to Stewart's) with an entrance made through the current location of the window by the front of the building.

It is not known what the final cost will be.

There are no final plans, Mayor Bergan said, and it is "in the beginning stages."

Resident Dave Jeremenko, who has been pushing the village to make the building handicapped accessible and to add more handicapped parking spaces, said the lift needs an enclosure to keep it and the public out of the "driving rain and snow."

After board members spoke about the lift, Mr. Jeremenko submitted a letter to request that "this

board move all future public meetings to an ADA accessible building for all handicap residents to attend."

He claims to know at least two residents who would have attended the meeting if it was handicapped accessible.

"This board said they

MABA, from B1

sell homes and support business growth. Now that we've opened a business on Main Street ourselves we'd hate to have all of the events Middleburgh has been known for end."

Planning for 20233 begins now.

"The 5k, Arts and Crafts and Fall Festival are the only events in the calendar right now. I don't count yard sale day as an event, but we will still do that," she said.

Though she is hopeful about MABA's future, she did note that it is "tough

would consider this," his letter read.

He noted that there are 267 active unexpired handicap tags in the village and town of Middleburgh.

"The village hall is not ADA compliant," he wrote. "Handicap accessibility is a civil right giv-

ing to all handicapped persons to help them with the obstacles they face every day, and they should not be questioned on their disabilities or limitations.

"This request is being made in the interest of all handicapped residents and visitors to Middle-

burgh to be treated within accordance with the American Disabilities Act of 1990. I am requesting again for this board to move all future public meetings to a temporary location that is ADA accessible until this village hall is compliant."

Community members will also be welcome to join, he said.

"We have opened things up to not just the business part of Middleburgh, even though it is still MABA. We had individuals at the meeting who are long time community members and one lady had just moved into the area last year and responded to the all call.

Contact information for MABA will be set up soon, he said.

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Windham Weekly

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FRIDAY, February 10, 2023

\$1.00

Amulance HQ Takes Shape

By Michael Ryan

WINDHAM - Borrowing a line from the Grateful Dead, the new ambulance building is "truckin' right along" according to Windham town supervisor Thomas Hoyt, also sharing some good financial news.

Hoyt, who reportedly makes a pest of himself, checking in on the project every morning on the way to his regular job, says he is pleased by the progress as plumbing, heating and HVAC crews buckle down.

"A lot of the duct work is run for the forced hot air system, the sprinkler system is one-third in, half of the rough plumbing is done and ninety percent of the rough electrical is set," Hoyt said.

Insulation was slated to be installed this week, with all interior space well defined by studding, and exterior finishing touches on the \$3.5 million facility are visible as stone veneer siding is being applied.

"It's only a start but people can at least get an idea of what the place will look like down the road," Hoyt says, noting the anticipated date of occupancy is still steady as she goes.

Last September, a month or so after breaking ground, town leaders and job overseers from Delaware Engineering set a May 5, 2023, drop dead date for moving into the headquarters.

Construction timeframes infamously cannot be etched in stone so full occupancy may be a few days or weeks later, but the end is in sight, coming sooner than many thought possible.

Windham taxpayers, in the fall of 2020, approved the borrowing of \$1.85 million for the center which will also be serving as home base for mountaintop senior citizens in the Golden Agers Club.

Government officials anticipated the price tag would ultimately be in the low \$2 million range but were comfortable moving forward, having some reserve funds and potential outside grants to draw upon.

Enthusiasm ran high, fully expecting to hang curtains by the spring or summer of 2021 until everyone's best laid plans went awry.

The worldwide pandemic created havoc in the marketplace and caused a standstill in Windham as officials

hoped prices and the availability of, essential goods would normalize which they did not.

A new normal emerged and while officials briefly considered abandoning the project, due to the nearly-doubled price tag, they opted to keep on trucking, dubbing emergency response a vital community service.

Between then and now, the town has secured some financial assistance in the form of a \$300,000 grant through the office of State Senator Michelle Hinchey and \$100,000 from Greene County, tapping federal American Rescue Plan Act money.

As much as \$250,000 was trimmed from the overall cost, switching from metal roofing to 40-year asphalt shingles, and Hoyt recently reported \$130,000 was secured from the Catskill Watershed Corporation.

The dollars from CWC will minimize the pecuniary pain of stormwater necessities mandated within the New York City watershed.

"It helps offset the expense and didn't come out of taxpayer's pockets," Hoyt said, noting the funds are provided through the Department of Environmental Protection.

"Making this investment in our ambulance service is no different than many years ago when [former town supervisor] Larry Lane decided to get involved with the flood control dams," Hoyt says.

The trio of dams, which include what has become C.D. Lane Park, are credited for preventing and/or limiting destruction from floods.

In other matters: —Town council members recently held their annual reorganization meeting, making all the appointments and designations required to conduct local government. Those actions included naming the following:

AUDIT COMMITTEE: councilman Wayne Van Valin and councilman Kurt Goettsche;

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Councilman Goettsche (Phone, Computer, fax) Councilman Ian Peters;

WEBPAGE OFFICER: Councilmen Peters and Goettsche;

FIREWORKS COMMITTEE: Councilman Stephen Walker and Supervisor Hoyt;

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE: councilmen Walker and Van Valin

2022 GREENE COUNTY PERSON OF THE YEAR

Peter and Sarah Finn

By Michael Ryan

HUNTER - It perfectly befits our choice of Peter and Sarah Finn as Greene County 2022 "Person of the Year" to give the solo definition a slight wiggle and wobble the calendar a little bit.

First of all, they are inseparably linked to, and mutually ardent about, the Catskill Mountain Foundation which has its 25th anniversary in 2023.

Secondly, the two of them doing deservedly distinguishable deeds can't be squished into just last year, and waiting for 2024 to roll around would be twelve months too late to properly celebrate what they have fulfilled.

Putting it more clearly, the town of Hunter, the village of Tannersville, the hamlet of Maplecrest and Greene County as a whole would not be the same without the presence of the Catskill Mountain Foundation.

Sarah and Peter founded the CMF in 1998, sort of on a wing and a prayer, setting out to fix up an old movie theater and some abandoned stores in Hunter, figuring it would be what they called, "a one building dream."

Instead, "we never



could've imagined what it's become," the Finns say as the single seed of their restored House of Cinema has almost magically grown and spread into a perennially beneficent vine.

So, starting at the beginning...once upon a time, on Main Street in Hunter, there was no Doctorow Center for the Performing Arts with a triplex movie theater and cozy concert hall for world-class entertainment, and no absolutely uncommon Piano Performance Museum next door.

There was no Red Barn corporate retreat center across the street and no Orpheum Theater in Tannersville with its Orpheum Dance Program and annual performances of "The Nutcracker" and "A Midsummer

Night's Dream" led by former Metropolitan Opera ballerina Victoria Rinaldi.

Long, long ago, down the mountain a few miles in Maplecrest, a hamlet in the town of Windham, there once stood the Sugar Maples resort.

Summers used to be famously bustling there but its heydays were barely a memory when the CMF arrived, transforming a scrum of moldy, dilapidated structures into the Sugar Maples Center for Creative Arts.

A haven for potters has been established, attracting young and old experts and novices from around the corner and around the world, teaching and learning the craft, and alongside the clay-spinning wheels are quiet,

Continued on Page C8



Stone veneer siding has started to be applied to the exterior of the new ambulance center in the town of Windham.



Blueprints are studied by Hamilton Plumbing worker "Ken" for laying in the piping as the interior of the new ambulance center in Windham starts to take shape, aiming toward a late spring ribbon-cutting.

BETTER THAN HEARSAY The Sudden End of a Dynasty - or Maybe Not So Fast

By Michael Ryan

TANNERSVILLE - Politics can take some funny twists and turns, especially at the small town caucus level, but nobody you talk to about the mayor's race in the village of Tannersville is laughing.

In what came as a surprise to him, but not to some others, longtime mayor Lee McGunnigle is in limbo after neither his own Democratic Party nor the Republican Party have picked him as their candidate.

Separate caucuses were held on the same night a week or so ago for the March 21 election and the same slate of candidates emerged from both including new mayoral aspirant David Schneider and two trustees.

The Democrats met first where Schneider, a registered Democrat, defeated McGunnigle by a 16 to 8 vote and then a couple of hours later, at the GOP gathering, the outcome was the same

albeit by a closer 11-10 vote.

McGunnigle sounded stoic in a phone interview the day after the caucuses, saying, "my only disappointment is that I spoke to the candidate who opposed me. He has never served on the [village] board."

"I always figured someone on the board should step forward and say they were ready to do the job now. That's how it would work."

"That didn't happen so I'm a little disappointed they didn't want to keep the longest standing incumbent Democrat in office," McGunnigle said, having served a total of 24 years as a trustee and mayor.

"I take it to heart. It's disappointing to think I won't get to finish the work I've started," McGunnigle said, such as water system upgrades and securing a \$10 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant.

In a followup talk, a week later, McGunnigle's disappointments morphed into a steely determination to remain in office.

"My record proves I am the man for the job. People are putting out pure lies, saying the record is not the record," McGunnigle says.

"The trolling has escalated, putting out misinformation without signing it. I want to dispel all the misinformation out there."

Toward that end, McGunnigle is collecting signatures to launch a Party for a Day campaign, needing five percent of registered voters, saying, "if I can't get that number, it's clear people don't want me."

The deadline for submitting the required paperwork is February 14 and in the meantime

Continued on C7



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Obituaries

David Steven Kessler



David Steven Kessler passed away in January 2023. David was born in Brooklyn, New York, on February 21, 1940, the first of four children to Sylvia and Herman Kessler. He grew up in Bethpage, Long Island, NY. Education was very important to David and he excelled in his studies. Once an alumnus, he maintained an interest and loyalty to all the educational institutes he at-

tended. At Bethpage High School, David graduated valedictorian for his class of 1957. He kept up with several long-time friends who went to high school and played sports with him. He was inducted into the Bethpage High School Hall of Fame. David graduated from Cornell University with a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering and then earned a Masters degree in Engineering and a Masters Degree in International Affairs at the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs. He has been an active alumnus at both Cornell and Princeton. His career included work in public and private transportation in New York City. Since he was fluent in

Spanish, he was able to do consultant work in Mexico and Chile. David served as a Captain the US Army, having done ROTC training at college, and played on the US Army Golf team. His beloved cats, Echo and Snowflake, were enjoyable companions in his later years. David is survived by his sisters Elayne and Joan, nieces and nephew Heather (Ian), Megan (Amrit), Leah and Daniel. A burial at Mount Ararat Cemetery took place on January 27, 2023. Donations in David's memory may be made to the Cornell University Feline Health Center, College of Veterinary Medicine or to the Cornell Ornithology Lab.

Lewis Cates



Lewis Cates of Cobleskill, passed from this life into the waiting arms of his wife Frances on January 21, 2023.

He was born in Windham, NY on April 19, 1926. He married his sweetheart Frances Cam-

pagna Cates on Christmas Day 1946 in Hobart NY. They were the parents of three children, Kenneth, Linda, and James, who all were raised in the family home located in Beards Hollow. He was also the grandfather of eleven grandchildren, seventeen great-grandchildren, and one great-great-granddaughter.

Lewis was an avid motorcyclist and took great pride in attending to the landscaping of his property. After retiring from General Electric, he and

his late wife traveled the USA from Coast to Coast.

Lewis was predeceased by his wife of 72 years; Frances Cates; parents: Freeman and Gladys Cates and brothers: Richard and Millard Cates.

For those who would like to commemorate his life, a donation to cancer research, your favorite charity, or an animal shelter would be appropriate.

Coltrain Funeral Home, LLC is honored to be caring for Lewis and his family.

Maude Adams Theater Hub Presents A Series Of Sexy, Romantic, And Hilarious Valentines Day Readings

V Season is a series of readings featuring the hilarious Exit Laughing, local queer story of Casa Valentina, and iconic The Vagina Monologues

HUNTER - Building upon the success of their almost sold-out run of The Rocky Horror Show in October, Maude Adams Theater Hub (MATH) is thrilled to be producing V Season, a series of three staged play readings this February. Come cozy up and escape the cold at the Doctorow Center for the Arts in Hunter, New York February 14th, 17th, 18th & 19th. Showcasing entirely local directors and actors, this production celebrates the season of love in all its forms. Ticket prices are \$20 for an individual show, and \$50 for all three shows (the discount for all three shows applies once a patron has added all three shows to the cart). Join us on Valentine's weekend to explore the nature of love, longing, and identity.

MATH Creative Director Amy Scheibe said, "It really is an acrobatic challenge to stage three shows with three direc-

tors and three casts in one month. But the talent we have on this tiny stage is not to be missed. In particular, one actor has parts in all three—seeing Jessica Gibbons switch roles is definitely worth the price of the (very affordable) series admission. This process has been so rewarding for everyone involved that we are already picking our plays for next year."

Maude Adams Theater Hub (MATH) was created in January 2022 by four community theater veterans (Chris Cade, Amy Scheibe, Myra Garcia, Shannon Sambrook), and is graciously underwritten by the Catskill Mountain Foundation, in Hunter, NY. MATH's mission is to provide affordable community theater experiences while underwriting productions of all shapes and sizes via the Catskill Mountain Foundation Community

Performance/Arts Fund (CMF CP/AF).

> Maude Adams Theater Hub presents V Season at The Doctorow Center for the Arts @ 7971 NY-23A, Hunter, NY 12442

Casa Valentina February 14th & 19th @ 7pm
The Vagina Monologues February 17th & 18th @ 7pm

Exit Laughing February 18th & 19th @ 2pm

Tickets \$20 per show, \$50 for all three (discount automatically applied at checkout) For details, ticket info & to get in touch, go to maudeadamstheaterhub.org OR catskillmtn.org

Skilled Performance in Catskill



Performance by Bard College musicians during opening concert of this years series at Beattie Powers Place in Catskill. Go to www.beattiepowers.org for more information. Photo by Robert and Johanna Titus

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Out Lexington Way

By Christine Dwon
Mary and Steve Palazolo had a great time last week with the Big Valley Trail Breakers Club. They all enjoyed the great snowmobiling conditions and trails in western New York.

Don't miss the annual Lexington/West Kill UMC Trustees T.G.I.F. Brooks Chicken BBQ on Friday, Feb. 10 at the Lexington Church Hall, 54 County Route 13A, Lexington. Take out only starting at 3 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Adult dinners are \$15; 5-10 are \$7; under 5 are free and chicken half is \$8. Adult dinner includes half a chicken, baked potato, green beans, coleslaw, roll and cupcake.

Following worship service, that begins at 9 a.m., on Sunday, Feb. 12 at the Lexington/West Kill UMC in Lexington, there will be a coffee hour. Please come join us.

Jessica Franz asked me to share this information: The movie "Left Behind—Rise of the Antichrist," will be showing at the Windham Theater on Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 11 and Feb. 12, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30 p.m. Adults are \$11, children \$9 and seniors \$9.50. A free small popcorn and soda with each ticket purchased provided by the Jewett Church.

Blenheim-Gilboa Visitors Center presents "Snowfest," free winter fun for the entire family on Saturday, Feb. 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be sledding, snowshoeing, snow bowling, songs, music, storytelling, dog sled demonstrations, guided nature hikes, exhibits, crafts, local food vendors and photos with Snow Princesses. Free admission and parking. The Visitors Center is located at 13778 State Route 30, North Blenheim. This is a NYPA sponsored event in collaboration with Mine Kill State Park.

Don't forget Valentine's Day is Tuesday, Feb. 14.

The second Tuesday of each month (Feb. 14) you are invited to a Coffee Klatch at the Hunter Public Library, 7965 Main Street, from 10 a.m. to noon. Light refreshments, coffee and tea.

Friday, Feb. 17 at 5

p.m. is the next Dinner Church at the Ashland Community United Methodist Church, 1216 State Hwy 23, Ashland. Bring a dish to share and enjoy the fellowship. The program will be Fishers of Men—Jesus choosing his disciples. There will be a hymn sing following dessert. Please join us for a joyous evening.

Saturday, Feb. 18 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. is the Children's Ice Fishing Derby sponsored by the Catskill Mountain Fish and Game Club and the Stony Clove Rod and Gun Club at the Rip Van Winkle/Tannersville Lake. Registration starts at 9 a.m. Prizes for largest fish and most fish in both junior and senior divisions. Open to children up to 16. Children 16 must have a valid fishing license. You may fish up to three tip ups or hand lines and single hooks only. Live bait and some tip ups will be available. Call Bob Monteleone at 518-488-0240 if you have questions.

Tannersville Ice Sculpture Festival is Saturday, Feb. 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Main Street. Bring your tools and carve a sculpture. If you have questions, call 518-858-9094.

Friends of the Feathered and Furry Wildlife Center's Freeze Your Butt Off Bake Sale will be held Sunday, Feb. 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sunoco Gas Station, 6360 Main Street, Tannersville. Stop by and take home delicious homemade pies, cookies, cupcakes and many more homemade goodies. Your support helps continue the Wildlife Center's work saving injured, sick and orphan wildlife.

Happy 43rd wedding anniversary to Debbie and Jim Buscarello on Thursday, Feb. 9.

Friday, Feb. 10 is Skip Dippold's birthday.

Happy birthday on Saturday, Feb. 11 to Cindy Nelson.

Sunday, Feb. 12 is Mary Cline's birthday

Ray Albino's birthday is Monday, Feb. 13.

Happy birthday to Judy Haskins on Wednesday, Feb. 15.

The Greene County Department of Human Services Senior Nutrition Pro-

gram menu for the week of Feb. 13 – Feb. 17 is as follows: Monday—Chicken and biscuits with gravy, peas/carrots, mashed potatoes, tropical fruit; Tuesday—Valentine's Luncheon—Linguini with white clam sauce, spinach, California medley, strawberry cream pie with Hershey Kiss; Wednesday—Stuffed peppers, corn, carrot/Lima bean mix, chocolate birthday cake; Thursday—Lasagna with red sauce, tossed salad, Italian vegetables, peanut butter brownie; Friday—Hungarian goulash, braised red cabbage, egg noodles, fresh fruit. The meal will be the meal that is delivered to all Greene County homebound meal clients. All persons over the age of 60 can receive a meal. Meals served at noon and suggested donation for each meal is \$4. Those wishing to receive a meal are required to call the respective location by noon, a day in advance. The number to call for the Senior Nutrition site at the Jewett Municipal Building, Route 23C, Jewett is 518-263-4392.

Confirmation classes will begin shortly. Classes are available to youth 12 years old and upward. If you know anyone who is interested in being confirmed, please contact Pastor Peggy at 518-589-5787.

Hunter Elementary School Pre-Kindergarten and new Kindergarten registration is Tuesday, March 7 and Wednesday, March 8. Please call the Hunter Elementary School office at 518-589-5400 ext. 2000 to set up a registration appointment. Pre-Kindergarten students must be four years old on or before Dec. 1, 2023 to register. Kindergarten students must be five years old on or before Dec. 1, 2023 to register. Registration packets must be picked up in advance at the Hunter Elementary School, completed before appointment and returned by Friday, Feb. 17.

Thank you to all law enforcement, firefighters, EMS, dispatchers, volunteers, healthcare providers, our military, their families and so many more.

Prayers for all who are dealing with illnesses, healing, loss, difficulties, our country, Ukraine, the world.

Until next week take care, be thankful, be courteous, be respectful and please be kind to one another. Your act of kindness may change someone's life.

LOCAL HISTORY WITH DEDE TERNS-THORPE

The Wiltse Family, Pt. 2

The following is the second part of the remembrance of The Wiltse Family, written by Oscar Wiltse. He is the son of Author Leah Showers Wiltse and the brother of editor Shirley Wiltse Dunn of the historic and locally famous Pioneer Days in the Catskill High Peaks.

Building contractors needed clean sand to mix concrete for building materials. Plenty of clean sand was at Coxackie's beach on the Hudson River. Forklifts or power loaders hadn't been invented, so a load of sand had to be loaded by hand – back-breaking work! Dad used to tell me that one night he loaded the dump truck, filled a couple of extra sandbags, and placed them on the passenger seat of the dump truck (for extra cash later). Going up the hill in Coxsackie, a bag of sand fell and hit the "dump" lever, and all the sand was dumped into the street and had to be reloaded by hand!

Mom never drove or worked outside the home. She had an extensive garden behind our home, and she canned food every fall. We ate well all winter. She walked to the A & P and the Post Office every day, weather permitting, dragging a two-wheeled shopping cart.

We lived inside the village limits, so I didn't ride the school bus. I walked there every day (exactly one mile). I hung out with Jim Garrison. His apartment and Garrison's Garage were between the Post Office and Curran's Tavern. I hung out with Herb and Warren "Butch" Terns. I remember being incredibly envious when Butch graduated from HTC and went to Colorado for two years to "Gunsmith School." (Wow – what a great career – to be a "gunsmith"). We all

owned rifles and shot them regularly.

The Wiltse property on Spring Street owned a 2nd large house next door (later moved across Spring St). For extra income, mom and dad rented out the large house every summer to city folks. A small cottage stood at the rear of the Wiltse property, and for added income, we rented our house and lived there.

About 1951, Al Schultz operated a small trucking business in Haines Falls. Al bought dad's trucks. Dad took a couple of weeks off and then went to work for Tannersville Supply Corp. (owned by George Richard Ham). Dad was a truck driver and laborer until 1978.

As a young teenager, I occasionally went with my father on the Tannersville Supply truck to make deliveries. We drove to Catskill or Albany, returning with materials to fill the Tannersville Supply sheds. Forklifts and loaders were still unavailable, so loading was done by hand, one piece at a time. Often dad and I traveled to the Iroquois Lumber and Millwork Company in Albany or to Catskill to load lumber, concrete blocks, or bags of cement, one at a time, onto our truck and then unload the cargo back in Tannersville.

I got my first job at age 13 – I went to work for Scotty Robinson as a golf caddy at Onteora. Caddies got paid tips in cash for carrying the golf clubs, so they didn't need "working papers."

At 14, I got my "working papers" and worked as a "soda jerk" for Mollie Smith at Rip's Lookout Point on the mountain road. At 15 and 16, I worked summers for Phillip Honigsbaum's grocery. At age 17 and age 18, I worked for the

A&P Store. Some of my co-workers were Butch Terns and Larry Clinton.

In April of 1960 (still in high school), I joined the New York Army National Guard in Catskill, partly at the urging of Phillip Thorpe and partly because they had a bar, a pool table, an indoor shooting range, and the lights seemed to be on all the time. In late August of 1960, I was shipped to Fort Dix in Jersey for six months of active-duty training.

The Wellington Hotel was at 87 Spring Street, now an empty lot. It stood vacant until about 1972 when it burned. Oscar Wiltse (me) was both the Fire Chief and Incident Commander and found the fire heavily involved. Firefighting operations were hampered because the existing water main on Spring Street was only 4" in diameter and couldn't supply adequate water to fight the fire.

Mutual aid tankers were called in from Haines Falls and Hunter. The fire was extinguished, but portions of the building remained. The next day was spent on-site with an insurance adjuster. Wellington's owner lived close, and she gave me a tongue lashing, saying, "Just let it burn!"

Most people remember Oscar's involvement and commitment to the local emergency services throughout the Town of Hunter; fire, rescue, and ambulance. Thank you, Oscar, for your service. The Mountain Top continues to offer the best possible emergency services throughout our town.

Thank you so much for taking the time to share what it was like growing up in Tannersville in the 1950s & 1960s. Hopefully, others will share their thoughts.

The Mountain Top Arboretum Seeks a New Executive Director

Big changes are afoot at Mountain Top Arboretum!

Following the completion of our ambitious new Strategic Plan, the Mountain Top Arboretum is After 5+ productive years as Executive Director, Marc Wolf has decided to return fully to his passion for the plants, gardens and natural areas of our beautiful Arboretum as Director of Horticulture and Environmental Stewardship. During Marc's tenure we completed the building

of our iconic Education Center, we expanded our programming for all ages, we continued the curation of our exquisite landscape, increased membership and visitors, and developed our visionary new plan. We are so grateful for all he has done to advance the Arboretum as an organization in this leadership role, and we are delighted that he will remain with us to focus his impressive horticultural knowledge and talents on our extraordinary landscape.

In order to make this internal change, Mountain Top Arboretum is now undertaking a search for a new Executive Director. This is a unique Catskills opportunity for just the right person who can partner with the Arboretum Board of Directors to carry on the fundraising, strategy, programming,

administration and operations of the Arboretum. We are thrilled that Marc will continue in the Executive Director role while we search for his successor. Please help us find our next leader by reviewing the position announcement, which describes in detail the experience, skills and qualities we are seeking in our next Executive Director, and let us know if you have any potential names to suggest or individuals to nominate. And we encourage you to share this posting with your personal and professional networks. Who knows? The next Executive Director of the Mountain Top Arboretum may be someone you already know.

Visit our website mtarboretum.org to read further about these exciting changes at the Arboretum.



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The Prattsville Scoop

By Abby and Gabby

PRATTSVILLE – Happy Valentine’s Day. Make sure you give your loved one a remembrance of how much they mean to you. Our veterans in the nursing homes in Greene and Columbia counties are being remembered with Valentines from grateful family members, friends, and members of organizations. Thank you to Michele Deyo and her staff for making sure that the Valentines dropped off at the Greene County Veterans Service Agency will be delivered to the Veterans at the proper health establishments.

Did you enjoy the two days of winter? That’s enough winter for this season. But the end of February always seems ready to throw us a curve. Take care and stay warm. Now is the time to snuggle in for some reading or binge watching those TV series you missed.

Heard from Sue of the Daily Mail that she knows what chilblains are and not too thrilled with them and their accompanying symptoms.

Hope you are reading this in time to attend the Chicken BBQ by Brooks at the Lexington UMC, Friday, February 10. They sell out quickly so try to be there early rather than late.

Had a chance to talk with Theresa Gier of Grand Gorge. She is recovering nicely from her latest stay in the hospital to have some surgery done. She says she is making progress on regaining her health and looks forward to making sure her husband Ed does as she tells him. Good health Theresa and Ed. Get well wishes go out to Lorraine Brainerd Robinson. Lorraine needs some good wishes so send them to her at 1191 Robinson Road, Gilboa, NY 12076. Also in need of speedy recovery wishes is Jodi Piskothy Gurley. As a member of our healthcare community, she is in much need. Feel better.

It was Fathers’ Day for Chris Tompkins and Greg Cross to chaperone their daughters, Anna and Kaitlyn, to a Greene County American Legion Auxiliary meeting on Sunday, February 5, in Greenville. Anna was the seasoned participant for the Empire Girls State program, having attended the convention last year in Brockport as a delegate for our local Greene County American Legion, Virgil E. Deyo Unit 1327, Prattsville, of which she is a long standing member. Kaitlyn was interviewed for her attendance at the 2023 Empire Girls State in Brockport in July

2023. Anna and Sylvia, another Greene County Girls State Delegate from 2022, gave the 2023 candidates an overall view of what to look forward to at the convention. It is definitely a learning experience and we thank them for participating. Cathy Martino, Marianne Krauss and Ginny Gurley attended the meeting as part of the selection committee.

Rob Gurley chauffeured his grandparents, Bob and Ginny, to the Albany VAMC on Monday for Bob’s doctor’s appointment. The older you get the farther away the appointments are or is that just another sign of old age.

Benny and Sandy Benjamin continue to play the part of doting grandparents, facing all kinds of weather to attend their granddaughters’ sports activities. Payton and Evangeline Benjamin, daughters of Dean and Amy Flores Benjamin, are involved in any number of sports and extracurricular activities so Benny and Sandy are out in the evenings. Amy’s sister Lori-Beth is married to Kipp O’Hara so connections to our area are ongoing.

Shelly and Elliott Brainerd braved the subzero weather on Friday to get some personal errands accomplished. It is with a sense of satisfaction that once these chores are completed, you can sit snugly in that warm easy chair and watch the wind blow the snow around and have no more trips for a number of days. Heard from a family member in Missouri near St. Louis that they had 57 degrees on Sunday. But at the beginning of that week, they had to work from home because of the icy road conditions.

Jane and Joe Concato enjoyed a Sunday breakfast in Saugerties after Church.

Pat and Schuyler Minev had a house full recently. Pat’s nephew dropped off his 3 children to await the arrival of their grandmother, Pat’s sister from Maine. The whole family group spent a number of days together at Pat and Schuyler’s before the whole gang left for Maine. As with all family gatherings, it takes a lot of energy but the rewards are worth it. Glad that you got to spend those days together.

Happy Birthday to Mary Cline on February 12 – not sure how old she is but she must be very old. On February 13 it is Happy Birthday to Marly, the great granddaughter of Donnie and Connie Lane. Happy Birthday to Stephanie Baker on February 14 – an well chosen day for Stephanie’s birth.

By Lula Anderson

I feel that I have been playing a board game and have been stuck going in circles. But, this week I finally got the Get Out Of Jail Card. On Wednesday I went on my long anticipated shopping trip to Kingston. We had no time restraints, so we were able to peruse at our leisure. Unfortunately, my body didn’t hold out as long as it used to, so we didn’t go to ALL of the stores that we had in mind. I did get to go to my favorites. Like Judy says, now we have more time to go out, so we can go next month again if we care to. It brings to mind when I used to shop for the family at the PX, but now we didn’t have to cram the stuff in the car. We did get the majority of our shopping done at the first store, so we didn’t have to worry about what we missed. We did go to the Chinese Buffet. I wish I could eat more. Such a selection, and my stomach said enough. Well, there was room for ice cream and a macaron.

On Sunday, Delores D picked me up, again, and we went to see 80 For Brady at the theater. Another enjoyable movie. I stopped and got a meatball sub for supper, so I was good to go. Speaking of movies, the Jewett Church is sponsoring LEFT BEHIND showings are Friday 2/10 at 7:30 PM, Saturday 2/11 and Sunday 2/12 at 1:30, 4:30

Ashland Speaks

and 7:30. Tickets are \$11 for adults, \$9 kids and \$9.50 Seniors, The church is offering a free small popcorn and soda with each purchased ticket.

With the ridged weather on Friday and Saturday, not too many people ventured forth, so there isn’t much to talk about. At least we were prepared. I was worried about my sons’ water freezing, and forgot to open my closet, so my water froze, but a hair dryer took care of that in due course. Thankfully no burst pipes.

On Sunday, February 12, the Masonic Lodge will be holding its annual Valentine Dinner for all members and the members of the OES. Dining starts at 2 with hors’d’erves with a choice of Broiled Filet of Fish or Pork Loin. \$20/person. Call Jeff (518-414-2696) or Wade (518-207-59540) to reserve.

On Monday, February 13, WAJPL Golden Age Club will be making Valentine’s Candy at their meeting hall Town Hall Hensonville, starting at 1PM. Come see what fun being a senior citizen can be. We have several openings for our trip to Williamsburg September 11 – 15. For information on trips, call MaryLouise (518-622-3397). We’re making plans for our Summer Craft Classes. There’s always something happening with us!

AS I REMEMBER IT

When my water pipes froze, I got thinking of the time many years ago when the temperature stayed below 0 for many, many days and the Town of Windham’s public water supply froze up. All of the pipes going through Main Street were frozen solid. Bill and Dutch Laux of Stamford had a small construction business with a machine that heated the pipes. They started at Lower Main Street, Rappleyea and Case houses (think Windham Liquor and the Fire House), and continued up Main to the Woolley and Smith houses. (towards the UMC). By the time they got to Smith’s, the pipes at Rappleyea’s were already frozen again. A slow, steady process.

At the time, the town water supply was over by Vining Road and Mitchell Hollow Road, I’m not exactly sure where, but there were always complaints about a cow or other animals in the water. Later a well was drilled to have more, cleaner, water.

Many septic systems froze during that time. A story was told about a trailer in Jewett that froze up, so the neighbors came to assist. As was normal, a big metal barrel was put on the collection tank, and a big fire was

made to heat up the waste in the pipes, and thus the ice would melt. After a couple of hours the men looked and laughed. The whole trailer was pouring out steam like a sap house. So much for insulation.

Judy remembers having to move her bed into the middle of the bedroom, away from the walls and windows, as the wind was blowing so hard that Rose was afraid that the trees outside would break and go through the window. Drapes, blankets and whatever handy were festooned across windows and walls to keep the drafts out and the heat in. I still close drapes and cover doorways during windstorms to keep the heat in, although we have much better insulation. Old habits die hard.

We always had good neighbors to check up on us. If you were outside trying to start your car, someone would be by to help you, or to give you a ride to work.

Thank God this year’s Artic Blast only lasted the two days. I’m getting too old to cope with it. But, I did get to sit in my comfy chair, wrapped in a blanket, sipping hot tea, and not worried about getting stuff done, because I had a great excuse! BRRRR!!



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LEGISLATURE STUFF A Good One

By Michael Ryan
CATSKILL - Legacies are often formed from unforeseeable exigency which is true for Kimberly Kaplan who was given a respectful, rousing sendoff by Greene County Legislature members during a recent meeting.

Kaplan has been the director of Public Health since 2017, officially retiring on February 12 after helping guide the county through the darkest hours and unknown perils of the pandemic.

Laura Churchill had stood side-by-side with Kaplan and was introduced as her successor, bringing inestimable experience to the task.

Covid's cruel realities caused 50 percent of the Public Health workforce in counties statewide to quit or be let go. Greene County stood its ground.

"Thank you Kim Kaplan. You had an amazing staff behind you but you were the lead and you did an incredible job," said legislative Health Services committee chairwoman Patty Handel, prompting a standing ovation.

Doing what she has always professionally done, Kaplan turned the focus elsewhere. "When I think back to the beginning [of Covid-19] it was terrifying, really, really scary," she said.

"The way it evolved, the people involved were incredible," Kaplan said, noting the literally round-the-clock efforts of Public Health workers.

"We thank you, that we were able to do what we were able to do," Kaplan said, recognizing the call-to-action and solidarity of county government.

Kaplan was appointed director after several years as interim director. She is a past recipient of the C. Everett Koop National Health Award.

Handel similarly had gracious words for Kaplan when Public Health,

under Kaplan's captaincy, was collectively chosen as 2021 "Person of the Year" by the Mountain Eagle newspaper.

"They have a piece of my heart," Handel said. "A lot of people might say it's their job so they knew what they were getting into but, no, they didn't. Nobody knew."

"This has been an historic moment for Public Health and our department truly answered the call to service," Kaplan said at that time.

"Our response, born of necessity, was immediate. The need continues to increase exponentially as so many in the community are touched by the impact of the virus; some at great personal cost," Kaplan said.

"Public Health continues to respond by every means possible to protect our community I am impressed every day by their level of dedication, skill and compassion," Kaplan said.

Authentic leadership filters down and Churchill, then the director of clinical services, said, "my fellow Public Health staff are heroes."

"They have had to adapt and take on the new challenges with no end in sight. They have been adaptable and courageous."

"They are not at the bedside but they are at the end of the phone talking to positive cases, assessing whether they need an ambulance, food or just someone to listen," Churchill said.

"After 30 years in nursing I can say for certain this is the biggest medical crisis I've ever faced and my first job in nursing was working with children with HIV and AIDS," said Churchill, who now seamlessly steps in.

In another matter, lawmakers appointed Stephanie Matraw-Johnston of Coxsackie to the Greene County Board of

Ethics for a 3-year term. Matraw-Johnston replaces Susan True on the 3-member board. True was elected to the legislature in 2021, representing District 8 (Cairo).

The major purpose of the Code of Ethics, according to the county website, is, "the establishment of procedures by which any member of the public may come forward and have considered any allegation or claim of wrongdoing in violation of this Code."

Code violations apply to "any elected or appointed officer or employee of the County or of any member of any Board or Commission of the County."

"At the same time it is an equally important major purpose of this Code to protect officers and employees of the County against insubstantial or unfounded allegations of violations arising out of the reasonable performance of their duties," the county website states.

"This Code shall be in addition to all other restrictions, standards and provisions pertaining to the conduct of county officers and employees."

"No more than one member of any political party shall serve on the Board at any time," the website states.

"The Board shall include one member from each of the two political parties ranking first and second in party enrollment among Greene County registered voters at the time of any given appointment."

"No member shall be an elected official, a political party officer, a member of a political party committee or have substantial business interests with the County."

"Members of the Board of Ethics shall not serve more than two full, consecutive three year terms," the website states.

LEGISLATURE STUFF Bigger Than Brinks

By Michael Ryan
CATSKILL - Kira Pospesel, the commissioner of Greene County Social Services, didn't mince words during a special legislature meeting, on Monday night, calling it the "biggest robbery I've ever seen."

Pospesel, well known for telling it like it is, was referring to numbers being juggled in the preliminary State budget that could end up in an additional burden of nearly \$1 million in Medicaid spending for local taxpayers.

Lawmakers have unanimously passed a resolution calling on Albany to instead continue using a program that now channels federal monies through the State to counties, helping cover those Medicaid costs.

While the State fiscal plan isn't due to be signed until April, the Governor's office is proposing to put a plug in that pipeline, keeping the dough for themselves to pay for "further expansions of Medicaid eligibility and benefits and to increase payments to health care providers."

The money ultimately has to come from somewhere so if the State keeps its current budget package in place, the 57 counties and 5 boroughs of New York City will be forced to find the greenbacks elsewhere.

That somewhere would be directly from we mules of taxation to the tune of \$941,928 or roughly 10 percent of current county obligations.

"I'm going to be short that much if this doesn't continue," Pospesel told the lawmakers, softening her language slightly, adding, "this would be the biggest shift in money I've ever seen."

No choice of verbiage will soften the blow to the county, and although there is some speculation Governor Hochul's office is testing the political and pecuniary waters, the county is preparing

for the worst. Legislature chairman Patrick Linger is hopeful the State is forced to come to its senses. "This is bigger than Brinks," Linger says, referencing the infamous 1950 bank job called "the crime of the century," netting the robbers (who were later caught) a pre-2023 inflation \$2.7 million.

But in all seriousness, "this is huge for all of us," Linger says. "This is another unfunded mandate being passed down to counties."

"I'm not sure how this will play out politically. The Governor has put a proposal out that balances her budget but what if she doesn't get it?"

"Maybe this is her shock-and-awe initial proposal so she can come in with something more reasonable," Linger says, ultimately riding in on a fiscal white horse at the eleventh hour.

"No doubt, there will be a strong push against this by the sixty-two counties" [including New York City], Linger says.

"This would be the biggest shift from the State to the counties in twenty-five years," county administrator Shaun Groden says, noting he is fresh from a Zoom computer meeting of the New York State Association of Counties.

"Most of the county managers and executives were on the call. Our first challenge to this was, 'does the State have the legal ability to do this?'" We determined they have the legal ability to sweep the money."

There is time for the State to change course and "the counties are pleading with the Governor not to do this but she has already factored this into her budget," Groden says, meaning the writing is probably on the wall.

Groden is fully expecting to dig deeper into county pockets as soon

as this spring, well aware the county's yearly fiscal cycle and the State's do not jibe, commencing in January and April, respectively.

"Here I am, only thirty-eight days into my fiscal year and I'm already a million dollars upside down," Groden says.

The derailing of the federal funds, based on the present payment system, would result in an outlaying of an extra \$18,000 every seven days.

"We could be taking that hit in a matter of weeks," Groden says, hunkering down not only for the initial whack but ongoing whacks over the long haul.

Having said all that, and further saying, "in terms of its impact to counties, this is the worst State budget in twenty-five years," Groden is confident Greene County will be able to turn the other fiscal cheek.

Sales tax revenue, which has steadily climbed over the 3-year Pandemic Period, continues to be luxuriously high, allowing Groden and his staff to produce budgets with a zero percent increase on the county level.

Groden, following passage of the 2023 county budget, predicted it would be more of the same in 2024, and even with the anticipated Medicaid wrench in the gears says, "I'm still staying with there will be a zero percent tax increase for next year."

The resolution approved by local lawmakers states they, "strongly disagree with the need to cut county funding so deeply when the Governor's budget proposes to fully fund its own reserves two years ahead of schedule."

Local lawmakers implore the State to, "continue to share these federal funds with counties as has been the precedent for over 20 years."

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TRADITIONALLY SPEAKING BY PAT LARSEN FINALLY, Identifying What YOU Love

Spoiler alert..you're going to be left in some thoughtful contemplation as you read this column. Just the concept of this topic put me into a trance of reflection.

So that being said, let's dive in.

We can spend lots of time validating those starting places where we first uncovered our likes, dislikes and ultimately our loves.

But, in truth, the influences of these choices were often based on the decisions made for us over our lifetime. Then, ultimately, because of the true, "practical and frugal" nature of the Baby Boomer generation, we often just accepted things that were part of our material world with little more thought than a shrug and a smile as we always did before.

I'll give you some examples...let's start with our clothing style.

When I was child, my Mom chose my clothing based on her likes and loves. I recall perusing old photos inquiring of my Mom as to why I was always dressed in the color GREEN. To this day, I actually never choose green when I'm in charge of making a purchasing decision. I'm a pretty classic dresser with a focus on simple style and mostly that all american look like you'd see among the pages of the LL Bean catalog. Full disclosure...on weekdays it's fitness wear & sneakers followed by pajamas in the winter season. BUT,



when I go out , my personal style is as I suggested above. WHY? Because as an adult, I finally identified what style I really love to wear and how I want to look.

That revelation was somewhat startling and required me to clear out my closet of the years of gently used, perfectly useful clothing that was NOT of my choosing but would come under the category of being a "sin" to donate or throw out. Are you beginning to understand the direction I'm taking with this topic? Subtle, yet pretty revealing when you take some time to think about it.

Next up, take a moment to think about your "taste" in food (another brilliant metaphor) that was most likely influenced as a child by what was served up by Grandma or whoever cooked in the house and the ethnic style that influenced these meals. You probably still LOVE most of that food to this day.

However,now as an adult, you may have explored some new cuisines and fell in love, like me, with a new food that you

never knew existed as a kid... like sushi for example.

OK, maybe that was a bad example for you..but the point is that you made that subtle shift to identifying foods that you might love now by trial and error perhaps or by taking that leap of faith that you wouldn't be expected to clean your plate if this choice went bad.

After decades of letting others influence us for various reasons, the news media, magazines, our parents, friends, work mates etc...I'm asking you now to take the time as a grown up to rethink the concept of being able to identify what you actually LOVE.

Here's a fun exercise with a focus on something that takes just a little effort. Plan an excursion to go "browsing" somewhere you've been meaning to shop at and just simply identify what it is you actually LOVE. Focus your thoughts on just yourself! No cheating here, not the kids, not your friend's birthday coming up...just you. You'll know what you love the instant you see it because no one else will come to mind . What a lovely gift of true personal accomplishment this could be. There's no need to break the bank. Or even to make a purchase on this day. Just browse. JUST have fun. When the clerk asks you if you need some help, just think to yourself or share for that matter..."I'm trying to finally figure out, (if money

were no object, and you had totally lost your mind and dumped the contents of your home or closet on the sidewalk) what it is I'd choose just for just myself."

Try this perhaps, when going out to have a bite to eat also by ordering a new item from the appetizer section. Allow yourself to be surprised and delighted. Maybe just maybe, you'll have a change of heart and open up to new possibilities. Don't like what you selected..no harm done. You're in a brand new mode of personal choices for yourself like never before.

Go through your closet with a much more critical eye and see if you can begin to narrow down your personal style and make a plan to eliminate items that just don't make that "LOVE" list over time.

NOW here's the interesting part two of this concept...imagine how significant this idea is for you and then you'll begin to realize that when you offer your gently used old stuff to your kids or a friend, they often respond with a kind but clear, "no, thank you". But it's a perfectly good

blazer or practically new pocket book you insist... but no matter, there are no "takers". You might even recall a holiday purchase that you made as a gift for someone that you never saw worn or used and you now realize that you might've been fostering your own style on them.

We resigned to a defeat of sorts but here's what we didn't actually recognize...it's ok to just say "no, thank you." Even for us. The reason behind this is that we were taught to accept rather than decline. BUT now these "up and coming generations" have already started identifying their "loves" and our stuff, regardless of how good a condition the toaster oven is or that old red wool sweater looks, they aren't interested. Mercy me! The rejection is palpable sometimes. You know exactly what I'm talking about.

The same goes for that old charm bracelet from First Holy Communion days, even if it's 14 karat gold.

So many Baby Boomers are heartbroken when their jewelry is rejected...but just remember it's about reaching

that point as an adult where you identify what you love and our old stuff didn't make "their" list in many cases.

So make this the year to ask yourself the question as the grown up that you are now...what is it that "YOU" truly love. Trust the answers that come and celebrate that you are finally counting your desires first and foremost among the decisions you make. It's going to leave you feeling very good, trust me on this.

While enjoying that feeling, it'll be easier to accept that everyone deserves that choice as well.

Pat Larsen is a licensed dance fitness instructor who specializes in Baby Boomer and Senior health and wellness through weekly classes at THE SHAMROCK HOUSE in EAST DURHAM, mornings.

Programs for Seniors are scheduled and posted on Face Book.

Among Pat's other attributes are a degree in clinical hypnotherapy.

One on One private sessions available by appointment. Contact Pat @ pelarsen5@aol.com or by phone 518-275-8686.



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SGT. JAMES F. CARTY, D.S.C.

VFW POST 1545 – WINDHAM, NY WEEKLY UPDATE

We've just started February and spring is around the corner. I'm not sure how quickly the weather will turn although warmer weather is closer and closer. I don't know about you, but I can't wait for warmer weather.

President's Weekend is the next big weekend for the mountaintop with skiers enjoying the slopes.

Our post is preparing for Memorial Day by getting the flags for the cemeteries and preparing our honoring ritual at the graves of our fallen.

This ritual honors all who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our nation along with all veterans who have passed away. It is a very somber ceremony.

I had a meeting this past week with the Rotary Club of Windham and both organizations will be removing the old flags and putting new flags on the graves of veterans as part of our Joint Community Service Program.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is proud to celebrate our nation's

African American service members, veterans and their families throughout the month of February, National Black History Month.

The VFW salutes all African American service members, veterans, comrades, and their families for their indelible contributions to our freedom and our way of life.

VA Infrastructure Bill Introduced: Sen. Jon Tester (MT-D) has introduced VFW-supported S. 42, BUILD for Veterans Act of 2023.

This legislation would streamline efforts to reduce the infrastructure backlog and improve the overall management of the capital asset programs of VA [Veterans Administration].

"The BUILD for Veterans Act will require VA to develop and implement plans to remedy this infrastructure problem that has plagued VA for years," said VFW National Legislative Director Pat Murray.

The bill is cosponsored by Senators Patty Murray (D-WA), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), and Mark Warn-

er (D-VA).

The VA hospital in Albany, NY, has been improving their infrastructure the past few years which helps veterans of our area get better health care.

This is another bill the VFW has worked hard to have introduced. Our legislative committee works very hard to have veteran bills brought to the attention to our legislators in Washington, DC.

As always, our post is always holding breakfasts and dinners as fund raisers. We will announce a pasta dinner coming soon and a breakfast in the very near future.

As usual, I try to highlight a member of our post. This week the member I want to highlight is James Varelas. Jim is a Korean War veteran who served in the US Navy.

Jim has held officer positions in our Post over the years and was our Chaplain for many years. We salute his service to our country and our post.

Marc Farmilette, PDC – Quartermaster Post 1545.

Dynasty, from C1

Schneider says, "I was asked to run by a group of citizens, not just Democrats or Republicans.

"After meeting with them and talking with them, we felt it was important to try and find a consensus candidate, not only for mayor but for the trustee candidates too," Schneider says.

Democrats and Republicans chose incumbent trustee David Cashman and newbie Dylan Legg to represent their respective tickets.

"When I decided to run, it was nothing personal [toward the current mayor], Schneider says. "I got a sense the village wanted change.

"I give Lee a lot of credit for what he's done. He has done a lot of very good things for the village. It is not an easy job.

"There is a lot of new blood up here," Schneider says. "They want to see change. I am the right person to continue Lee's legacy."

Knowing that McGunnigle was out shaking hands and kissing babies, Schneider said, "if he wants to run, I welcome

it. It's the democratic process.

"People aren't happy with him. I'm not interested in what the past has been. People can complain about it. I'm interested in positively moving forward."

Schneider says he spoke to Democratic Party chairwoman Carolyn Riggs and GOP chair Gina Guarino prior to the caucuses "so they could get to know me, emphasizing "neither one of them is who nominated me."

An oldtimer familiar with Tannersville politics shared the opinion that the two Parties did not collude to arrive at the same slate.

On the other hand, "it is a small town," the oldtimer said, meaning a core group of folks can easily end up calling the shots, particularly when it comes to caucuses, traditionally poorly attended.

Democratic Party leader Riggs steered gently away from the McGunnigle scenario, saying, "both Lee and David came to me saying they wanted to run. I told them to have a conversation

before the caucus.

"I believe they did speak," and as for the caucus mirror reflections, Riggs said, "any candidate is expected to bring supporters.

"I can't speak to their strategies about getting people there. It was quite an exciting night. It was great to see so many people there," Riggs said.

GOP boss Guarino was also tickled pink by the relatively huge turnout at her caucus, saying, "sometimes we only get six or eight people."

Asked about the door shown to McGunnigle, Guarino, noting she was once the mayor, said, "the longer you are doing something, the more people will criticize. Fifteen years is a good run for Lee.

"Both parties let him know the village is ready for a change. That doesn't mean we don't feel grateful for what he's done. Everybody thanks him.

"There have been good things he's done," Guarino said. "People also think maybe he's not done so many good things. Every dynasty ends."

MESSAGE OF HOPE BY SISTER CHIRYA

Love for God

Today with climate concerns rising, experts are calling for countries to ditch coal as soon as possible and embrace wind and solar power. Additionally, due to concerns now rising about the continuing decline in morals and mental and emotional health, human beings need to embrace spiritual energy, 'Soular Power', to recharge their flat spiritual batteries. The pure bright light of the soul faded, flickering like a fluorescent tube light which finally dies. Souls, however, never die, but over time lose spiritual energy of peace and pu-

rity when their connection is broken with God, the Master Generator. Originally having a nature of peace, joy, love, bliss, purity, power and wisdom, the internal spiritual energy of the soul became polluted with body consciousness. What we see externally in the physical world became our support and identity. We even reached the stage of killing our conscience, as appears to be happening at this time.

Many human souls have come to awaken our original power and spirituality, but only one soul, free from the cycle of

birth and rebirth, has this part. A famous verse in the Bhagwat Gita scripture God explains, "Whenever there is decay of righteousness, and there is exaltation of unrighteousness, then I Myself come forth; for the protection of the good, for the destruction of evil-doers." Celebrated this year on February 18, 2023, the annual Festival of Shiv Jayanti is the memory of the 'birth' (jayanti) arrival of God. Also called Shivratri, it is celebrated on the darkest night-(ratri) of the year at midnight. It is a reminder of how the

darkness of ignorance of mankind is removed when Godly knowledge brings the dawn and enlightens the world!

Being the highest of all souls, God is the Supreme Father-Mother, Teacher and Guide to all human beings. He himself has no father-mother or teacher. He is incorporeal, free from birth and death, immune to pleasure and pain, unlike human beings. God is a subtle, infinitesimal point of Light, a thinking being, not visible to the naked eye, but possible to experience His presence and proximity. Within meditation deeply understand and feel God's lov-

ing presence. Transform the self by connecting with Him, instead of questioning His existence. We get so busy thinking how to solve situations and forget the Supreme Being, who can be called by the power of thought and whose help can be taken.

Shivratri Festival celebrates the memory of spiritual rejuvenation making the old new again. As the world becomes dark with growing corruption, sorrow and strife, God's Light of knowledge, 'Soular Power', ignites the spiritual lights of others. It empowers, transforms and restores our original state

of well-being to live in harmony with mankind and nature once more. Transforming the world is the natural outcome of transforming ourselves. A better world requires human beings to be aware of their inner beauty; to use their positive qualities and to see the good within each soul. The world is waiting for us. We are the hands on the clock of world transformation.

A beautiful and inspiring Song for Shiv Jayanti: "One God. One Father loving us each the same" https://youtu.be/Vg_sr_7uEa4

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Broadway Comes to Tannersville!

Broadway and local performers team up to create From Broadway With Love. A live concert featuring Broadway tunes and heart-breaking love songs from your favorite shows.

TANNERSVILLE (February 3, 2023) – "From Broadway With Love" brings Broadway and local performers to the romantic landscape of the Catskill Mountains for this one of a kind experience. From your favorite Broadway tunes to heart-breaking love songs,

join us for an unforgettable evening of cocktails, bites, and music that will make you fall in love.

The concert features TONY Award Nominee Caitlin Kinnunen (Broadway's The Prom), De'Lon Grant (Broadway's Come From Away) Michael Seltzer (Broadway's West Side Story), LaDawn Taylor (NCL's Summer: The Donna Summer Musical) as well as local artists Hedda Flynn (MATH's Into the Woods) and CJ Dunn-Cappellino (MATH's The Rocky Horror Show). The concert will be hosted by Broadway From Home's Harley Harrison Yanoff and Monica Rodrigues in production with Maude Adams Theater Hub & the Catskill Mountain Foundation

"We are so excited to bring this special concert to the Catskills." Harley, co-founder of Broadway from Home, explains, "With arts and entertainment being such an integral part of the culture, there's not a more magical place to present a Broadway style concert than right here. I fell in love with the area's beautiful scenery, rich history, and tight knit community and it's such a treat to be able to celebrate

love in a place like this."

"From Broadway, With Love" is the first live concert by New York City-based organization Broadway from Home. The concert takes place on February 24th and 25th at the Orpheum Performing Arts Center in Tannersville, NY.

Broadway from Home was founded by Harley Harrison Yanoff, Tess Primack, and Monica Rodrigues in response to COVID-19's impact on schools and theater as a memorable and fun way for Broadway performers to share their talents virtually with families from all over the world.

> Broadway From Home, Maude Adams Theater Hub & Catskill Mountain Foundation present From Broadway With Love. Performances are on February 24th and 25th at the Orpheum Performing Arts Center, 6050 Main Street, Tannersville, NY 12485. Cocktails and light bites begin at 7:00pm with the concert starting at 7:30pm. Ticket prices range from \$10-\$40. For tickets visit:

<https://www.catskillmtn.org/events/performances/2023-02-24-from-broadway-with-love-1182.htm>

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WAJ Wins in Squeaker

Photos by Robert Brune

Stamford/Jefferson trailed Windham Ashland Jewett (WAJ) but fought back to keep the game within a few points each quarter. It was a battle between Amanda Nilsen #1 of WAJ who was explosive on the counterattack scoring 17 points and McKenna Hoyt of Stamford/Jefferson who had a dominant presence at both ends of the court defending and scoring most on her team with 22 points.

With 5:01 remaining in this matchup, Stamford/Jefferson finally caught up to tie the game 38 - 38 in this very tight matchup, but WAJ hold out by winning 56-55.



Amanda Nilsen, #1, scored 17pts



Emma Drum #32 scored 8pts

Person of the Year, Continued



McKenna Hoyt #24 scored 22pts



Stamford Ties after trailing the whole game



McKenna Hoyt #24, scores a Free Throw, and scored 22pts overall

well-lighted studios for studying painting and drawing.

More restorations are planned for the present and near future at the Sugar Maples and the Orpheum Theater and meanwhile there is the Summer Enrichment Performing Arts Program for children within the Hunter-Tannersville school district.

And there is the National Dance Institute Two-Week Residency every July, featuring artists and instructors such as Twyla Tharp and the Paul Taylor Dance Company, culling talent from an international field.

That international field takes in the nearby town of Lexington, the childhood home of Justin Valentine who, through the dance programs, has risen from rural roots, far removed from pulse beat of classic ballet training, to earn a scholarship at legendary Vaganova Academy in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Understandably enough, after giving life blood to all that, Peter and Sarah have decided to call it a day. Ride off into the sunset. Lower the curtain.

Not really. Not even close actually. While the Finns say it was impossible to imagine what has unfolded over the last 25 years, they also say, "we are looking forward with curiosity and excitement to what is yet to happen."

As is sometimes true with dreams, the CMF and its philanthropic works serendipitously began before the beginning.

"My great grandparents bought property in Hunter in 1900," Peter said in a recent interview. "Sarah and I now live in the house they bought."

"They had twelve kids and came to the mountains in the summer. Back then, you could take a train from New York City to the village of Hunter.

"My great-grandmother would spend the summer here with the children. My father did the same thing with his siblings. That changed over the generations but I came to love the mountains," Peter said.

Sarah and Peter met in her freshman year in college. "He brought me to his special place in the mountains," she says.

"When I was young, I'd spent summers in Vermont with my family, hiking. I love the mountains so I felt right at home here," Sarah says.

Sarah majored in French, not sure where it would take her, ending up doing computer science. Peter chose English Literature, planning to teach.

So much for that plan. Peter's father was part of Rudder and Finn, a public relations firm that had an opening in the research department.

Peter got the job and over the ensuing years moved up, ultimately owning the company with three sisters before they agreed "to do our own thing," says Peter, forming a new public relations niche, Finn Partners.

Sarah, meantime, got in on the computer world ground floor with Merrill Lynch and J.P Morgan, laying the groundwork for what became a CMF partnership neither she nor he could have possibly envisioned.

Spending weekends with their two kids at the Hunter homestead, Peter says, "we weren't happy with what was going on in the village of Tannersville and the village of Hunter.

"It was not a great time for either village. There were some buildings collapsing. We love movies and had heard stories about how other communities turned themselves around with the arts."

Bing. Bang. Boom. Everything fell into place without

any glitches, finding all the needed funding growing on trees. Not really. Not even close actually.

"Sometimes I look back on those early years and the decisions we made and think, 'Oh my God,' we had no idea what we were getting into," says Peter, laughing gently.

"I can say without reservation there have been a lot of ups and downs but I am pleased with how things have gone. Sarah and I are the same. We don't give up."

Peter serves as CMF chairman. Sarah is the president, saying, "Peter has always been the vision guy. He sees the big picture. I tended to do better on execution."

"One thing we have done with the Catskill Mountain Foundation is create a place where we welcome different artistic ideas. We have a new initiation with the Maude Adams Theater Hub.

"I am so pleased that we are providing an opportunity to take advantage of the huge amount of energy in our community and so grateful for all the artists and donors who work with us."

"We have made sure there is funding for the Foundation, long term," Sarah says. "There is already a board of directors and there will be funding and staffing. We are committed to working through the next generation."

"The town of Hunter has gone through periods of great change," Peter says. "In the 1850's, this was a main destination. Then there was a downward spiral with the coming of airplanes and cars."

"My great grandparents wouldn't recognize the town, with all the changes. I believe they would be proud of the changes we have been able to make in the community, with a lot of help from a lot of people."



"We never could've imagined what it's become," says Catskill Mountain Foundation co-founders Sarah and Peter Finn who met around the same time this tender 1973 portrait was taken (Photo by Todd Webb).

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THE TAPESTRY BY DR. DEBORAH HERODES

Ch, Ch, Ch, Changes in Public Education Children, as Ambassadors to the World

Having been a teacher for decades, I saw shifts in education continually and the push-back from both teachers and parents, when changes started to occur. Changing is not something we are good at, as we get comfortable in our own lesson plans for life. Some of us still speak of one-room schoolhouses and wish for their return. Educating children was simple then; only the ones who weren't needed to run homes and farms were attending, children were getting exercise and endurance in their walks to school (especially in the Winter,) headmasters were all men and the majority of teachers were female, so no-one ever had to guess who was in charge, reading lists consisted of what was available through churches and benevolent people of the community; writing was done on individual chalkboards, recess afforded those with anxious spirits, a place to work out the "undesirable" parts of their personalities, sporting teams consisted of kickball games, on the school playground, discipline was a ruler across the knuckles or backside, and often the embarrassment of wearing a dunce cap or having one's name nailed on the front door of the school, so all children and adults could see who was misbehaving for the day.

Good times at Ridgemont High were a long way away, as children were in the proper places: church, home and the fields. Children's unwanted voices in the home and at school were silenced by stiff punishments, in both places, dress codes consisted of the few clothes children had in their closets, and lunch, at least at school, was found in a paper bag, if there was extra food, in the home, to send with your child. Wars interrupted the learning process, at least for the boys, as the draft made sure that all eligible young men were properly called for service to our country.

Surprisingly, it was because of wars, that many young men were exposed to different races of people. The drudgery of school was behind them and survival, no matter one's race, was front and center. Friendships were formed. Lifetime opinions of what had been taught were changed, and on the horizon was a more humane way of living and getting along with others. Young began to protest war and speak up against the government. These voices were listened to, because it was the young, who staffed the war(s) (no matter which one,) and with so many fleeing the country to escape the killing fields, things had to change. Enter, the elimination of the draft.

Society was changing and more and more changes were coming. Integration and larger schools replaced the segregation that so many clung to because of fear of change. Fighting broke out to keep things segregated, as busing became the norm for school transportation. Hot lunches were now being served at school and interscholastic sports now became a huge part of the education program. Music, although always important in the churches, now became a part of the school curriculum, and a serious look at Special Education, where all children, despite their disabilities, were housed in one classroom. Finally freed from this "one suits all" curriculum, into an equal education with their peers, chil-

dren with disabilities began to soar educationally and even graduate as Valedictorians of their high school. Textbooks were now being paid for by taxing the community, and these books delved into America's past, both good and bad, and curious minds (the kids,) were questioning.

Along with the recognition of children's voices, against war, came the importation of dangerous drugs to our society from faraway lands. Additionally, more and more women were in the workforce, which was a two-edged sword. Women were finally being recognized for their brains and ability to do the same job(s) as men, but no-one was home, excepting perhaps grandparents, to mind the store. Day-care centers were necessary and the socialization of children, with others outside of their families, exposed children to the real world of differentness in gender, race, speech and culture, at a very young age. Fortunately, at these tender ages, children were learning that people were people and prejudice was something that belonged to their parents' generation.

A look at discipline was looked at in the school system and counseling was a preferred route from the paddling and "posted failing lists" of the past. Children were becoming a primary part of society; they mattered, they were speaking up and they had significant needs. Homework was a topic of concern in schools, as well, because family time was dwindling, due to so much homework. Not so surprisingly, children could be depressed and suffer from anxiety, just like their parents, and more family time was likely a positive influence on flailing kids.

While drugs were swallowing up our kids, both in and out of school, more significance was placed on the homelives of the children and the habits of parents. Students against Drunk Driving, Drug Awareness Seminars and Suicide Prevention Clinics began to take route, as yet another function of the school system. Technology was now in the picture and access to otherwise "adult material" (and I don't mean pornography,) was now at our children's fingertips.

Courses for children were also evolving, as AP programs were showing up in schools. Gaining college credit, while in high school, was looked upon as a way to get a head start. Health programs in schools were also evolving, from healthy school lunches to actual visiting physicians, who could administer vaccinations et al, during the school day. Three-year-old pre-K and four-year-old pre-K programs were now in place for the ease of parents with employment issues and the "supposed" benefit of early education.

The kids, the kids, the kids, became the answer to all our problems. Giving them more, like traveling sports teams, an equal say about who should be hired to run the school or classroom through participation in employment panels, and in this world of technology, a world of privileges that they may or may not have earned and a license to say and do what they want, when they want with little repercussion, became some of our answers. Somewhere, we forgot, in trying to make our schools a better place, that the inhabitants of a

school are children and they need to be guided, disciplined and loved.

Some of the most challenging things still remain in our elementary schools and carry on into middle school and high school. Bullying still breaks the hearts of our kids and teaches them aggression or extreme shyness. No amount of technology can replace the smile of a friend at school. We, as parents, brush it off and say, "it's all part of growing up," but in the meanwhile, our kids are struggling to fit in, and not always with the right kids or with the right activities. Be aware! There is no harm in letting another parent know that your child is being hurt by his/her little "angel." Parents can't work on fixing the problem if they don't know! Although one may meet with anger from the other parent, it's really okay, because at least the parent has been notified and hopefully, will try to do something about the issue. Just remember, if you are the parent being contacted by another parent, that you must listen and learn about the behaviors of your own child. A school counselor is also available to help your child out.

Sometimes, in the midst of our children's educations, we, too, learn things about our kids and our world that we must explain to our children, without bias or old, prejudicial feelings. Today's changes in the educational process and progress of those who live on this planet involve issues that many parents have taken to the airwaves to discuss. LGBTQ education, along with an honest look at the history of being Black or Brown in America, the necessity of learning Spanish in order to converse with Spanish speaking immigrants, while they are learning English, and the real truth about some once "honored" American heroes, both in textbooks, and as represented in statues, are some of the talking points that parents fear discussing with their children. There is no fear, when the truth is told.

Firstly, our children are part of the world, and like it or not, we are all different. Our differentness is what makes the American experience so difficult and so wonderful. Teaching our children about the differentness in the peoples of the world is all part of an honest education. Some look at the sexual revolution, as mental illness on steroids. If one has never suffered from the denial of one's gender or sexual orientation, then one cannot begin to assume he/she knows much. Please remember how many people with bi-polarity were ignored and laughed at because they were different. People who struggled were told the delusions they suffered were all in their heads (no kidding!) Although bipolarity may still be looked upon as a mental illness, it is looked upon as this, by those who believe that their mental state is "normal." Looking at the world as we wish it was, not as what it is, is short-sighted. Let's face it, some statues are hurtful to people who suffered at the hands of a once, "honored" leader and some statutes are outdated and unfair.

Suffice it to say, that children educated about all the differentness in the world are far better off than we were as children. I believed that Christopher Columbus was a great guy, not a ruth-

less killer. I believed that having a Black President or female President would never happen in this country because neither were up to the challenge (enter Barack Obama and the woman, who is soon to come.) I grew up believing that boys sports programs were more important because girls were allowed "play days" in the afternoon, while the boys had games every Friday night. No-one was at my basketball games, but the boys' games were full of cheering crowds.

I am grateful I continued my education, after high school, where the post-high school, educated world, was privy to other ideas and other standards, and the equality of all people and the way they chose to live their lives became my primary focus. Recognizing

my ways were as different to other people's ways, as their ways were to mine, was a growing period that has continued to flourish.

We all need to recognize the closed-mindedness in ourselves, as schools continue to change. Can we expect more questions from our children? Yes. Can we expect more openness in ourselves? I hope so. Is it up to the schools to teach about the changing world and its people? If not the schools, then who? Many parents will not ever discuss the changing world or worse yet, place their own prejudices on the subjects their children need to understand. Our children are growing up to be the ambassadors of the world, as America tries to continue to lead the way for its principles of freedom. Embrace your

children's questions with understanding. They are growing up in a different world than you did, just as you grew up in an entirely different world than your parents experienced. Knowledge is power and leads to an understanding of the world around us, not just those who are like ourselves.

To all parents, who have swallowed their old truths of submission, silence and supremacy, thank you for giving our children the right to grow up in an informed world, where they are free to accept all people, despite their differentness, and can grow up free to express their often-hidden frustrations. To school systems, trying to lead the way to a more informed student population, hold on; change comes slowly.

THE CATSKILL GEOLOGISTS BY PROFESSORS ROBERT AND JOHANNA TITUS

Pondering Time on the Catskill Front



During a life-long career a geologist will spend many nights camped out and sitting in front of a wood fire. What do we think about during those hours? We got to pondering that when we stopped and took today's photo. It's an image similar to ones that we have published several times. Our readers have always enjoyed them. It's the view taken from Rte. 32 just a little south of Kaaterskill Clove. We got this shot just after a small snowstorm. The snow brought out the structure of those stratified rocks. The white horizons are gentle slopes that came to be blanketed in snow. They are composed of shales which weather into low slopes. The dark horizons are cliffs of sandstone which rise above the white.

That's the Catskill Front or, if you like, the Wall of Manitou up there. You and we are looking at a cross section of the Catskill Delta. Each of those horizontal strata represent a single moment of time when sediment was deposited on that Devonian age delta. That was perhaps about 385 million years ago. We are looking at about 1,500 feet of strata and we estimate that it represents about 2.5 mil-

lion years of time. Off to the east the rising Acadian Mountains of today's northern New England were eroding and producing the delta and all that sediment.

That's a lot of time and there is a lot of history up there. We couldn't help but to ponder all that. Have you ever been atop a great delta? The nearest really big one is in Louisiana. Have you ever visited Louisiana? The entire state sits atop the Mississippi Delta. If you travel around the state then you see a broad flat landscape - everywhere. That's what delta tops look like; they are always flat. They look like they have been there forever and they look like they will be there for another "forever." But when we contemplate that cross section of the Catskill Delta, we see otherwise. Each horizon we see up there took its turn being the delta top. Each moment of time would have once taken its turn looking like that proverbial forever. Pick any of those horizons; there is a forever below it and another forever rising above it. Or so it would have seemed back then.

As we said, those dark horizons are thick sand-

stones. If you climb up and look you will see massive sandstones, often 50 feet thick or even more. Many geologists have reckoned that these deposits record very rainy periods of Devonian time. They argue that rain washed down the Acadian mountain slopes and carried off all that sand in large mountain streams. It was soon deposited on the delta top. Other geologists contend that the thick sands represent episodes of rapid uplift in the Acadians. The mountains rose and erosion cut into them to create all that sand. Those might be called two scientific schools of thought. Scientists debate things like this all the time. Who is right? Perhaps both; there may have been rainy episodes of time along with times of uplift.

The two of us won't take a stand. Instead we stand alongside the highway and look up. We see all those rocks and all of that time. Then we allow ourselves to be just a bit awed - even without a campfire.

Contact the authors at randjtitus@prodigy.net. Join their facebook page "The Catskill Geologist." Read their blogs at thecatskill-geologist.com.

Free Transcription Workshop at DCHA

Understanding Historic Documents - Transcription Workshop at DCHA

Do you have old letters and diaries from your ancestors? Have you ever struggled to read them? Come to the Delaware County Historical Association's Transcription Workshop on Saturday March 11 at 2PM to learn valuable tips and tricks to reading and understanding old-fashioned handwriting.

The museum's resident history educator will offer a presentation on transcribing documents. Attendees will then put their skills to the test reading several historic

letters from the museum's collections. Attendees are also encouraged to bring any materials they have, whether it be an old family diary, journal or a letter, to work together as a group in deciphering the handwriting.

This workshop is free and open to the public.

RSVPs are encouraged but not required, and can be made by calling DCHA at 607-746-3849 or emailing dcha@delhi.net. This workshop will be held at DCHA in Delhi, across from Curtis Lumber. In case of inclement weather, the workshop will be held on Saturday, March 18 at 2PM.

\$25 Digital Subscription

518-763-6854

LEGAL ADVERTISING

Shoveling Notice - Windham

Notice is hereby given that the Windham Fire District #1 of the Town of Windham, State of New York, seeks bids for the shoveling of snow from the walkways and area around and about the Windham Fire House for the 2022-2023 Winter Season. Sealed bids will be opened on Wednesday November 16, 2022, at 6:00 PM at the Windham Town Hall, 371 St Rt 296, Hensonville, NY 12439, in the Town of Windham, State of New York.

Sealed bids can be submitted at the meeting or mailed before November 6, 2022, to Windham Fire District #1 PO Box 91 Hensonville, NY 12439

By order of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Windham Fire District #1.

Budget Hearing - Lexington Fire District

The Town of Lexington Fire Districts budget hearing for the public on November 7th at 6:30 at the Lexington Municipal Building. Copies of the budget can be obtained at the Lexington Town Clerk's office

Snowplow Notice - Windham

Notice is hereby given that the Windham Fire District #1 of the Town of Windham, State of New York, seeks bids for the plowing of snow from the parking areas around and about the Windham Fire House and the Hensonville Fire House for the 2022-2023 Winter Season. Sanding and/or salting will also be required. A Qualified Contractor must be fully insured. Sealed bids will be opened on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 6:00 PM at the Windham Town Hall, 371 St Rt 296, Hensonville, NY 12439, in the Town of Windham, State of New York.

Sealed bids can be submitted at the meeting or mailed before November 7, 2022, to Windham Fire District #1 PO Box 91 Hensonville, NY 12439

By order of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Windham Fire District #1.

LLC Notice

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Christina O'Donnell, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on June 7, 2022. Office Location: Schoharie County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 136 CC Camp Road, Middleburgh, NY 12122. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

LLC Notice

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY; Name of LLC: Pangman Property LLC; Date of filing: 8/3/2022; Office of the LLC: Schoharie Co.; The NY Secretary of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 220 Barnerville Road, Cobleskill, New York 12043; Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

LLC Notice

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LLC; Name of LLC: Catskills Junction LLC; Date of filing: 4/21/2022; Office of the LLC: Schoharie Co.; The NY Secretary of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at DONNA SCHIEFFER-KENNEDY, 151 LAKE ROAD, EAST MERED-

12203. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LLC Notice

Dan Hanchett General Contracting and Stone Masonry, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 04/22/2022. Off. Loc.: Schoharie Co. SSNY design. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Daniel E. Hanchett, 176 Hill Road, Cobleskill, NY 12043. General Purposes.

LLC Notice

166 JAR LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 10/17/22. Office in Albany Co. SSNY designated Agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the Martha Hacklin, 4 Oakwood St, Albany NY 12208. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LLC Notice

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC). Name: SOUNDS GOOD CATSKILLS, LLC.. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on November 18, 2022. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: Sounds Good Catskills, LLC 2838 Murphy Hill Rd Andes NY 13731. Purpose: to engage in any lawful business of every kind and character for which LLCs may be organized under the New York LLC Law, Section 203, or any successor statute.

LLC Notice

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Notice of Formation of Massage By Beth LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/22-07-18. Office location: Greene County. United States Corporation Agents, Inc. designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to United States Corporation Agents, Inc.: 7014 13th Avenue Suite 202 Brooklyn NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

LLC Notice

Notice Of Formation Of Domestic Limited Liability Company; Name Of Lic: Pangman Property LLC; Date of filing: 8/3/2022; Office of the LLC: Schoharie Co.; The NY Secretary of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 220 Barnerville Road, Cobleskill, New York 12043; Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

LLC Notice

NOTICE OF LLC FORMATION NP3LSO LLC. Filed 11/30/2022. County: Schoharie. SSNY design. for process & shall mail 4912 NY-30 Schoharie, NY 12157. Purpose: any lawful.

LLC Notice

NOTICE OF LLC FORMATION TNF Cobleskill, LLC. 1/3/2023. County: Schoharie. SSNY design. for process & shall mail 20 Petra Lane #6, Albany NY 12205. Purpose: any lawful.

LLC Notice

Notice Of Formation Of Domestic Limited Liability Company; Name Of Lic: Catskills Junction LLC; Date of filing: 4/21/2022; Office of the LLC: Schoharie Co.; The NY Secretary of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at DONNA SCHIEFFER-KENNEDY, 151 LAKE ROAD, EAST MERED-

ITH, NY, 13757; Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

LLC Notice

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). Name: Whitegate Family Farm LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/31/2022. Office location: Greene County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC, C/O Daniel Locker, 173 Village Grove, Williston, VT 05495.

LLC Notice

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY; Name of LLC: PANGMAN OUTDOOR POWER LLC; Date of filing: 01/03/2023; Office of the LLC: Schoharie Co.; The NY Secretary of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 220 Barnerville Road, Cobleskill, New York 12043; Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

Public Notice - Summons

SUMMONS WITH NOTICE
Index No.: 2022-414
Hon. James H. Ferreira

JOHN TRIPI and ANGELIQUE SCOTT, Plaintiffs, against LAKE OF SEVEN BIRCHES ASSOCIATION, INC. and JOHN DOE/MARY ROE, said names being fictitious and representing any individual and/or entity, currently unknown to the plaintiffs that claims any ownership interest whatsoever in 1.70 acres of real property located in the Town of Conesville, County of Schoharie, at the eastern end of the Lake of Seven Birches and designated on the Schoharie County Tax Map as lot 195.3-2-31,

To: JOHN DOE/MARY ROE, said names being fictitious and representing any individual and/or entity, currently unknown to the plaintiffs that claims any ownership interest whatsoever in 1.70 acres of real property located in the Town of Conesville, County of Schoharie, at the eastern end of the Lake of Seven Birches and designated on the Schoharie County Tax Map as lot 195.3-2-31.

PLAINTIFFS have commenced an action in the New York Supreme Court in and for the County of Schoharie seeking a declaration that the plaintiffs have acquired title to a portion of real property described as 1.70 acres of real property located in the Town of Conesville, County of Schoharie, at the eastern end of the Lake of Seven Birches and designated

Comments and concerns are welcome in writing or in person at the time of the hearing. The contact information for the Town of Carlisle Planning Board is as follows: Tel: 518-234-7080, Address: Carlisle Town Hall, 541 Crommie Road, Carlisle, NY, Email: carlisledclerk@gmail.com. The contact information for the Town of Seward Planning Board is as follows: Tel: (518) 234-2480, Address: Town of Seward Planning Board, 795 Lowe Road, Suite 1, Cobleskill, NY 12043, Email: sewardtownclerk@gmail.com.

Public Notice of Sale

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to New York State County Law §215(5) and Greene County Resolution No. 12-23, Greene County will sell to the highest bidder a small gravel portion of Tax Map ID No.:

156.78-2-50 consisting of approximately 0.016 acres of land, more or less, and as further described as "Parcel A" on a certain map filed in the Office of the Greene County Clerk on January 4, 2023 in map Drawer EASL-as Instrument No.: 2023-1.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the subject parcel of land is burdened and subject to easement(s) and/or rights-of-way for ingress and egress which run with the land; and

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the subject parcel is encumbered with maintenance and utility easements which run with the land; and

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the subject parcel of land does not conform to the current zoning requirements and is believed to be unbuildable.

The Minimum Bid Which The County Will Accept Shall Not Be Less Than Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars.

No Bid Shall Be Accepted After 5:00 Pm On February 17, 2023.

All Bids Should Be Addressed To:
Greene County Attorney
411 Main Street, Suite 443
Catskill, Ny 12414

Public Notice - Middleburgh

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Middleburgh will be holding a Public Hearing at Regular Board meeting on March 6, 2023 at the Municipal Building at 309 Main Street at 7:15pm for proposed Local Law #1 2023: Enact a Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Section 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law.

Public Notice - Delaware County

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Delaware County Board of Supervisors will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Room of the Senator Charles D. Cook County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi, New York, concerning the eight-year review of Agricultural District No. 6. This hearing shall be held to consider the requests and recommendations of the County Agricultural Farmland Protection Board on the

following modifications to Agricultural District No. 6:
Town of Hancock MODIFICATION and ACREAGE Additions 149
Removed 580
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Removed 8
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PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the subject parcel of land is burdened and subject to easement(s) and/or rights-of-way for ingress and egress which run with the land; and

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the subject parcel is encumbered with maintenance and utility easements which run with the land; and

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the subject parcel of land does not conform to the current zoning requirements and is believed to be unbuildable.

The Minimum Bid Which The County Will Accept Shall Not Be Less Than Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars.

No Bid Shall Be Accepted After 5:00 Pm On February 17, 2023.

All Bids Should Be Addressed To:
Greene County Attorney
411 Main Street, Suite 443
Catskill, Ny 12414

Public Notice - Middleburgh

Notice is hereby given that the Village of Middleburgh will be holding a Public Hearing at Regular Board meeting on March 6, 2023 at the Municipal Building at 309 Main Street at 7:15pm for proposed Local Law #1 2023:

LEGAL ADVERTISING

pursuant to Section 103 of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, that the County of Delaware will accept sealed proposals for the purchase of the following item(s) by the said County of Delaware:

- PROPOSAL NO. 7-23 STONE & GRAVEL PRODUCTS
8-23 G R A V E L PROCESSING

Proposals shall be submitted on bid forms which are available for inspection and obtainable at the office of the County Commissioner of Public Works, Page Avenue, Delhi, New York 13753.

Proposals must be filed with James D. Thomas, Delaware County Commissioner of Public Works, Page Avenue, Delhi, New York, 13753 on or before 11:00 A.M., Prevaling Time, Friday, February 24, 2023, in a sealed envelope plainly marked on outside, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read.

The Delaware County Department of Public Works, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d-2 through 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The successful bidder will be promptly notified and must be prepared to enter into a contract for the purchase and sale of the said item(s) or services in conformity with the information in the proposal.

The County of Delaware reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted.

Public Notice - Bids Wanted

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 103 of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, that the County of Delaware will accept sealed proposals for the purchase of the following item(s) by the said County of Delaware:

- PROPOSALS NO: 9-23 Transit Mix Concrete 19-23 Bridge Deck Membrane

11-23 Used Steel Pipe & New Steel Pipe End Sections

20-23 Steel Sign Posts

- 12-23 Interlocking Steel Sheet Piling
21-23 Lubricating Oils
16-23 Gabions
23-23 Portland Cement
17-23 Pressure Treated Timbers
24-23 LP Gas, Storage Tanks & Piping
18-23 Plain Elastomeric Bridge Bearing Material

26-23 Elastomeric Concrete

Proposals shall be submitted on bid forms which are available for inspection and obtainable at the office of the County Commissioner of Public Works, Page Avenue, Delhi, New York 13753. Forms can also be obtained electronically by e-mailing a request to lisa.henderson@co.delaware.ny.us.

Proposals must be filed with James D. Thomas, Delaware County Commissioner of Public Works, Page Avenue, Delhi, New York, 13753 on or before 1:00 P.M., Prevaling Time, Wednesday, February 22, 2023, in a sealed envelope plainly marked on outside, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read.

The Delaware County Department of Public Works, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d-2 through 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The successful bidder will be promptly notified and must be prepared to enter into a contract for the purchase and/or sale of the said item(s) or services in conformity with the information in the proposal.

The County of Delaware reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted.

Public Notice - Schoharie County

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Schoharie County Board of Supervisors will be holding public hearings on the following local laws:

- Local Law #1-2023 titled: Amending Local Law No. 2 of 2009 Which Imposed Tax on the Occupancy of Lodging Facilities Pursuant to Chapter 101 of the Laws of 2009 of the State of New York

Local Law #2-2023 titled: To Implement Real Property Tax Law Section 466-A Tax Exemption for Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Workers

Local Law #3-2023 titled: Increasing The Salaries During Fiscal Year 2023 For Certain County Officers Who Are Elected Or Appointed For A Fixed Term

The public hearings will be held at the Board of Supervisor's meeting on February 17, 2023 at 9:00 am at 284 Main Street, 3rd Floor Schoharie County Office Building, Board of Supervisors Chambers, Schoharie, New York 12157

Public Notice - Proposals Wanted

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 103 of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, that the County of Delaware will accept sealed proposals for the purchase of the following items by the said County of Delaware:

- PROPOSAL NO. 5-23 Supply of Hot Mixed Asphalt, FOB Supplier's Plant

Proposals shall be submitted on bid forms which are available for inspection and obtainable at the Office of the County Commissioner of Public Works, Page Avenue, Delhi, New York 13753. Detailed specifications are contained in the said forms.

Proposals must be filed with James D. Thomas, Delaware County Commissioner of Public Works, Page Avenue, Delhi, New York, 13753 on or before 2:00 P.M. Prevaling Time, Friday, February 24, 2023 in a sealed envelope plainly marked on outside, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read.

The Delaware County Department of Public Works, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d-2 through 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The successful bidder will be promptly notified and must be prepared to enter into a contract for the purchase and sale of the said item(s) or services in conformity with the information in the proposal.

The County of Delaware reserves the

right to reject any or all bids submitted.

Public Notice - Richmondville

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE - Richmondville Volunteer Emergency Squad Inc., United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program Application.

The Richmondville Volunteer Emergency Squad (RVES) will conduct a Public Meeting on February 27, 2023, at 6pm, to discuss its application to the USDA for a Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant.

Since March of 2022, RVES has been working with USDA on an application for loan and grant assistance for its new 2022 Demers Ambulance. If awarded, the USDA loan would lower the interest rate of the current ambulance loan. In addition, it would provide grant funding to pay down the existing loan principal.

Public Notice - Sheriff's Notice

SUPREME COURT: COUNTY OF DELAWARE

SHERIFF'S DOCKET #23000082 NYBDC Local Development Corporation d/b/a The Excelsior Growth Fund vs. American Ginseng Pharm Regional Center LLC, Docketed with the Delaware County Clerk's Office March 2, 2021, Judgment creditor's Attorney - Lemery Greisler LLC Smart Business Sense 677 Broadway, 8th Floor Albany, New York 12207.

By Virtue of an Execution issued out to the State of New York, Delaware County, in favor of NYBDC Local Development Corporation d/b/a The Excelsior Growth Fund. And against Defendant(s) American Ginseng Pharm Regional Center LLC I have seized and taken all the right, title and interest of the said American Ginseng Pharm Regional Center LLC, (Defendant, and Judgment Debtor) in and to the following described property, to wit:

I am selling the above, subject to any liens, chattels, mortgages, conditional sales or any other encumbrances.

* TERMS OF SALE: 10% DUE AT THE TIME OF SALE IN THE FORM OF CASH OR CERTIFIED CHECK. BALANCE DUE WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE SALE DATE.

DATE OF SALE: April 11, 2023
TIME OF SALE: 1:00 PM.

SALE WILL BE CONDUCTED AT:

DELAWARE COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING, 280 PHOEBE LANE, DELHI NEW YORK.

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND situate in the Town of Franklin, County of Delaware, State of New York bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a capped rod, said capped rod marking the common corner of lands now or formerly of Elwood W. Weerheim and others (1030-37) on the northeast, lands now or formerly of Bright Hill Press, Inc. (973-310, Ref. Riled Map No. 2859) on the southeast, lands now or formerly of Douglas E. and Patricia A. Jamieson (980-106) on the southwest and the lands being described on the northwest; and commencing from said point of beginning and running along lands of said Jamieson, s 84-52-40 W, 99.00 feet to a capped rod on the line of lands now or formerly of Thomas A. and Donna A. Briggs (1116-264); thence turning and running along lands of said Briggs the following courses:

- 1. N 05-07-20 W, 20.00 feet to a capped rod; 2. S 84-52-40 W, 58.00 feet to a capped rod; 3. S 05-07-20 E, 70.00 feet to a capped rod; 4. S 84-52-40 W, 8.00 feet to a capped rod;

Public Notice - Bids Wanted

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Jefferson will accept sealed bids for:

Sidewalk Improvement Project CDBG #580PF42-20

Town of Jefferson, NY Schoharie County

The work includes providing all labor, materials, machinery, tools, equipment, and other means of construction necessary and incidental to the completion of the work shown on the plans and described in these specifications including, but not necessarily limited to the following:

Replacement of approximately 1,500 Linear feet of Sidewalks along CR 2A North Harpersfield Road and NY-10 in the Town of Jefferson. The project will remove deteriorated sidewalks, install new sidewalks, and install signage and pavement markings to bring all road crossings up to current safety and ADA standards.

- 1. N 73-26-57 W, 296.27 feet to a capped rod; 2. N 14-19-55 E, 309.72 feet to a capped rod; 3. N 62-17-53 E, 124.69 feet to a capped rod; 4. N 08-06-29 E, 66.74 feet to a capped rod;

5. N 87-41-14 E, 272.87 feet to a point on the line of lands of the aforementioned Weerheim and others; thence turning and running along lands of said Weerheim and others, S 16-17-20 E, 445.73 feet to the point of beginning, containing 5.482 acres and being LOT 1 shown upon a subdivision map prepared for A.L. Kellogg Elementary School, prepared by Ronald R. Mullenix, PLS dated August 8, 2011, revised October 26, 2011 and filed in the Delaware

County Clerk's Office on March 7, 2012 as Filed Map No. 9191.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM AND RESERVING TO THE GRANTEE HEREIN ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, the permanent non-exclusive right to enter upon and use the "35' Right of Way" and the separate "Right of Way" leading from the 35' Right of Way northerly east of the circular drive and through the parking lot all as shown on the aforesaid Mullenix Survey filed as map #9191 over and across Lot 1 being retained by the Delhi Central School District (herein "the Rights of Way"), for all purposes of ingress and egress from Church Street to the premises delineated as Lot 2 on said survey map #9191.

The Granter Delhi Central School District, its successors and assigns, shall have the right to make use of the Rights of Way in such manner as not to be inconsistent with the use of the Rights of Way by the Grantee herein, its successors and assigns, and neither party shall place any buildings within said Rights of Way, and shall place no other structures, trees, permanent walls or fences, or other improvements within said Rights of Way that shall prevent or unreasonably interfere with the other's ability to use the same as aforesaid.

Public Notice - Bids Wanted

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Jefferson will accept sealed bids for:

Sidewalk Improvement Project CDBG #580PF42-20

Town of Jefferson, NY Schoharie County

The work includes providing all labor, materials, machinery, tools, equipment, and other means of construction necessary and incidental to the completion of the work shown on the plans and described in these specifications including, but not necessarily limited to the following:

Replacement of approximately 1,500 Linear feet of Sidewalks along CR 2A North Harpersfield Road and NY-10 in the Town of Jefferson. The project will remove deteriorated sidewalks, install new sidewalks, and install signage and pavement markings to bring all road crossings up to current safety and ADA standards.

The project will have several Add/Alts for addition work based upon funding. This is a Town of Jefferson sponsored project funded by the CDBG program. NYS DOT Standard Specifications, officially finalized and adopted on January 1, 2023 as posted on the New York State Department of Transportation's website, must be followed by the successful bidder.

The Town of Jefferson strongly encourages Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE) certified firms and Section 3 businesses to apply. Subcontracting with Section 3 certified businesses, minority-owned firms and women's business enterprises is encouraged.

All job descriptions and job postings for work to be done on the Project by Awardee and its Subs must be posted on the New York State Job Bank here: https://newyork.usnjb.com/

Awardee and its Subs must contact the NYS Career Center(s) for the region in which the Project is located to notify them about the Project, the jobs that will be made available and a contact person at the Project in charge of hiring. A list of career centers can be found here: https://dol.ny.gov/career-centers.

Awardee and its Subs must contact local Public Housing Authorities and/or Section 8 programs located in project area for posting work opportunities on community bulletin boards, newsletters, websites and physical lobbies. Local PHAS listed here: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/pha/contacts.

Project will have a sign visible from the street identifies the name of the project, provides the contractor and/or Section 3 Coordinators contact information and states: "This is a HUD Section 3 Project with hiring and contracting priorities for low-income persons and business that hire or are

owned by them."

Staff at the Awardee, the General Contractor and their Subs that are in charge in hiring and contracting for the Project must review the HCR Section 3 Policy Manual, attend a training by HCR or HUD on Section 3 prior to the commencement of construction, and attend periodic additional trainings provided by HCR.

Company must have a policy of retaining records related to Section 3 performance and greatest extent feasible efforts, including the Section 3 Hiring Forms for itself and its Subs, for as long as program regulations (e.g. CDBG regulations) require, or where silent, for 3 years after completion of the Project.

Contract Documents, including Invitation to Bidders, Instructions to Bidders, Wage Rates, Bid Documents, Agreement, Special Notes, Specifications, Contract Drawings, and any Addenda, may be examined, at no expense, at the following link after Friday 2/2/2023: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1fU5vVUzbyo6bH1XcvV7rS-gLE62r632?usp=sharing

No questions or inquiries regarding this bid will be accepted within three (3) business days prior to the bid opening.

Contractors MUST notify the Engineering Contact at the end of this notification to be placed on the official Plan Holder List, to receive Addenda and any other Bid correspondence. Bids received from Contractors other than those on the official Plan Holders List will not be accepted.

Addenda will be emailed from Greenman Pedersen, Inc (GPI) to Bidders listed on the official Plan Holders List. Bidders must acknowledge receipt of all Addenda by acknowledging each Addendum on page 1 of the Bid Form. Failure of any Bidder to receive any such Addendum or interpretation shall not relieve such Bidder from any obligation under this Bid submittal. All Addenda so issued shall become part of the Contract Documents.

Questions regarding the Contract Documents should be directed to Chris Cornwall, PE through email at: cornwell@gpinet.com. Bidders shall promptly notify the Engineer of any errors, omissions, conflicts or ambiguity within the Contract Documents within 3 days of bid opening.

This is a LUMP SUM BID as described in the Instructions to Bidders with Add/Alts. All bids must include the completed Bid Form, Non-Collusive Bidding and Disbarment Certifications, and Lobbying Certifications. No bidder may withdraw his/her bid within forty-five (45) calendar days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Each bid must be accompanied by security in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid in the form and subject to the conditions provided in the Instructions to Bidders.

Bids to be considered must be delivered in a sealed envelope to the offices of the Town of Jefferson located at 677 North Harpersfield Road, Jefferson NY by 12:00 pm on the day of the bid opening, February 23, 2023. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at a Town Board meeting that evening. Bids received after the above noted time will not be accepted.

All sealed envelopes should be clearly labeled "BID: Town of Jefferson Sidewalks Project CDBG #580PF42-20".

The Bidder to whom the Contract is awarded will be required to furnish Performance, Payment, and Guarantee Bonds from an acceptable Surety Company for an amount not less than 100% of the accepted bid. The successful Bidder and all subcontractors must have an approved CCA-2 on file with NYS DOT on file with NYS DOT prior to being awarded a contract. If the successful Bidder does not currently have a CCA-2 on file with NYS DOT, the Bidder may find the CCA-2 forms and instruction for completion online at https://www.osc.state.ny.us/state-vendors/vendor-responsibility-forms?redirect=legacy#Construction. Successful bidders will be required to pay NYS DOL. Prevailing Wage

Rates along with Davis Bacon.

The Town of Jefferson reserves the right to consider the bids for forty-five (45) days after receipt before awarding any Contract, and to waive any minor informalities in, and to reject, any and all bids. All bids are subject to final review and approval by the Town before any award of contract may be made. Receipt of bids by the Town shall not be construed as authority to bind the Town.

All work must be completed by May 12, 2023.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation and Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200, Title VI Program and Related Statutes, as amended, issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all who respond to the related solicitation, request for proposal or invitation to bid that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability/handicap and income status in consideration for an award.

Owners Contact Margaret Hait Supervisor

677 North Harpersfield Road Jefferson, NY, 12093

607-652-7931 jeffersontownsup@gmail.com

Engineer's Contact Chris Cornwall, PE Project Manager, GPI

80 Wolf Road, Suite 300 Albany, NY 12205 518-852-4269

ccornwell@gpinet.com

Public Notice - Stamford

Pursuant to Section 506 & 526 of the Real Property Tax Law

Notice is hereby given that the assessor of the Village of Stamford, County of Delaware has completed the Tentative Assessment Roll for the current year and that a copy has been left at the Stamford Village Hall, where it may be seen and examined by any interested person until the 3rd Tuesday in February (February 21, 2023). A publication containing procedures for contesting an assessment is available at the Assessor's Office.

Hearing of Complaints

The Board of Assessment Review will meet on February 21, 2023, between the hours of 4 p, to 6 pm and 7 pm to 9 pm at the Stamford Village Hall, in said village to hear and examine all complaints in relationship to assessments on the written application, correctly filled out, accompanied with the required data of any person believing himself to be aggrieved.

Mailed applications may be sent to:

Charles Ferris, Assessor

30107 State Hwy 23 Stamford, NY 12167

Public Notice - Conesville

In addition to any other business that may come before it, the Conesville Town Board will meet February 22, 2023 at Conesville Town Hall, 1306 State Route 990V, Conesville, NY at 7:00 pm to review the completed Annual Update Document that will be submitted to the New York State Comptroller upon approval of the Board. A copy of the Annual Update Document may be reviewed beforehand at the Conesville Town Hall during regular business hours or at the Conesville official website at:

https://www4.schohariecounty.ny.gov/PdfFiles/PdfAnnouncements/PA_38651_25.PDF

Public Notice - Conesville

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Financial Report for the Supervisor of the Town of Middleburgh has been filed with the Department of Audit and Control, Albany, New York and that a copy thereof is on file in the Town Clerk's Office where any person interested may examine it herein during normal business hours.

FreeDailyCrosswords.com

Crossword puzzle grid with 'ACROSS' clues on the left and 'DOWN' clues on the right. Clues include: 1) Pickle flavoring, 5) 'Charlotte's ___', 8) Apothecaries' units, 13) Trendy berry, 14) '... and gimble in the wabe' (Carroll), 15) Greek architectural style, 16) Camp residence, 17) Emit amplified light, 18) 'Kama ___' (Hindu love manual), 19) It's not on the standard bill, 22) Pause, on a music staff, 23) Surname assigned to an unknown, 24) French city on the Strait of Dover, 27) Make tracks on a mountainside, 29) Pillow covering, 33) Forgets about, 34) Burglar, 36) Lawyers' grp., 37) Some of it may be auctioned off, 40) Word with red or army, 41) Pivots, 42) Baker's purchase, 43) Neither great nor awful, 45) 'As ___ instructions', 46) They don't compare with oranges, 47) Cheerleader's shout, 49) Go ballistic, 50) 12-step program's recommendation, 58) A Muse, 59) Physicist's study, 60) Bay in the stable, 61) Scout's info-gathering assignment, 62) Render a verdict, 63) Sir Geraint's wife, 64) A film 007, 65) 757 heading, sometimes, 66) Hibernation habitats

Completed crossword puzzle grid with numbers in the starting squares of the words.

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Crossword puzzle grid with 'DOWN' clues on the left. Clues include: 1) Spreadsheet contents, 2) Finished a cupcake?, 3) Bring an aircraft down, 4) Bookish bunch, 5) Earp of the Old West, 6) Back then, back then, 7) Oktoberfest quaff, 8) 1970s musical genre, 9) Itineraries, 10) "Contra-" relative, 11) Spanish Surrealist Joan, 12) Examine in detail, 14) It's raised by a toaster, 20) Certain believers in God, 21) "Au revoir", 24) Unconscious states, 25) ___ acid (protein component), 26) Lively songs, 27) More timid, 28) Fairy-tale frog transformer, 30) Judaism; kosher :: Islam :: ____, 31) Maltreat, 32) A schooner has two, 34) Choice on many a test, 35) Griddle alternative, 38) Omega's opposite, 39) Seasoned, in a way, 44) Eloquent speaker, 46) Japanese cartooning style, 48) Without assistance, 49) Fur wrap, 50) Division of a school year, 51) Nabisco mainstay, 52) Tex-Mex munchie, 53) Reveal, 54) "Star Trek" phaser setting, 55) What the "poor dog" had, 56) "Am I my brother's keeper?" speaker, 57) Comes to a halt

EDITORIAL

Warm Weather

This week there's a potpurri of ideas in my editorial. After the brutal cold (negative 16!) last weekend, things are warming up both literally and figuratively.

Truth be told, much of my week has been occupied working on a comprehensive explanation for the recent issues regarding the Schoharie County Health Department which we plan to publish this month. If you have any experiences you would like to share, please email me at avitmw@gmail.com or drop me a line at 518-763-6854. I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

A special thanks and note of support for local businessowner Sean Lawton on taking the helm of the Middleburgh Area Business Association. It's an issue near and dear to my heart as the organization's founder. I know Sean is a sharp and dedicated member of the community and that he will do quite well.

The recent decline of the organization, the canceling of the Rotary Canoe races, and inertia in the Middleburgh Historical Society over the Middleburgh Railway Depot (which luckily, through the help of Nick Juried volunteers Bob Tinker, Charley Spickerman, Steve LaMont, Timothy Knight, Steve Spretnjak, and Bunnie Bates are working to open) are parts of an overall need for fresh ideas and leadership. Since the village of Middleburgh is operating with only four of its five members active, it's a challenge that I don't envy and one that I'd be happy to assist with.

While I'm on my soapbox, I wanted to lend a kind word to Tannersville Mayor Dr. Lee McGunnigle. We're not ready for any endorsements or major opinions, but I have gotten to know his effort and politness over the years and start the election season with his long tenure of service.

- Matthew Avitabile
Publisher

P.S. I made an error in last week's column. I misspelled Ken Mabey's name. It was my error and I apologize.

RUSTY AND LILA BY BILLY SHEARS



For more information or about syndication, contact Mr. Shears at shearsum@protonmail.com.

GARDENING TIP OF THE WEEK BY BOB BEYFUSS

Avocados



Note: Since the tragic passing of Bob Beyfuss last week we are committed to honoring his legacy. We will be re-running former columns of Mr. Beyfuss for the foreseeable future.

As we approach Superbowl Sunday some of us are thinking about an interesting fruit, a single seeded berry actually, that is the avocado. Of course this fruit is the main ingredient in a tasty snack called "Guacamole". If you are hosting or attending a Superbowl party, I highly recommend this tasty alternative to many snacks that are far less healthy, such as most cheese dips or any dip containing mostly mayonnaise. Guacamole is made from mashed ripe avocados mixed with any of several different ingredients such as sea salt, onion, tomatoes, lime or lemon juice, cilantro (my favorite), jalapeno or cayenne pepper. The resulting dip or spread is relatively high in calories, at about 234 per cup, (roughly one whole avocado) and more than 80% of those calories are derived from fat, but the fat is unsaturated and considered quite healthy. Avocados are considered a very heart healthy food in general. Two medium size

fried chicken wings with the skin on contain about the same number of calories as a cup of avocado, but lack most of the other healthy stuff found in the fruit. Chicken fat, or the oil used to fry the wings is also high in saturated fat. "Alligator pears" as Avocados are sometimes called, also contain at least 20 different vitamins and minerals.

Botanically known as *Persea americana*, in the Laurel family, Avocados are native to south central Mexico but are now widely cultivated in most sub-tropical regions all around the world. Mexico is the world's largest producer with about 400,000 acres yielding 1.5 million pounds a year. Southern California has about 60,000 acres, (92% in San Diego County) and I was surprised to learn that it is the official fruit of California. I would have guessed oranges! At least a half dozen different cultivars are commercially grown, with fruit shaped like small pears to oval shape and large, almost round fruit, the size of a grapefruit. The cultivar "Hass", named after the man who patented it back in the 1930's, now accounts for 80% of all production. His single, original tree, from which all others are derived, died in 2002. This is the variety most of us see in our local supermarkets. The fruit mature on the tree but are picked when still hard and green and allowed to ripen in transport or at the market.

I am fortunate to have a friend here in Florida (Willy) who grows a local variety, commonly called the Florida avocado. These fruit are much larger than "Hass" with green skin, versus the "Hass" speckled, black skin. They are also lower in fat and calories, but in my opinion they are at least as tasty! This may be due to the fact that I can harvest these local fruit in the almost ripe stage, which could never be shipped. The trees Willy has growing are pretty large, at least 50 feet tall and just as wide and spreading. He picks them with a long handled pole with a basket designed specifically for this task. Like coconuts, this is not a fruit you would want to fall and hit you on the head! The trees are majestic and beautiful to look at and they produce fruit almost all year around.

Sadly, Willy has lost many of his avocado trees to a deadly fungal disease called "Laurel wilt" which is spread by non-native insects called ambrosia beetles. There are pesticides recommended to kill the beetles and suppress the disease, but Willy uses no pesticides in his grove and consequently, he has also lost most of his grapefruit and at least half of his other citrus to another deadly disease called "Greening". I will have more to say about this disease also as I continue to enjoy my Florida lifestyle. It is wonderful to be able to enjoy truly fresh fruit and vegetables even in the dead of NY's winter time.

WHITTLING AWAY WITH DICK BROOKS

Choices

Some days I find myself feeling a little overwhelmed and I long for a simpler time, like my childhood days in the nineteen fifties. The only worries then were that the Russians were going to drop an atomic bomb on us at any moment and that Grandma was possibly a Communist spy. Other than diving onto my face in the grass every time an airplane flew overhead and listening on our party line for folks who might be speaking Russian, all in all, it was not bad.

I think it's all the choices we have to make daily that are getting to me. For example, the other day I was going to go to the hardware store for some wood stain I needed for a project I was working on. I checked through my mental standard supply list of market items to have on hand and realized that we needed milk and bread. I then rounded up a couple of things that needed to be mailed. I could do a circle, get all my chores out of the way and only make one trip, thus saving gas. The hardware store only took a couple of minutes and I was off to the market for the milk and bread. I pulled into the market only to find all the good parking spaces already taken by shopping carts. I would vote to bring back flogging if I knew it would be used as a punishment for those inconsiderate (expletive deleted) who are too lazy to put their carts back where they belong. I parked down at the far end of the lot where the folks with the new cars park crooked so they don't get dings from other people's car doors. I then spent the next fifteen minutes trying to decide what kind of milk and bread to get. When I was a child, even one as dim as I was

could handle going to the store and getting bread and milk because there was only one of each kind. Milk was white, came in a quart glass bottle, bread was white and came in a waxed paper kind of wrapper. Only one kind of milk and only one kind of bread, both in just one size, easy job! No longer! I walk past the nice smiley ladies at the registers, try to find a cart without a floppy wheel and head off for the bread aisle. Our market, which isn't one of those massive super store things, must have at least fifty kinds of bread. There's a whole wall of bread, white, whole grain white, wheat, stone ground wheat, Canadian wheat, rye, marble rye, Jewish rye, oat, oat nut, potato bread, Italian bread, 12 grain bread, no grain bread, and on and on and on. They've even got bread made out of artisans and I didn't even know they were edible. I found a loaf of good old fashioned white bread (I haven't developed a taste for those breads filled with twigs and bark yet, although the Queen keeps trying to convert me) and headed for the milk.

kinds but I kept losing my place and finally gave up. There's white milk in different sizes from a half pint to a gallon, there were the flavored milks, chocolate, strawberry, tuna (just kidding, wanted to see if you were paying attention). There was milk that had no milk in it, milk that came from plants and milk from animals other than cows. There was fat milk and no fat milk and all the percents in between. I finally decided upon a nice half gallon of 2% milk because I liked the art work on the carton.

I had accomplished my mission for the day and headed back to the smiley ladies at the registers feeling quite satisfied with myself. I had the feeling that there was someplace left to go to before I returned to the Castle, oh well, never mind, I think I'll stop at the Post Office on the way home, maybe it'll come to me by the time I get there.

Thought for the week-- "Whether you think you can or think you can't, you're right." -- Henry Ford

Until next week, may you and yours be happy and well.
whittle12124@yahoo.com

BOTTOM LINE By Richard Auer

D	I	L	L	W	E	B	D	R	A	M	S			
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Recovery Peer Support Program Re-Launched

Program Supports Incarcerated Individuals On The Road To Recovery

By Mary A. Crisafulli

DELHI - The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council re-launched its peer support program at the Delaware County Correctional Facility, 280 Phoebe Ln, Delhi, after a two-year hiatus. The program paused during global pandemic and returned in November. Former program recipient Jen Cutting is heading the initiative as ADAC's certified recovery peer advocate.

Cutting currently serves 12 individuals that join the program on a volunteer basis. The first part of recovery is being prepared to ask for or seek help, she explained. "We will help, but they have to be willing to want a change."

Cutting was in the peer support program herself in 2017 when she was an inmate at the county correctional facility serving time for drug sale charges. Derick Johnson and Kayla Weaver "saved my life," through the program, she said.

"It's very humbling to come back and work in the program that saved my life," she said.

Cutting was addicted to meth, and she was even featured in the documentary SMACKED while at the county correctional facility. "It's gross man," Cutting said with a sly laugh about seeing herself in the documentary. "I could not see the damage drugs were doing to my life."

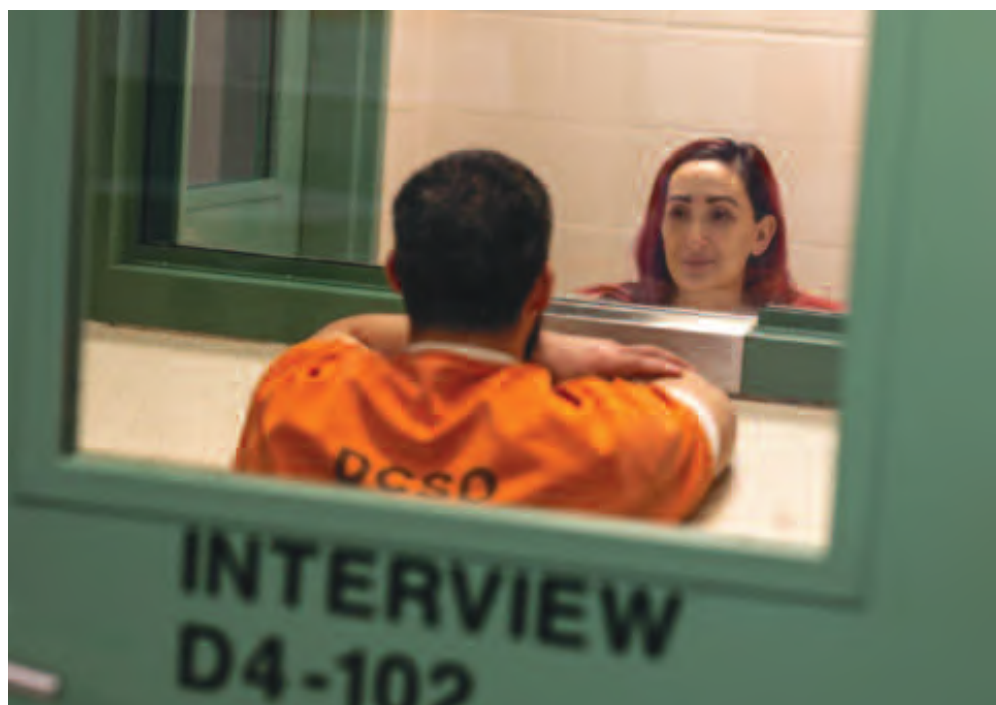
"Sometimes you have to walk through the darkness," said Cutting, "That was my education in life, I didn't attend school, I have those experiences and that's what I use to do what I do today."

It is essential to connect with someone who truly understands your situation, said Cutting. Normalizing emotions and bonding with someone who has built their life again are why peer support is so valuable.

"I have literally experienced the side they are on," said Cutting, "I know what it's like to eat that food, shower in that water



ADAC Peer Support Program Specialist Jen Cutting.



ADAC Peer Support Program Specialist Jen Cutting during a session with Jerry O'Dell at Delaware County Correctional Facility.

that makes your skin itch, I know what it does to your mental well-being when they lock those doors at night."

Cutting explained that serving time and dealing with detox simultaneously can be the darkest hour of one's life. "You are very emotional, none of the feel-good feelings can function as your brain attempts to regulate the chemicals in your brain again." You are hungry, tired, depressed, feeling alone, hopeless, embarrassed, and worthless, and having significant self-disappointment all at once, she said.

"It's a chapter, but it's not the book of your life," she said, "It might be a couple of chapters, but

that's okay. You have a future beyond this."

Once an individual has decided to join the program, Cutting starts with an "intake form." The form, which is filled out verbally, asks various questions about the person's drug experience. One of the more important questions is "what's your quote or mantra of the day," said Cutting. Sometimes Cutting will get responses like "Girl you are crazy I'm in jail right now I don't have a mantra," and other times the quote is just one or two words like "keep going." According to Cutting, this exercise is repeated at various sessions to see if the mantra has changed as recovery progresses.

Another important exercise is for people to write down five things they always wanted to do but were too busy getting high, Cutting explained. "It may sound odd, but I always wanted to make butter, and it was one of the first things I did when getting home with my daughter," she shared. Cutting and her daughter Isabella bake together regularly now.

Cutting reminisced about how lucky she felt to have been accepted into the Shock Program which allowed her to shorten the sentence and be home with Isabella sooner.

After initial intake, everyone's journey and process to recovery is dif-



ADAC Peer Support Program Specialist Jen Cutting with her daughter Isabella.

ferent and the peer program is designed to consider that individuality, Cutting explained.

Recovery does not end when incarceration is over, said Cutting, which is why she continues connections and support after release.

Reentry into society can be challenging to navigate, some individuals don't have a place to live or the only place they can go is somewhere that aligns with their previous lifestyle with drugs, explained Cutting. The program will help individuals acquire various services, including food stamps, employment, transportation, home security, and more.

People often require basic needs when ending sentences such as clothing or toiletries. ADAC prepares backpacks of needed items for when an individual is released. According to Cutting, packs are prepared based on donations, which are currently limited due to inflation. One individual due for release in March needs pants, a coat, and boots because they were incarcerated during the summer and have no winter clothing, she said.

An important service many recovering addicts require is mental health. "I've never met an addict without mental health issues," said Cutting, "It can take months to get a mental health appointment."

"Sometimes we think

just not doing drugs is recovery, it's not, it's about doing the work to find what led you to drugs and learning how to live life differently," Cutting concluded.

Overall the program is about, "Learning, healing, and moving forward," said Cutting. "I am not special, I am not the exception, I am an addict that didn't give up. I took my determination to get high and put it into my life." Cutting hopes to share that possibility of determination with the individuals in the peer support program. "If you give a person the proper love and support they are likely to succeed," Cutting said.

"Jen is speaking from experience and what her life entails," said Delaware County Sheriff's First Sergeant Ivan Brkaric. She brings those experiences to the correctional facility and through making connections reaches individuals having the same struggles to uplift them in getting through recovery, Brkaric explained. "Any opportunity that you can give someone to turn their life around, why not," said Brkaric, "Hopefully, there are more Jen Cuttings in the future."

Cutting hopes to expand the program with more peer support specialists and possible group sessions.

To make a donation or learn more about the program, visit adaconline.org.

Village & County Foreclosure Taxes Discussed, State Proposal Could Change Process

Committee Responds To Delhi Village Request For Funding Support

By Mary A. Crisafulli

DELHI - Delaware County Treasurer Beverly Shields explains how revenue on foreclosures is dispersed at a finance committee meeting on Feb. 8. According to Shields a proposed adjustment in the New York State budget could change the foreclosure process.

When the county finalizes the sale of a foreclosed property, they first make the town whole and the rest returns to the county. However, if a property is within a village, the county has individual agreements with each village. All villages, except Walton, have agreed to a two-year tax reimbursement, which means the village and county will receive two years of back taxes on the property and all other revenue from the sale returns to the county.

County Attorney Amy Merklen requested an adjustment to the agreement to indicate the village would receive all back taxes and the county would get remaining funds.

Such an agreement was used in the past but frequently left the county with no revenue on the properties, explained Shields, and

a switch to the current agreement was made.

A discussion on possible adjustments to the village foreclosure agreements ended due to recently proposed regulations by the state, Shields said.

"We (the county) will have no gain or loss the way it is written right now," said Shields, and instead, all revenue will be sent to the state. She added that a similar regulation change was proposed in the past, which was passed by the assembly but not by the senate, but is expected to pass this time and will take effect in October.

In another discussion, Franklin Supervisor Jeffery Taggart presented information regarding other counties which share sales tax revenue with local municipalities. The presentation was in response to a meeting on Jan. 18 where Delhi village residents and Mayor Sridhar Samudrala requested funding support from county officials. County officials were asked to consider a host agreement with the village for half of the estimated tax revenue loss at approximately \$305,000 annually, adjusted every five years for

inflation. Village representatives pointed to county sales tax revenue - which has increased significantly over the last two years - as a possible source for funding a host agreement. In Chenango County, Taggart found, of the county tax rate of 4%, 3% is divided where the county retains 50% while the other 50% is distributed to towns and villages. The county maintains the final 1%, he found. Broome County has a similar sales tax agreement as Chenango, while Otsego County retains 75% of total revenue and distributes 12% to the city of Oneonta and 12% to all other municipalities. Delaware County currently retains all sales tax revenue.

Finance committee members agreed to issue a letter to those who presented on behalf of the village stating it will not pursue a host agreement. "Although we respect the village's position, the county is currently not able to commit additional funds to what the village currently receives pursuant to their host community benefit agreement with the Department of Social Services (DSS)," the letter states.

The DSS agreement it refers to is a PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) agreement, on three DSS-owned properties, with the village for approximately \$2,400 annually, which is raised by 4-5% each year. Over 80% of the DSS budget is reimbursable through state and federal funding.

The letter also states that while there is a significant loss of tax base by having the county seat located within the village, there is also a benefit to businesses of additional people moving through the village daily. Committee members also state they will request supervisors approve a resolution requesting state representatives to reinstate the PILOT agreement between the village and SUNY Delhi. The agreement with SUNY Delhi offered \$200,000 in aid to the village, which was discontinued in 2022.

In other business: Following a court decision, the county will receive a refund for 2022 taxes on the former K-Mart in Sidney for approximately \$18,000. Taxes for 2023 will be held until adjustments are made. Supervisors are expected to vote to accept the decision

on Feb. 22.

Adjustments to the investment policies and guidelines of Delaware County will be recommended for approval by supervisors. If approved, the policy will apply to all entities approved by the New York State Comptroller's office.

Committee members unanimously agreed funding from the state opioid crisis settlement should be held in a dedicated interest-bearing account. Funds will be reviewed for possible allocation by a designated committee with representatives

from the sheriffs and mental health departments. Delaware County received approximately \$101,000 for 2022 and will continue to receive payments annually. Tina Molé, Bovina supervisor and chairperson to supervisors, expects payments to increase as the opioid cases continue to be settled.

Delaware County was awarded an additional \$100,000 in federal ARPA funds.

The next finance committee meeting is scheduled Wednesday, Feb. 22, at 10:30 a.m.

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Guilty Plea In Felony DWI Case

DELHI – Clifton Kirk, 41, of Summit, NY appeared in Delaware County Court on Feb. 6 and pleaded guilty to Driving While Ability Impaired by Drugs, a Class E felony. The defendant is alleged to have operated a motor vehicle in excess of the speed limit on I-88 in Sidney on Oct. 23, 2021. After conducting a traffic stop, New York State Trooper Anthony Grigoli suspected the defendant's ability to operate the vehicle was impaired by drugs, and Kirk was later indicted by the Delaware County Grand Jury for Driving While Ability Impaired by Drugs, a Class E Felony, and Aggravated Unlicensed Operation in the First Degree, a Class E Felony.

The defendant appeared in front of Acting Delaware County Court Judge Michael Getman on Feb. 6 and pleaded guilty to one count of Driving While Ability Impaired by Drugs, a Class E Felony in satisfaction of the indictment. During the plea proceedings, the defendant admitted that at approximately 8:49 a.m. on Oct. 23, 2021 in the Town of Sidney, he did operate a motor vehicle on I-88, a public highway, while his ability to operate such motor vehicle was impaired by the use of a drug as defined in the Vehicle and Traffic Law.

This plea was entered as part of a negotiated disposition where the defendant is expected to be sentenced to five years of felony probation, and required to successfully

complete the Delaware County Drug Treatment Court Program. The anticipated sentence will also require that the defendant's license be revoked for 12 months, and ordered to pay a \$1,000 fine, \$300 surcharge, \$125 crime victim fee, and a \$50 DNA fee.

Acting District Attorney Shawn Smith thanked the New York State Police for their thorough investigation on this case.

Delaware County Stop DWI Coordinator Scott Glueckert stated, "every time an impaired driver is taken off the road, the community is a little safer. Delaware County STOP DWI thanks law enforcement and the District Attorney's Office for removing another threat from traveling our streets and highways."

Guilty Plea in Child Sexual Abuse Case

DELHI - Delaware County Acting District Attorney Shawn J. Smith announced that John Olson, 59, of Monroe, New York, pleaded guilty to one count of Criminal Sexual Act in the 1st Degree, a Class B Violent Felony, and one count of Criminal Sexual Act in the 2nd Degree a Class D Violent Felony

The defendant appeared in front of Acting Delaware County Court Judge Gary A. Rosa on February 6, 2023, and entered his guilty plea. The defendant admitted that on or about March of 2020, in the Town of Andes, he engaged in oral sexual conduct with a child less than 13 years

old. The defendant also admitted that during the fall of 2016, while in the Town of Andes, he engaged in oral sexual conduct with a different child, this one less than 15 years old.

These two guilty pleas were part of a negotiated disposition. It is agreed that on the Class B felony of Criminal Sexual Act in the 1st Degree, the defendant will be sentenced to 8 years imprisonment and 10 years of post-release supervision. It is further agreed that on the Class D Felony of Criminal Sexual Act in the 2nd Degree, the defendant will be sentenced to 5 years imprisonment

and 5 years of post-release supervision- this sentence will run concurrently to the 8 year sentence. Upon his release from state prison, the defendant will also be required to register as a sex offender.

Acting District Attorney Smith commended the New York State Police for their thorough investigation of this case, which led to a guilty plea without requiring the children to testify at trial.

Sentencing is scheduled for Mar. 20 in Delaware County Court.

As are all persons accused of a crime, the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

CWC Approve Septic Projects, Flood Studies, Business Loans Septic Committee Hears Appeal for Reimbursement

By Mary A. Crisafulli

ARKVILLE - Catskill Watershed Corporation held several committee meetings and a board meeting on Feb. 7, where septic project reimbursements, business loans, and flood mitigation study funding was awarded.

Following CWC committee meetings, directors approved a resolution to adjust the septic program repair reimbursement regulations, extending rebates to homeowners outside the priority areas. Septic repairs outside of the program area deemed a benefit to water quality in West of Hudson Watershed and were repaired or replaced after Feb. 14, 2017, and before Dec. 31, 2022, are eligible for restitution.

Directors also approved several septic program projects, including six septic installations of over \$25,000 in Windham, Denning, three in Woodstock and Bovina; and -- additional costs for septic repairs, three in Hunter, two in Olive, Jewett, two in Windham, Ashland, Hardenburgh, Roxbury, Lexington, Woodstock, and Hurley. A homeowner in Middletown was also approved for eligibility for a second-time septic system repair initially paid for in 1999, with pump outs in 2016, 2020, and 2022.

Montana Contracting Corporation, Boulder Brook Road, Windham, was approved for 50% reimbursement of design costs for a six-lot subdivision for \$3,806.23. Each proposed lot will have a new dwelling, sub-surface sewage treatment system, private well, and driveway. Funds will be used to develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan to address erosion and sediment

control required to meet New York State Department of Environmental Conservation watershed regulations.

Two homeowners on Main Street, Prattsville and State Route 214, Phoenicia, were awarded \$5,000 for a Flood Mitigation Feasibility Study to evaluate possible flood mitigation measures that can be done to the structure. LaBella Associates will conduct the studies.

The Village of Hunter was awarded an additional \$7,110, for a total of \$19,788, to complete phase one of the recommended Flood Mitigation Feasibility Study for the firehouse on Main Street. The house is located within the 100-year flood plain and was recommended to be relocated as a critical facility. Phase one will identify potential relocation properties and design plans for a new facility. The village has contracted with LaBella Associates for the work.

Directors accepted bids for two demolition projects at 15 Rosen Road in Olive, and 7747 Main Street, in Hunter.

Directors set an annual membership meeting for Tuesday, Apr. 4, at 1 p.m.

Following an executive session, directors approved a \$319,500 business loan for 20 years at a rate of 4.75%, adjustable every five years, to Tinker Street Properties, Inc. Funds will be used to purchase and remodel the interior of 654 Main Street, Margaretville, and expand Tinker Taco Lab to its second location, where the first location is in Woodstock. The restaurant will be a quick-service eatery featuring a traditional Mexican taco menu based on in-house-made tortillas produced from a nixtamalization process in a California

Tortilla oven. The location will also feature a tequila/mezcal bar.

In other business, the septic committee heard an appeal for reimbursement from second homeowner Allen Brown regarding a sewage disposal system repair in West Hurley, Ulster County. The project was previously approved for \$24,500 in restitution by board members.

One item appealed was tree removal, which took place during pre-construction. According to Brown, two hickory and one cedar trees required removal for septic installation for \$2,600 by Ridgeline Forest Service. CWC awarded no funding for the initial application.

Colchester Supervisor Art Merrill, committee chairperson, informed Brown reimbursement for the tree removal was on the agenda for board members later that day, which the committee had already recommended. Board members later approved restitution for an additional \$5,762.50.

The second appeal was for six dug test holes which totaled \$5,000 by Kemiage Excavation. Board members approved \$350 for the test holes. Brown requested reimbursement at \$350 per hole dug for a total of \$2,100. Two test holes were dug following a misunderstanding between the homeowner and contractor; due to this, Brown said he would accept restitution on four of the six holes.

Committee members will take the information under advisement, said Merrill.

The following CWC committee and board meetings are scheduled Tuesday, Mar. 7, starting at 9 a.m. via Zoom or in person.

Donald F. and Edna G. Bishop Scholarship Info Available

STAMFORD - - Applications for the Donald F. and Edna G. Bishop Scholarship are available for Stamford Central School seniors and graduates in the Stamford Central school guidance office.

This scholarship was established in 1989 for students who shall be studying at a four-year college or medical school in the field of nursing, medical technology, phys-

ical therapy, pharmacy, medicine, dentistry, also including pre-medicine biology, chemistry, and physics. Students shall be selected based upon general ability, including scholarship (an average of at least 85% in high school for students going directly to a four-year college), character and extra-curricular activities and not on the basis of financial need. Also, applicants attending a two-

year college who have been accepted into a medical career transfer program with a four-year college or university which will permit the applicant to receive a bachelor's degree from that four-year college or university will also be eligible for consideration for a scholarship or fellowship.

The applications must be submitted to the guidance office by April 1,

Rams Stomp Wildcats 58 to 33 in First Playoff Matchup

By Mary A. Crisafulli

SOUTH KORTRIGHT - South Kortright Rams won the first Delaware League Varsity Girls' Basketball Playoff game 58 to 33 against Charlot Valley Wildcats on Feb. 8.

The Rams immediately took the lead, ending the first period 18 to 5.

With little over one minute left in the first period, Wildcats Natalie Amadon scored the first three points for the team

and another two right before the buzzer.

South Kortright continued to dominate the second period ending the first half 33 to 11.

Wildcats pick up their game in the fourth period but are still down 18 points, with 42 to 24 Rams, as they enter the final period.

Caitlyn Deysenroth was by far the star player for the Rams scoring 27 of the 58 points throughout

the game. Rams Katherine Reinshagen scored 14, Addy Eckert scored 13, and Carlee Dropp scored four.

Several Wildcats contributed to the teams' baskets, with Kailey Whitebeck in the lead with eight points, followed by Jessica Zuill and Ella Gerster both scoring six, Cadence Losie and Natalie Amadon both with five, and Cadence Santiago with three points.



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Juvenile Facing Sexual Misconduct Charges

Stamford – Sheriff Craig S. DuMond announced that a juvenile is facing the charges of Sexual Misconduct following an investigation that occurred in the Town of Stamford.

On Tuesday afternoon, January 3rd, 2023, Delaware County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a sex abuse complaint, involving a juvenile at a residence in the Town of Stamford. Preliminary investigation by Deputies revealed that the victim had been involved in sexual activity while under the age of consent.

Upon the conclusion of their investigation, Deputies subsequently arrested and charged the juvenile, with one count of Sexual Misconduct.

The juvenile was then issued a juvenile appearance ticket, and was directed to report to the Delaware County Probation Department at a later date to answer the charges.

Indians Fall to Northville



Senior Nate Burke directs the Schoharie offense against Northville. Burke led the team with eleven points in their 65-43 loss on Wednesday night.

Senior Cody Hellstrom fires off a three-pointer from the corner over Northville's Mitchell.



Senior Eddie Kruzinski shoots a three-pointer over Northville defenders in the 4th quarter. Photos by Bradley Towle.



Senior Jessie Gell protects the ball after a defensive rebound.

Suny Delhi Announces Spring Deep Water Aerobics Class Session 1

DELHI — The SUNY Delhi Spring Deep Water Aerobics first session will run from Tuesday, February 7, 2023 through Thursday, March 23, 2023 on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Kunsela Hall pool from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. All registration forms must be received by the first day of class. Participants will not be allowed in the water without submitting a registration. There will

be a charge of \$50 per person for 12 sessions or \$10 per person, per session. Please make checks payable to SUNY Delhi Swimming Pool, questions call John Kolodziej at 607-746-4263. Please check in your vehicles at University Police to get a free parking pass for the semester.

For register forms and more information go to DelhiBroncos.com or Bronco Connect.

SUNY Delhi Announces Spring Swimming Lessons 2023

DELHI — The SUNY Delhi announces Swimming Lessons Registration will be on Saturday, March 25 from 9 A.M. to 12 noon in the lobby next to the pool in Kunsela Hall. The swimming lessons start on Tuesdays, March 28 and Saturdays begin on April 1.

Community Swimming Lessons will be offered between 10:00 A.M. and 12 P.M. in the Kunsela Hall pool on Saturdays and on Tuesdays from 4 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. Classes include Red Cross Levels I-VI, infant/toddler/pre-schoolers

program, adult and a diving class.

Option 1 is 6 lessons for \$60.00 on Saturdays or Tuesdays. Option 2 is for 12 lessons for \$75.00 on Saturdays and Tuesdays.

Please make checks payable to SUNY Delhi Swimming Pool, questions call John Kolodziej at 607-746-4263. Please check in your vehicles at University Police to get a free parking pass for the semester.

For register forms and more information go to DelhiBroncos.com or Bronco Connect.

Delaware League Standings

Delaware League Varsity Boys Basketball Standings (8 games)

*SKCS	8-0	15-3
Davenport	7-1	16-2
Margaretville	6-2	13-4
Gilboa	4-4	7-7
Downsville	4-4	7-11
HTC	3-5	7-6
Roxbury	2-6	3-15
Windham	1-7	2-14
Jefferson/Stamford	1-7	2-16

Delaware League Varsity Girls Basketball Standings (8 games)

*SKCS	8-0	14-4
Stamford/ Jefferson	6-1	12-5
Windham	6-1	10-5
Davenport	4-4	9-9
HTC	3-4	6-6
Roxbury	3-4	5-9
Margaretville	2-6	3-14
Downsville	1-6	3-14
Gilboa	0-7	0-14

Delaware League JV Boys Basketball Standings (5 games)

*Margaretville	4-1	9-3
*SKCS	4-1	10-6
Jefferson/Stamford	3-2	10-6
Davenport	3-2	7-7
Gilboa	1-4	3-6
Downsville	0-5	1-11

Delaware League JV Girls Basketball Standings (4 games)

*Davenport	3-0	17-1
Stamford/Jefferson	2-2	5-9
HTC	0-3	1-5

Delaware League Varsity Boys Ski Standings (4 races to date)

1st - Windham
2nd - Margaretville
3rd - Roxbury
4th - HTC

Delaware League Varsity Girls Ski Standings (4 races to date)

1st - Windham
2nd - HTC
3rd - Margaretville
4th - Roxbury

Pistol League Scores

Team and High Individual Match Scores 02/03/2023 Match XV:

Oneonta defeats Delhi : 1074-12X to 1031-9X
Stamford defeated Sidney: 1075-14X to 1062-17X

Top shooters for Stamford were: Jim Hitt 279-7X; John Wyckoff 267-0X; Steve Baker 265-3X; and Larry VanDeusen 264-4X

Also shooting for Stamford were: Jan Hornbach, Maynard Vance, Mark Gifford, and Bill DeSilva

High Scores for Sidney were: Vinny Guglielmo 280-8X; Phillip Guglielmo 277-6X; Jim Driscoll 256-2X; and Jim Winn 249-1X

Other Sidney shooters were: Eddie Cotton, Ernie Griswold, Mike Terzo, Bruce Gerken, and Chris Curtin

Walton beat Rockdale: 1084-17X to 1012-9X
Stamford defeated Sidney: 1099-16X to 1070-13X

High Scorers for Stamford were: John Wyckoff 280-7X; Jim Hitt 277-5X; Larry VanDeusen 271-2X; and Steve Baker 271-2X

Other Stamford shooters were: Jan Hornbach, Maynard Vance, Mark Gifford, and Bill DeSilva

Sidney High Scores were from: Phillip Guglielmo 278-7X; Vinny Guglielmo 277-6X; Jim Driscoll 261-1X; and Jim Winn 254-1X

Win/Loss Record:

Stamford:	15-0
Walton:	11-3
Oneonta:	6-9
Rockdale:	5-9
Sidney:	4-10
Delhi:	2-12

Windham Downs Knights



Ciara tip off to start the game. Photos by Bob Roney.



Middleburgh #10 Payton Yung gets a shot off.



#1 for W-A-J scores two on a fast break lay up.

Late Playoff Results

Special thanks for this info right before press time from the Delaware League's Jim Adair. South Kortright and Windham won Wednesday to advance to the Delaware League Championships at SUNY Delhi next Thursday February 16, 2023. Our second round playoff games for this coming Friday February 10th, 2023 are as follows:

- #3 seed Stamford/Jefferson hosts #4 seed Charlotte Valley in a single varsity contest at 5:30 PM.
- #5 seed Hunter Tannersville hosts #6 seed Roxbury in a single varsity contest at 5:30 PM.
- #7 seed Margaretville hosts #8 seed Downsville in a single varsity contest at 5:30 PM.

McTaggart, from B6

Arrived at the program, she understood the important role of the Commission. Schoharie County is a member of the multi-state compact and is the most northeastern state in the Appalachian Mountains. The experience allowed

her to better understand the challenges of the local area, as well as the wider mountain range that flows as far south as Alabama and Mississippi. The perspective allowed her a greater understanding of "the plight

of Appalachia," she said. This includes young people leaving for more populated areas. "I see more," she said. The experience, McTaggart said, allowed her to be a part of experts that are "top-notch" in their field of expertise.

While the work has been difficult, she has been grateful for the opportunity. She worked with former County Administrator Steve Wilson to join the program to "enhance my already-existing skills."

McTaggart's hope is that she can bring back what she learned at the Commission to improve the local area.

She cited "a lot of opportunities that present themselves for Schoharie."

"You realize there's people out there who think like you. You can make connections that are so valuable that you otherwise wouldn't have."

"It raises the bar," the Director said. "If I can bring just a small part of that here."



The group visiting the Caverns in Pelham, TN

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Rip Van Winkle

Volume 8, No. 6

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FRIDAY, February 10, 2023

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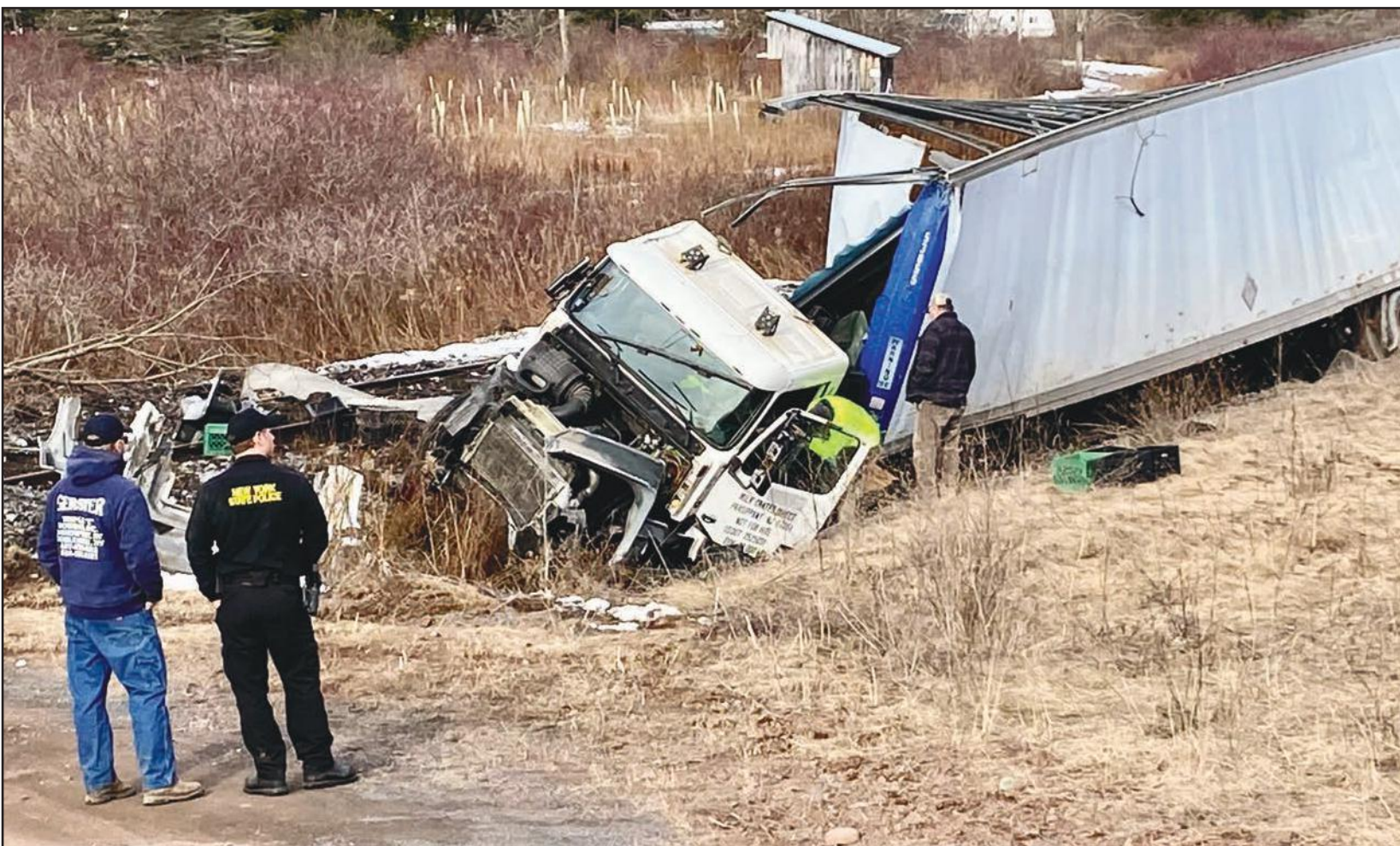
Trooper Car Starts Multi-Vehicle Crash

Three Vehicles Were Involved In Rt. 30 Wreck

By Brian Sweeney

A harrowing chain reaction accident on February 7 in the Town of Middletown involving a State Police car, a tractor-trailer, and a pickup truck resulted in only minor injuries.

At press time, New York State Police had provided only limited information regarding the circumstances leading to the wreck, citing an ongoing investigation. Witnesses assisting at the scene said the accident occurred around 8 a.m. Tuesday when a pickup truck owned by the Hubbell Companies of Margaretville was northbound on Route 30 and had stopped while preparing to make a left turn into the Hamlet of Halcottsville.



Police personnel and others inspect the damage to a tractor-trailer that was forced off the road in a chain reaction accident on Route 30 in the Town of Middletown on Tuesday, Feb. 7. — Photos by Brian Sweeney

Hit from behind

The driver of a northbound State Police vehicle was reportedly responding to a call and failed to avoid the pickup, striking it in the rear panel and pushing the truck slightly into the southbound lane into the path of an oncoming tractor-trailer.

The large truck, which was carrying a cargo of milk storage cartons, was unable to avoid the pickup, and hit the left front section of the Hubbell vehicle. The tractor-trailer then traveled off the west side of the roadway, over an embankment and continued several hundred feet before coming to rest adjacent to the tracks of the Delaware & Ulster Railroad. Even though the tractor-trailer went over guidewires and down steep terrain, the vehicle did not flip over.

The State Police car ended up off the east side of Route 30 where the badly damaged vehicle came to rest **continued on E4**



This State Police car was totaled as a result of Tuesday's accident on Route 30, near the south entrance to the Hamlet of Halcottsville. Three vehicles, including a tractor-trailer, were involved in the crash

INDEX

Obituaries.....E5	Tri-County News.....D1
Here's The Scoop.....E4	Catskill Geologists.....D1
Schoharie Valley & Co.....B1	Editorial.....D8
Windham Weekly.....C1	Whittling Away.....D1
Letters.....A4	Classifieds.....D&E

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Belleayre Snowmakers Keep Their Cool For Contest Win

Team Victorious
In National
Video Contest

By Brian Sweeney

As countless skiers and snowboarders can attest, snowmaking at Belleayre Mountain in Highmount results in consistently excellent conditions — even when winter weather continues to be frustratingly fickle. The skills and dedication of the Belleayre crew was recognized on February 1 with its selection as the winner of the “I Am A Snowmaker” contest sponsored by HKD Snowmakers, and Ski Area Management (SAM) Magazine.

And the winner is...

Belleayre was announced as the winner of the “I Am A Snowmaker” contest at the NSAA Eastern Winter Conference & Tradeshow at Killington Ski Resort in Vermont. In a special tribute, the victor’s trophy was carved by a chainsaw artist at the tradeshow, as a replica of one of the many low-energy HKD snow guns Belleayre has installed throughout the mountain over the past couple of years.

The path to victory began last November when the Belleayre



The Belleayre Mountain snowmaking team with the trophy for winning the “I Am A Snowmaker” contest.

snowmaking team was one of seven finalists nominated for the “I Am A Snowmaker” video contest. The contest involves snowmaking crews from resorts across North America competing against each other.

To demonstrate their skills for the judges, each team was required to compile a video that showcases the spirit and camaraderie of their crew. Contest requirements listed several themes that needed

to be illustrated. Key elements to be featured in this year’s submissions were sustainability, mentoring, staff bonding, and the mountain environment.

Filming for the contest began at Belleayre from the very first snowmaking run on November 13. Various segments were filmed over the course of more than a month with the final edit of the video being submitted — fittingly — on December 21, the winter solstice.

During that span, mountain’s snowmaking and marketing teams worked tirelessly together, putting long, cold hours on the hill, both in the light of day and during the darkest of nights.

“Weather of all kinds was battled against - the whole team dealt with everything from perfect, quiet skies with pristine snowmaking temps, to watching hours of their hard work wash away from those pesky mid-winter rains,” Belleayre Sales & Marketing Representative Steve Maggio.

As one of seven finalists in the contest, Belleayre was competing against the likes of Jay Peak, Bryce Resort, and Catskill neighbor Windham Mountain. Belleayre’s video was released on January 13 and viewers had a 10-day window to view the entries and cast their online ballots for their favorite video and help select the winning snowmaking team.

Belleayre’s video begins with a lighthearted

skit that also pays homage to Herman K. Dupré, the founder of HKD. As the footage continues, it goes on to provide an inside look at what makes the Belleayre snowmaking team tick, featuring interviews from various members.

Mr. Maggio said a highlight is how the interviews provide a stark contrast between the “grizzled veteran” Andy Heannings who’s been snowmaking for more than 30 years, and the “wide-eyed greenhorn” Mike Moretti who was only on the job for a couple of weeks when filming got underway.

Voting closed on January 23 and then teams had to wait until NSAA Eastern Winter Conference & Tradeshow at Killington Ski Resort in Vermont for the winner to be announced.

The trophy has since been brought back to Belleayre, and rightfully placed in the hands of some of the hardest workers on only on the mountain, but in the en-

tire region.

Mr. Maggio applauded the snowmaking team for its victory and, more importantly, the tangible results they produce to help maintain excellent conditions, no what obstacles are raised by Mother Nature.

“While it is so rewarding for that crew to have a tangible object that shows for all the quality work they put in year in and year out, it more importantly is a symbol of the community, dedication, and support that surrounds their snowmakers from the people who come up winter after winter to enjoy their product and sing their praises. At the end of the day, the Belleayre snowmakers do what they do for the love of it. We cannot thank the community enough for their vocal support,” Mr. Maggio commented.

The Belleayre Mountain team’s winning submission can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/ZGkYeH9ogC4>



Part of the Belleayre Mountain snowmakign team. From left, John “Zip” Hamilton, Ryan “Peck” Becker, and Andy Heannings

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Senior Hoopla

Margaretville Central School honored members of its basketball teams on Senior Night last week. Girls' Varsity seniors honored were, from left, Coach Erin Cure, Jada Finch, Kayla Clark, Ashley Camano-Rosaes, Amelia Pascarella, and Jalyn Torres.



Seniors on the Margaretville boys' varsity hoop team playing their final home game on Senior Night were, L-R: Christian Davis, Cody Wayman, Ryan McVitty, Coach Chad Richards, Christian Bravo, and Matthew Antonette. — Photos by Kristen Balcom

The Property Exchange

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NK Parcel
Cricket Keys with the Catskill Dream Team was pleased to list Victor Amato's vacant parcel between Bovina and New Kingston with its sweeping views and a choice of build sites. Victor bought the land in the 1970s and hoped a buyer with build plans would come along to fulfill his longtime dream for the land. Keys had no shortage of interest with affordable, buildable 5-6 acres parcels a rare find in the area at the moment. The buyers enlisted Laura Krukowski as their buyer agent and are thrilled to have their own piece of the Catskills. Keep a look out for exciting A-Frame plans in the works!

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Library Tuesday Forums Return

ROXBURY — The Roxbury Library is pleased to announce the return of the Tuesday Forum.

The first Tuesday of each month will feature an informational presentation with time for questions and answers. The first speaker on March 7 will be Kellie Sullivan, owner of Kaatskill Eldercare in Roxbury.

Each session is free and will start at 10 am. and end by noon with coffee, tea, and a light snack offered during.

On Tuesday, April 4 when we'll have members of the Roxbury Central School senior class here to answer all your questions about smart phones, FaceBook, Instagram, and more. Looking ahead: Tuesday, May 2, Medicare with Robin.

The library is located at 53742 State Highway 30. For more information, call 607 326-7901; email is ro.mary@4cls.org. Reservations not required but would be appreciated!

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Pine Hill Community Center Monthly Wellness Classes

Classes are Virtual, Unless Noted • Info: pinehillcommunitycenter.org

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Here's The Scoop

Halfway There

By Brian Sweeney

We recently passed the mid-point of winter. At least, that's what the calendar says. You can't really tell by looking at the ground. Or the thermometer.

I'm not saying odd temperatures have never occurred, historically, at this time of year. It's just that there are *way* more weird weather-related outcomes than "back in the olden days." By that I mean the 1970s. I have mixed emotions about this situation.

When the ground is bare, as it's been much of the past few months, certain tasks become easier. Moving firewood to the racks on the porch is much more efficient when it's possible to haul from the shed with assistance from the lawn tractor and wagon. I still haven't figured out how to get the tractor to climb the seven porch steps. Working on that. I think turning around on the porch might be a problem anyhow.

Silver lining

Combined with the boost we receive from burning wood, this semi-balmy winter has resulted in a cutback in the amount of oil we're using as our other heating source. Since our steep and winding road can be a "challenge" for an oil truck, it's kind of ironic that we don't need deliveries as often during a season where the road has been largely snow-free.

The danger, of course, during a non-winter like this one is getting ahead of oneself and thinking that spring arrived during the first week in February. Never a good idea, but still hard to resist. Fear of a looming blizzard is kind of the white elephant in the room.

In the meantime, I still enjoy taking advantage of the largely snowless winter. I've mowed the lawn four times since December. Just kidding. I did, however, consider grinding up some leaves a few weeks back but thought that would immediately result in a two-foot storm.

Reading time

For those of us who sometimes (within reason) enjoy getting outside for a bit of winter sports action, this year has been largely a disappointment. Sure, I've gotten some exercise by spreading salt when the small amount of snow we've seen gets packed down and then ices over after a rainstorm. That's not really my idea of a good time, though. But, it does beat the aerobic workout of a full-body sprawl in the driveway.

You may remember early in the winter when I unhappily wrote about "misplacing" (in the trash, apparently) our cross-country ski boots. Plus, my regular winter boots. To make up for this little oversight, I quickly invested in replacement equipment so my wife and I wouldn't miss any perfect ski days. We haven't.

Of course, the boots remain in the original boxes. Waiting for sufficient ski snow. On the bright side, my wife hid the boots to reduce the chance of me tossing them out again! I still am holding on a tiny ray of hope that the old boots weren't really tossed in error, and were just carelessly misplaced. Then, I can return the unused pairs. With my luck, though, the "discovery" of the lost boots will take place just after the deadline for returns has expired!

Anyhow, I was outside this week on a bright, sunny mid-40s February day and saw my shadow. I have no idea what that means, but guessing it probably has something to do with a mid-March blizzard. Let's hope I haven't tossed out the snowshoes.

Police Car Starts Multi-Vehicle Crash

continued from E1
against a small shed. A brief statement issued shortly after the incident by the State Police public information officer indicated that the Trooper and the driver of the tractor-trailer were taken to Margaretville Hospital where they were treated for minor injuries. The

operator of the pickup truck escaped injury. No other official information had been released prior to *The Mountain Eagle's* press time. Police had not identified any of the drivers as of Wednesday. The accident closed a large section of Route 30 between Roxbury

and Kelly Corners until mid-afternoon while police investigators conducted a reenactment, and the damaged vehicles were removed from the scene. Several emergency personnel commented that it was extremely fortunate that serious injuries were avoided after such an impact.

State Police were assisted at the scene by Delaware County Sheriff's Office, fire department volunteers from Halcottsville, Margaretville, Arkville, and Roxbury, Margaretville Hospital Emergency Medical Services personnel, and members of the NYS Department of Transportation.



This photo of the tractor-trailer involved in Tuesday's crash shows where the truck ended up after going off the roadway where emergency personnel are shown at the top right of the picture. The driver was treated for minor injuries.— Photos by Brian Sweeney



This pickup truck owned by the Hubbell Companies of Margaretville was struck from two directions during the Tuesday morning accident on Route 30 in the Town of Middletown.

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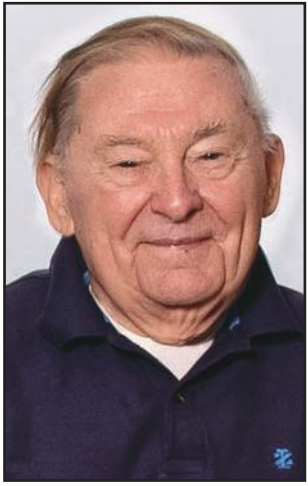


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Obituaries



Charles Kowalski

Charles Joseph Kowalski (Charlie) 83, of Denver, NY formerly of Northern New Jersey passed peacefully on January 28, 2023.

Born on August 2, 1939 in Manhattan, he was the son of Felix and Mary (Jedrzejewski) and lived in New Jersey before retiring to the home he built in the Catskill Mountains.

He was professionally employed as a mechanical engineer in the toy, technology and manufacturing industries. He was an avid outdoorsman enjoying hunting, fishing, skiing and running. Charlie ran numerous marathons all over the world

and skied up until last winter.

He also loved to paint scenic landscapes and portraits. He always enjoyed a good conversation of politics and was an avid reader of history. Charlie was a volunteer at the Roxbury Arts Group and served on the local planning board for many years.

In 1966, Charlie married Frances Kowalski (Faciano) and was the loving father to his son Michael (Karen) and his daughter Claudia (Gary) Stromberg. He was also the very proud and cherished grandfather to five wonderful grandchildren Michael (Laurie) and Nicole Kowalski, Stephen, Emma and Kristy Stromberg.

Charlie recently found out that he was going to become a great-grandfather in August of this year. Charlie enjoyed nothing more than spending time with his children and grandchildren.

Charlie is also survived by his niece Pamela Marlowe and nephew Richard Zozula as well as nieces and

nephews from the Bongiorno and Faciano families.

He has always been proud of his Polish heritage and had connected with many cousins in Poland, Brazil and Sweden and cherished their relationships dearly. Charlie had many friends from both his working career and his time in New York City, New Jersey and the Catskills.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his loving sister Genevieve "Jean" Benzing, her husband Fred and his nephew William Zozula.

The family will receive relatives and friends at Corpus Christi Parish, 234 Southern Blvd, Chatham, NJ on February 10 from 10 am followed by a funeral mass at 11 am. A memorial service will be held in the Margaretville area this summer.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Multiple Myeloma Foundation. Online Condolences may be sent at- <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/charles-kowalski-obituary?id=40429736>

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Events Calendar

Saturday, Feb. 11

Liberal Arts Roxbury presents Uninstructed Dance Wave from 5-6:30 p.m. Open Session: Step In, Step Out. Playlist by ALMA @barefootandbreathing. Free and open to all. No experience necessary. Liberal Arts Roxbury opens its space to all who wish to dance, move, breathe, or simply be in the space. Join us for an hour+ for a pre-mixed musical wave crafted to move the body and spirit. The music will mostly be a variety of instrumental and will start softly and build, encouraging catharsis and then returning to stillness. Offered by @barefootandbreathing and inspired by 5Rhythms.

Through Feb. 12

Longyear Gallery of Margaretville is featuring a "Members' Winter Group Exhibit," a new group show featuring the art of all Longyear Gallery Members. the exhibit runs through Sunday, February 12. Info: longyeargallery.org, or call 845 586-3270. Longyear Gallery is in The Commons, 785 Main Street, Margaretville.

Through March 4

Liberal Arts Roxbury is hosting Phil's Ghost, an exhibition of album art honoring the late Phillip Lenihan, owner of the gallery under its previous entities, Orphic Gallery and the 8-Track Museum. Phil's Ghost is curated this year by Film Director and Producer Roger Ross Williams. The show runs through March 4. Located at 53525, State Highway 30, Roxbury. E-mail info@liberalarts roxbury.com.

Through March 12

1053 Gallery in Fleischmanns pleased to present Departures, curated by Lindsay Comstock, a survey of work made in response to the pandemic by twenty-four New York artists. The show will run through March 12. The works, most of which were created in 2020 or 2021, and many of which have never been viewed publicly, mark a departure from previous modes of art-making, which span the mediums of painting, photography, sculpture and music. The gallery is located at 1053 Main Street, Fleischmanns. Info at: 1053gallery.com, phone 845 254-3461.

Dana's Place Offers Welcoming Atmosphere

Andes Return Was Right Fit For Dana Leal

By Brian Sweeney

Having honed her restaurant skills locally over the course of many years, Dana Leal was thrilled when the opportunity arose to set up her own eatery in a prime location in the center of Andes. She opened Dana's Place over the July 4 weekend.

Dana is well-known to many area residents from her tenure at the Andes Hotel. Her actual start in the restaurant world traces back to when, at age 14, she assisted at Frontera's pizzeria on Main Street. She's now using the skills developed working for others to put a personalized stamp on her new venture.

Since growing up in Margaretville, Dana has spent much of her life in Andes. She left the area for a year, moving to the Finger Lakes region, but soon realized she wanted to return to "the place where I belong."

Perfect timing

When she learned that the back section of the Andes General Store was available for lease, Dana didn't have to think twice about committing to take the space. With her vision for the restaurant/bar already in mind, Dana and her crew undertook several months of renovations. The business has quickly become a popular gathering place for patrons with a taste for hearty meals or a libation.

Using her restaurant experience as a guide, Dana took into consideration even the smallest details in carefully designing the layout for a seamless workflow. When it comes to décor, the proprietor describes the atmosphere as "Old World," with humorous touches sprinkled in to keep things light-hearted. As an example of the eclectic stylings, period artwork hangs next to deer mounts creating a unique, fun environment.

There's indoor seat-

ing for approximately 25 patrons. A combination of tall stools, booths and standard tables offers a comfortable resting spot no matter what your preference. During the warmer weather, there's a spacious outside seating area — complete with a firepit — where patrons can dine or enjoy a beverage. Live music is often a feature, as well.

With her many years of food service experience, Dana fully appreciates the type of commitment necessary for success. A strong work ethic is key, and Dana is always ready to jump in and assist with any task. While she's on site nearly every day, Dana relies on two employees to keep things running smoothly.

When developing the menu, Dana likes to offer something for everyone. A recent menu featured choices like fried ravioli, buffalo popcorn chicken, pulled pork BBQ, and a Caesar Salad with a butterfly shrimp option. There's a full bar, as well as regional beers and ciders.

Relying on her hard-working team, Dana has a simple goal: to provide tasty meals, great drinks, and a relaxing place to socialize. She wants Dana's Place to feel like home for customers — just like Andes does to her.

Dana's Place is open weekdays from 2-9 (or 10) p.m. and weekends until midnight. The business is located at 103 Main Street, Andes. For information, call 845 676-6110 or visit: facebook.com/your-hometowntavern/



Dana Leal opened Dana's Place on Main Street, Andes last summer.



A look at the welcoming interior of Dana's Place in Andes.

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Catskills Pathway To Recovery A Multi-Faceted Approach

continued from A1

Mr. Reichman recounted his personal pathway to recovery. After growing up in the projects in Brooklyn, he ultimately become very successful in the financial services industry. Along the way, he describes himself as a highly functioning alcoholic and addict living a double life, until he hit bottom after 34 years of active addiction.

"I ended up in a pretty bad situation and considered ending my life. Somebody close to me recommended rehab. I was so desperate, whatever this man told me to do, I was going to do it, and he told me to go to rehab. It was the greatest decision of my life," Mr. Reichman related to the darkest period of his life.

After 28 days at the Hazelton rehab in Minnesota he continued to regularly attend 12-step meetings. His progress was substantial, and Mr. Reichman eventually began using his experience to provide counseling and support to others in recovery. Among the work he performed was as a volunteering at a psychiatric unit in Westchester County.

"Over the course of the past 20 years, I've done a lot of work in the field on a volunteer basis. Other than my kids, nothing makes me feel better than helping another alcoholic or addict," he explained.

Mr. Reichman's dedication to contribute to solutions is undeniable,



Lindy Lapin (BOCES Visual Arts teacher), Jenny Potter (student winner) and Michael Reichman with the winning logo entry.

but what's most impressive about him is his incredibly humble persona.

Since moving to Delaware County, Mr. Reichman has also worked as a substitute teacher local public schools. In the very way he explains his need to give back to the community, Mr. Reichman clearly expresses a deep care and concern for the students he teaches.

"With our reorganization, we're strengthening our focus on education and facilitating alternative paths to recovery, Mr. Reichman explained. "Substance use disorders and mental illness are prevalent in the Catskills Mountain Region, with a huge impact on not only the individuals affected, but families and the community as a whole."

As a way to help to introduce and publicize the newly formed Catskills Pathways to Recovery, Dr. Mason came up with the idea to have a group of students at ONC BOCES in Grand Gorge design the logo for their new non-profit. Under the direction of BOCES art and technology instructor Lindy Lapin, the students came up with lots of great ideas. The logo contest was narrowed to three finalists chosen for the with the design by Jenny Potter selected as the winner. In addition to having her artwork represent the CPR, she also earned a \$300 VISA gift card.

In addition to its ongoing mission of assisting those individuals struggling with addiction, Catskills Pathways to Recovery will

host periodic public outreach events. The first session for newly formed group will be held at Belleayre Mountain in Highmount on Friday, May 12 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The conference will focus on women with substance use disorders.

For more information, please visit: Catskillspathwaystorecovery.org, e-mail: Catskillspathways@gmail.com or call 914 260-1287

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POLICE NEWS

DELHI - Delaware County Sheriff Craig S. DuMond has announced the arrest of a Delhi resident for driving with a Suspended New York State Driver's license.

On Monday morning, February 6, Sheriff's Deputies observed a vehicle traveling on State Highway 28 in the Town of Delhi, cross over the solid double yellow line's multiple times. Upon conducting a traffic stop, Deputies identified the driver of the vehicle as 30-year-old Carmine Yonnone of Delhi.

A check of Yonnone's driver's license revealed that his driving privileges were suspended in the State of New York.

Multiple charges

Deputies subsequently arrested Yonnone and issued him uniformed traffic tickets for Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the Second Degree and Failing to Turn in License to DMV, both unclassified misdemeanors, as well as Unlicensed Operator, Move from lane unsafely and Unauthorized Sticker, and Possession of an open alcoholic Container within a motor vehicle, all violations of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic law.

Yonnone was released on the uniformed traffic tickets and is scheduled

to appear in the Town of Delhi Court at a later date to answer the charge.

Court action

Acting Delaware County District Attorney Shawn Smith announced that Jeffery Laskow, 64, of Big Indian was recently convicted of one count of Driving While Ability Impaired by Drugs, an unclassified classified Misdemeanor. The defendant entered his guilty plea in the Town of Middletown Court on Jan. 26, 2023.

This defendant was alleged to have been involved in a one-car motor vehicle accident in Margaretville, New York on June 10, 2022. New York State Trooper Carey arrived at the scene and determined that the defendant may be under the influence of a drug. Thereafter, Drug Recognition Expert Justin Mohr was called to evaluate the defendant, and he determined that the defendant was under the influence of drugs and not able to safely operate a motor vehicle.

Sentencing

On January 26, 2023, the defendant appeared in Middletown Town Court and pleaded guilty to the charge. The Honorable John Fairbairn, Justice of the Middletown Town Court, sentenced the defendant to two years

of probation, and imposed a \$1,000.00 fine and a \$400.00 surcharge. The defendant's driver's license was revoked for 6 months, and he was ordered to attend a Victim Impact Panel and an Impaired Driver Program. If the defendant violates any of the terms and conditions of his probation supervision, he may be re-sentenced to up to one year in jail.

LEGAL NOTICES

PLEASE BE ADVISED THE MARGARETVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL WILL HOLD THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC MEETINGS:

February 15, 2023 at 4PM in the Board Room- RE: Volunteer Emergency Personnel Exemption and a Senior Exemption

Purpose of Meeting: Obtaining Public Input with Respect to these Exemptions

February 15, 2023 at 4:15PM in the Board Room- RE: Volunteer Emergency Personnel Exemption and Senior Exemption

Purpose of Meeting: Obtaining Public Input with Respect to these Exemptions

February 15, 2023 at 4:30 in the Board Room - RE: Budget Workshop

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BOWLING NEWS

ARK BOWL & BBQ WOMEN'S LEAGUE - Stats for 2/23

Team Name	W	L	High Game
Spillian	45	19	Karen Straut 151,
ROI	40	24	Linda Bosley 147,
JK Tinting	35.5	28.5	Birgitta Brophy 145
JM Lawncare	35	29	
Better Late Than Never	34.5	29.5	High Series
Bye	2	59	Amanda Goodchild 415, Linda Bosley 394, Jessica Watson 384



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Getting Out There

By Peter Manning

In this new column, we embrace the perspective that there is something inherently rewarding in stepping outside – for a walk, hike, run, bike ride, or even just to work in the backyard. Part of the motivation for getting out there is never being quite sure what to expect.

At the same time, there is certainty in knowing that the wonderful place we live in beckons to be explored. In this weekly space, we will accept the invitation for adventure, visiting many places in the greater region, celebrating what they have to offer, and hopefully being inspired along the way.

Kelly Hollow

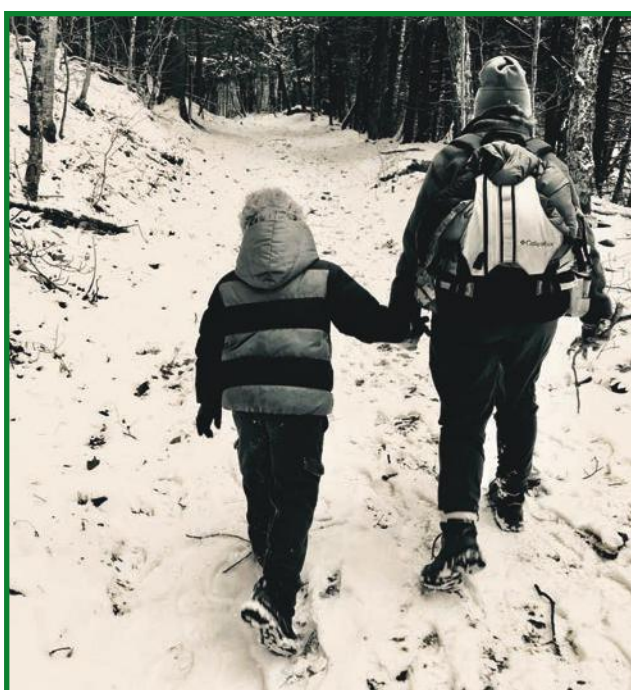
As is often the case in the Catskills the routes to and from the trailheads are scenic drives. This is especially true for the Kelly Hollow Trail, which is found along Millbrook Road near the Delaware-Ulster County line.

The Millbrook Road, running from the Pepacton Reservoir to the Dry Brook Valley, presents an ideal opportunity for a beautiful loop drive, as the trailhead is about halfway along the 25-mile circuit from Margaretville. And when you get to Kelly Hollow, the trail itself is a loop – two loops actually, with the longer one being just under four miles and inner loop about half that distance.

Four miles is an easy distance by Catskills standards, and there's only modest elevation change, but really this may be considered an intermediate hike. Kelly Hollow makes for a fun family day hike with its mixed forest and beaver pond, yet it also offers overnight accommodations in the form of a lean-to.

From the registration box, the natural inclination is to begin the loop trail on the left. It pulls you away from the road, crosses a small stream, and soon enters a stand of tall evergreens. You realize these trees have been planted, due to their uniform placement and similar height. They're red pines and were planted by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s.

On both these subjects – the CCC and trees – your hiking experience is enriched by two local authors. Diane Galusha's *Another Day, Another Dollar* covers the CCC's history in the Catskills



The author's youngest child, Asher, and mom Becky Manning on Kelly Hollow Trail. — Photo by Finnegan Manning

plenty of stories and photographs, including contributions from those who served in the region's CCC. We learn the location of the former Margaretville CCC Camp, and we develop a keener interpretive sense of features we encounter in the landscape. These features include circular, stone-lined ponds built by the CCC to fight fires.

I once had occasion to join Diane and author Michael Kudish in looking for one of these structures in Kelly Hollow. Kudish is the author of *Catskills Forest: A History*, which is the authoritative source on not only a history of the forest, but the diverse human interaction with these forests, primarily beginning with the first settlers. Though a casual observer will notice evidence of settlement on the western leg of the hike, Kudish's research, discussion, and mapping will train your eye to detect past activity based solely on differences in vegetation.

Hikers will notice something pretty rare for trails in the Catskills: yellow-markers with cross-country ski symbols. This is one of the only trails in the Catskill Park that is designated for this activity. (Maybe you know of another one.)

As you head farther up the through the pines, the gradient is reasonable, and you can envision skiing. It even flattens out and is pretty tame all

the way to and just beyond the lean-to, which is about halfway through the outer loop. However, even with proper skills and equipment, the hills and turns on the western trail segment are pretty radical and bordered by large tree trunks. The adventurer might strongly consider skiing the trail in the opposite direction.

In any case, this is backcountry skiing to be sure. And just because a trail is marked, doesn't mean it won't call upon your finer discretionary abilities to complete a safe pass. This pertains to hiking trails – yes, I'm calling you out Devil's Path – that even in dry conditions will serve up some adrenaline-inducing challenges.

Explore more

Hiking in the Catskills can sometimes generate a feeling that emerges from being in a specific location. For me, hiking in Kelly Hollow -- which really is quite a bowl in the mountainside -- creates the urge to climb out of it and see what's at the top. This happens especially in the interior section where the trail skirts the back wall of the hollow. After many years of walking the loop and for one reason or another not being able to launch uphill, I finally concocted a plan. First we preplaced a car in the lot at Kelly Hollow. Then we drove around the Millbrook Ridge, via Cross Mountain Road, and began walking up the Millbrook Ridge Trail on the eastern side of Alder Lake. After Beaver Meadow – more like Beaver Lake these days – we ascended that beautiful rocky section to the ridge.

This is the top of Kelly Hollow, which is directly to the north. Rather than plunge straight down, we stepped off the trail, moved right, and skirted around the top of the hollow following a consistent line of elevation. Walking along these shelves is often fairly easy since the Catskills are an eroded plateau. These kinds of off-trail rambles are especially rewarding in the winter.

Well, there you have it, Kelly Hollow has a lot to offer, including some features we didn't get to cover here. Maybe you are familiar with them, or you'll get out there to discover them. In any case, every hike is different even if you return to the same place.

Peter Manning is the Executive Director of the Catskill Mountain Club. To learn about CMC events, membership, and projects please visit catskillmountainclub.org.

Expanded Little League Signup Period Starting

STAMFORD — Following the groundbreaking of a new youth baseball/softball facility in Stamford last Fall, the Catskill Mountain Little League recently expanded its reach and is now scheduling a series of registration events to offer Little League baseball and softball to children across the area.

Over the off-season, the CMLL board worked with Little League International to expand the league's coverage area to now include Bovina, Davenport, Delhi, Conesville, Gilboa and Jefferson.

"Even before the pandemic, we've been unable to send teams to district tournaments and take advantage of experiences that being a part of Little League International can provide to our kids," said

CMLL President, Bill Abbattine. "We're excited to work with more communities in the future that will grow participation in the league and help provide those experiences and more."

Registration in CMLL for tee-ball, minor league and major league divisions is open to 4-12 year old boys and girls.

Signup events at Roxbury and Margaretville schools will be announced shortly on the league's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/catskillmtnlittleleague>. Online registration is also available at <https://tinyurl.com/cml12023>.

To find out if you're in the CMLL area, visit <https://www.littleleague.org/play-littleleague/league-finder/> or contact Bill Abbattine at 518 376-1603.



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

2/10 Fri	6:00PM - Citizen News Bureau - Lori Fairbairn brings you the Weekend Weather report for the Catskill Region. 6:30PM - WARK Community Television Archives - WARK's Michael Finberg talks with Dr. Ott about the flu. (Airdate Early 80s). 7:00PM - Mostly Folk with Artie Martello - Artie talks with John McCutchen who is an American folk music singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist who has produced 41 albums since the 1970s. John is also regarded as a master of the hammered dulcimer. 8:00PM - The Jerry Bartlett Memorial Angling Collection at the Phoenicia Library presents Theodore Gordon, Father of Dry Fly Fishing in America.
2/11 Sat	6:00PM - Delaware County News Update - Julia Marks and Matt Avitabile bring you the latest news from the Delaware County Region. 6:30PM - The Hiker Trash Husbands - A full hour of adventures with Jeff and Moe. Join them on a hike along the Kaaterskill Rail Trail to Kaaterskill Falls. It was a winter wonderland along the rail trail, opening up to magical views at the viewing platform for Kaaterskill Falls. Then join them as they hike the Eagle Rock Loop is the longest loop trail in Arkansas. Along the way, the Eagle Rock Loop has numerous river, stream and creek crossings and travels over nine mountains. 7:30PM - Focus on the Arts - Elizabeth Mami talks with Ann Glass. Ann brings an elegance and spiritual quality to all she creates. using various mediums, she enhances and manipulates her work into something profound. She is Co-Curator at Gallery 40 in Poughkeepsie. 8:00PM - CabaRadio - Tune in to see the most recent performance as recorded at the Pine Hill Community Center.
2/12 Sun	6:00PM - Grocholl Homestead - In this episode, Ashton and her helpers tap some maple trees and then it's into the kitchen as she talks about the benefits and then the different uses for maple syrup. 6:30PM - The Catskill Center - The Catskill Center's Jenny Flavin talks about the Steward Program. 7:00PM - WARK Community Television Archives - The Larry Smith Show. In this episode, Larry visits Zullins Country Store in Arkville. (Airdate Early 80s). 7:30PM - The Sonny Rock Show - Sonny talks with songwriter Vito Petrocchio Jr. about musical life and the story behind "Yankee Song". 8:00PM - Robert - Portrait of an Art-er - A documentary about Robert Johnson, Franklin NY's beloved stone artist, and all around interesting person.
2/13 Mon	6:00PM - Focus on the Arts - Elizabeth Mami talks with Jennifer Prevatt. Jennifer is a Visual artist, Children's book illustrator and a Scientific illustrator. 6:30PM - The Little Red Cottages of Nowhere - In this video, Andrea prepares for her chickens by building a chicken coop with (no experience) scrap wood and pallets. 7:00PM - Mostly Folk with Artie Martello - Artie talks with John McCutchen who is an American folk music singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist who has produced 41 albums since the 1970s. John is also regarded as a master of the hammered dulcimer. 8:00PM - The Jerry Bartlett Memorial Angling Collection at the Phoenicia Library presents Theodore Gordon, Father of Dry Fly Fishing in America.
2/14 Tue	6:00PM - Weekly Weather Forecast - Lori Fairbairn brings you the Weekly forecast for the Catskill Region. 6:30PM - Medicare With Robin - Join Julia Marks as she asks important questions about Medicare with Robin Williams, a licensed insurance agent. Tonight's episode: Financial Aspects of Medicare. 7:00PM - The Hiker Trash Husbands - A full hour of adventures with Jeff and Moe. Join them on a hike along the Kaaterskill Rail Trail to Kaaterskill Falls. It was a winter wonderland along the rail trail, opening up to magical views at the viewing platform for Kaaterskill Falls. Then join them as they hike the Eagle Rock Loop is the longest loop trail in Arkansas. 8:00PM - WARK Community Television Archives - WARK's Michael Finberg talks with Dr. Ott about the flu. (Airdate Early 80s). 8:30PM - Delaware County, NY - Solid Waste Management Center & Compost Facility. The systems that are in use at the facility.
2/15 Wed	6:00PM - Grocholl Homestead - In this episode, Ashton and her helpers tap some maple trees and then it's into the kitchen as she talks about the benefits and then the different uses for maple syrup. 6:30PM - Focus on the Arts - Elizabeth Mami talks with Kate Taverna, who is an acclaimed artisan and film maker. 7:00PM - Medicare With Robin - Join Julia Marks as she asks important questions about Medicare with Robin Williams, a licensed insurance agent. Tonight's episode: Financial Aspects of Medicare. 7:30PM - The Catskill Center - The Catskill Center's Jenny Flavin talks about the Steward Program. 8:00PM - The Sonny Rock Show - Sonny talks with James Noon. James is a friend and a VFX/Songwriter/Music Producer. 8:30PM - The Little Red Cottages of Nowhere - Andrea prepares for her chickens by building a chicken coop with scrap wood and pallets.
2/16 Thu	6:00PM - Citizen News Bureau - Lori Fairbairn brings you the Weekend Weather Report for the Catskill Region. 6:30PM - Mostly Folk with Artie Martello - Artie talks with Tom Chapin, an American musician, entertainer, singer-songwriter, and storyteller. He talks about his new album "Hold Our Ground", his music career and his brother Harry and his commitment to fight world hunger. 7:00PM - Downstater - A comedy web series about two New Yorkers who leave big city life for the Catskills. In this episode, Jess & Beth make an attempt at hunting. Hunting for property. 7:30PM - WARK Community Television Archives - The Larry Smith Show. In this episode, Larry visits Zullins Country Store in Arkville. (Airdate Early 80s). 8:00PM - CabaRadio - Tune in to see the most recent performance as recorded at the Pine Hill Community Center.

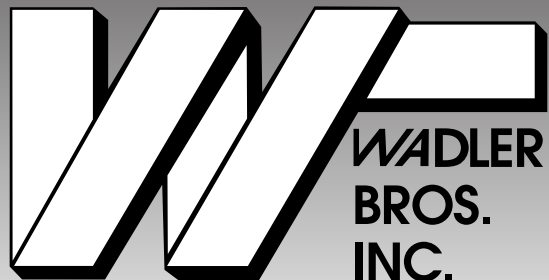
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Gildemeister Resigns, Joins State DOH

By Matthew Avitabile
Schoharie County's two-month struggle over who should helm the department of health may have reached its zenith this week.

Dr. Amy Gildemeister tendered a letter of resignation addressed to the Schoharie County Board of Health due to "deliberately imposed conditions designed to severely restrict my ability to effectively carry out my duties as the Director of Public Health for Schoharie County." She stated in the letter the belief that the county board's actions were "reckless" and chose to "ignore the professional judgment and statutory rights and obligations" of the board of health, which "endangers the health and welfare of the citizens of Schoharie

County."

She argues that the county board "damaged my personal and professional reputation and created a hostile work environment."

"Due to the barriers erected by the Board of Supervisors, I simply cannot accept the legal responsibilities for performing the duties of Director of Public Health," she wrote. She personally thanked Fulton Supervisor Phil Skowfoe for "his long-standing dedication to public health and his tireless work on behalf of the people of Schoharie County."

The health director is starting a new job with the New York State Health Department and is "very excited for the new opportunity."

"It's a place where I can use my skills in a positive way."

"I had intended to stay

with Schoharie County Department of Health and feel bad that I cannot provide that continuity and support for employees for what they've just been through."

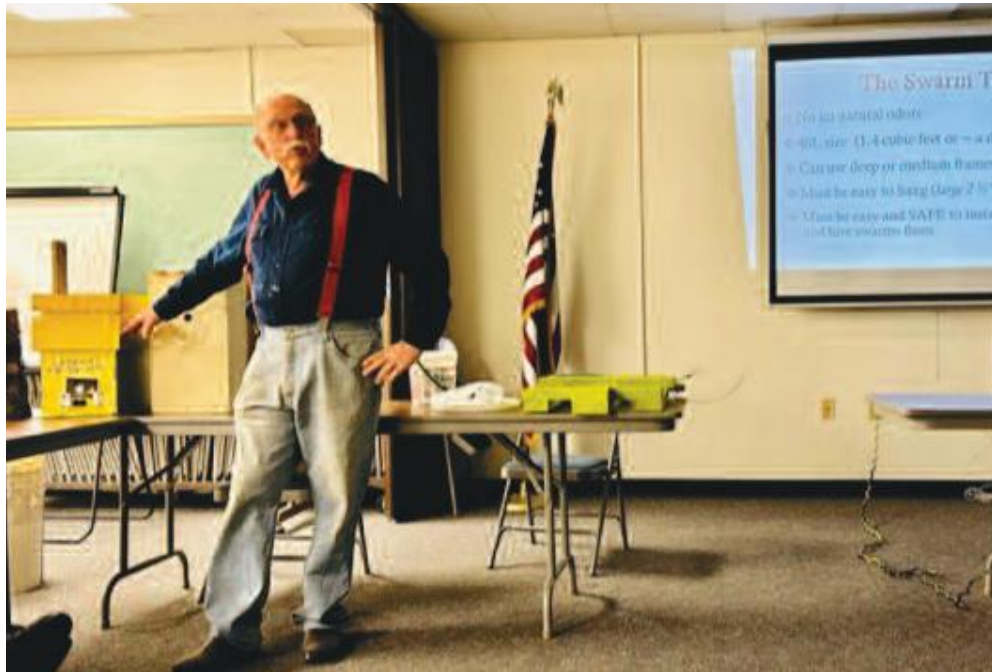
"I would like to be able to do that for them."

Supervisors considered a number of interim directors. Details about the board's internal discussions were discussed in executive session and could not be released to the press legally.

Editor's note: We are working on a much more detailed article on the situation at the county and the health department.

Details that would be normally compiled here are being organized into a much longer and more comprehensive piece for either next week or the following week's edition.

Beekeeping Is More Than A Hobby For Local Apiarists



Brian Lashway presents a lecture at the Valley Beekeeper's Association monthly meeting in Cobleskill.

By Jennifer Patterson
Beekeeping enthusiasts from the Valley Beekeeper's Association are doing their part to help protect New York's honeybees.

About a dozen members gathered for the first meeting of 2023 in late January at Cornell Cooperative Extension on Grand Street in Cobleskill.

Brian Lashway, an association member and owner of J&B's Apiary, presented a lecture put together by fellow member Bob Muller of Sun Mountain Apiary, titled "Swarm Trapping: Improving Your Swarm Box Catching Skills."

The presentation was a group effort, with other members jumping in to share their beekeeping and trapping know-how, including association president Dean Haskin, who operates Mickle Hollow Maple & Honey.

A hot topic of conversation was the waggle dance, which is employed by worker honeybees upon returning to their hive to transmit the spatial location of profitable resources, or "groceries," like nectar, pollen and water to the colony.

Even after some good-natured goading, no member was willing to give a waggle dance demonstration.

The meeting couldn't have been more timely, as it coincided with the

release of a new audit from New York State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli that said the state could be doing more to protect honeybees, which are under attack from diseases, pesticides and parasites, like the Varroa destructor mite.

Much like humans, honeybees are vulnerable to drought and diseases, and over the past 40 years, the issues they face have only grown. Outside the compounding concern of disease within hives, the loss of local plants and flora has contributed to their stress.

According to the audit, more needs to be done on the state level to protect bees and other pollinators.

A Pollinator Protection Plan was created in 2016 under the state departments of Agriculture and Markets and Environmental Conservation in response to rapid loss of pollinators. The plan estimated managed honeybee colony losses at more than 50 percent and some migratory colony losses in excess of 70 percent over several years.

In a review of the Ag and Markets' work, DiNapoli said that the department could be doing more to detect diseases and parasites, including improving its registry and inspection of api-

aries, and developing new procedures to inspect honeybee shipments.

The audit said the threat of disease and parasites, along with the use of a neurotoxic group of pesticides known as neonicotinoids and environmental factors like last year's drought conditions have accelerated the rate of bee colony decline.

New York State has more than 7 million acres of farmland, and many of its crops are dependent on pollination by bees and other pollinators, which the audit also emphasized.

Insects play a key role in the pollination of cultivated plants, and some studies have suggested that they may be even more important than fertilizer.

Farmers have been turning to apiaries more and more, especially after they see an increase in crop yields when pollinators are present, making honeybees vital to New York's agricultural economy.

"New York's farmers know how important honeybees and other pollinators are to our food supply and environmental health," DiNapoli said in a statement. "The state has designed a program to protect their declining populations, and my lat-

Story Continues on F5

Cobleskill Briefs

Do you have any events you'd like to see featured in the Cobleskill Herald? Let us know at cobleskillherald@gmail.com.

Senior Congregate Meal Sites Open

Local residents are invited to enjoy socialization and a hot meal at 12 noon at one of Schoharie County Office for the Aging's congregate meal sites:

- Jefferson (Tues./Wed./Thurs.), Community Center, Rte. 10)
- Sharon Springs (Mon./Wed./Fri.), Firehouse, Beechwood Rd.).

Reserve a meal by calling Schoharie County OFA at 518-295-2001 the day before you want to go. A suggested donation is accepted from those 60 years old and older. Under age 60? You're welcome to participate and will be charged a set fee.

Richmondville - Village Board Meeting

The Richmondville Village Board of Trustees will be holding its monthly meeting on Monday, February 13th at 6:00 PM at the Municipal Building on Main Street. Typically held on the third Monday of the month, this meeting was rescheduled due to Presidents Day.

Cobleskill - Board of Education Meeting

The Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School Board of Education will be meeting on Monday, February 13th at 7:00 PM at the Golding Middle School Library. Meetings are also available for viewing afterwards on the SCHOPEG website.

Cobleskill - Town Board Meeting

The Cobleskill Town Board will be holding its monthly meeting on Monday, February 13th at 7:00 PM at the Cobleskill Firehouse. Meetings are also available for viewing afterwards on the SCHOPEG website.

Sharon Springs - Board of Education Meeting

The Sharon Springs Central School Board of Education will be meeting on Monday, February 13th at 7:30 PM. The school is located at 514 State Highway 20 in the Village of Sharon Springs.

Esperance - Village Board Meeting

The Esperance Village Board will be holding its monthly meeting on Monday, February 13th at 7:30 PM at the Village Hall Meeting Room (113 Church Street).

New York Grown & Certified Workshop

The Schoharie Economic Enterprise Corp. (SEEC), in partnership with the Schoharie County Office for Agricultural Development, Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, Inc. (MVEDD), and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets is holding a New York Grown & Certified Workshop on Wednesday, February 15th from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at SEEC headquarters, located at 287 Main Street in Schoharie. For more information and registration, please visit www.seecny.org.

Family Recovery Support Group

Every Wednesday evening from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM., SCCASA hosts Family Recovery Support Group Meetings facilitated by Maggie Jackman Pryor, a Family Support Navigator, and Tom Moran, a Peer Engagement Specialist and Recovery Coach at 349 Mineral Springs Road.

Sharon Springs - Village Board Meeting

The Sharon Springs Village Board of Trustees will be meeting on Thursday, February 16th at 7:00 PM at 129 Main Street. Meetings are also available afterwards on the SCHOPEG website.

Schoharie - Board of Supervisors Meeting

The Schoharie County Board of Supervisors will be holding its monthly meeting next week - Friday, February 17th - at 9:00 AM. Meetings are also available for viewing afterwards on the SCHOPEG website.

Summit - Poker Run Benefit

The Summit Sno-Riders Inc. will be hosting their annual poker run for Helios Care on Saturday, February 25th, 9:00 AM, at the Summit Conservation Club. All proceeds raised go to Helios Care, followed by a ham dinner at the Club. This is a snow or no snow event.



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COFFEE IN COBY

War in Europe XLIII

By Timothy Knight

As the one year anniversary of Russia's illegal, immoral invasion of Ukraine draws near, the meat grinder that is Bakhmut continues to consume thousands of lives weekly, as both the Kremlin's and Wegner's leadership throw their mobilized and/or convict forces in waves towards Ukrainian defenses in Donbas.

Eerily reminiscent of Stalin's World War Two strategy to retake Stalingrad in 1943, the approach is a needless waste of life to capture a Ukrainian city that has long been evacuated and razed; a victory over ashes that would not only be pyrrhic, but represents just what constitutes momentum for Moscow now.

Initially successful against a Ukrainian Army that was neither battle hardened nor supplied with some of America and Europe's strongest military equipment, Russia has been steadily retreating since reaching the outskirts of Kyiv in late March. With the exception of capturing Lysychansk last summer, the Russian military has suffered several battle-front collapses and strategic losses; this has in-

creased the pressure on a rotating cast of commanders to show momentum anywhere on the eastern front, and as a result Bakhmut has suffered the consequences.

Once a city comparable in size to Utica, Bakhmut has been reduced to ashes by Russia's zealous assault. With neither spoils of war nor strategic advantage to be gained from seizing the ruined city, the question becomes: why bother? The answer is two-fold: (1.) Moscow's high command desperately needs a victory to justify the continued investment of human and material resources into this conquest; (2.) springtime is coming, and with it, offensives.

Since we last wrote about the ongoing Russo-Ukrainian War, the obstinate Germans have finally relented and they have agreed to not only permit other countries in Europe (Poland, Netherlands, and Denmark to name a few) to supply Leopard tanks to Ukraine, but they are also going to directly arm Ukrainian forces from their own stocks. Furthermore, the United States also agreed to supply Ukraine with approx-

imately thirty M1 Abrams tanks as well.

With hundreds of western tanks soon to be arriving in Ukraine, the stage is being set for a new offensive by Ukrainian forces to liberate occupied territories. Since there is likely to be some delays due to training of personnel, there is a small window of opportunity for Russia to advance as warmer weather arrives.

However, given Moscow's recent battlefield tactics and subpar record of strategic success, whatever gains are possible will be mitigated by incompetence within the leadership and incapability among the soldiers. Or, put another way: does Russia have enough men to sacrifice to gain another city, let alone the war?

In Solidarity with Ukraine.

Greetings! I am planning a "mailbag" edition of Coffee in Coby soon, so please send any questions you may have for me about Schoharie County politics, the Atlanta Braves 2021 World Series title or whatever else, and it might just be included. My email is timothyknight93@gmail.com.



Lewis Cates of Cobleskill, passed from this life into the waiting arms of his wife Frances on January 21, 2023.

He was born in Windham, NY on April 19, 1926. He married his sweetheart Frances Cam-

Obituaries Lewis Cates

pagna Cates on Christmas Day 1946 in Hobart NY. They were the parents of three children, Kenneth, Linda, and James, who all were raised in the family home located in Beards Hollow. He was also the grandfather of eleven grandchildren, seventeen great-grandchildren, and one great-great-granddaughter.

Lewis was an avid motorcyclist and took great pride in attending to the landscaping of his property. After retiring from General Electric, he and

his late wife traveled the USA from Coast to Coast.

Lewis was predeceased by his wife of 72 years: Frances Cates; parents: Freeman and Gladys Cates and brothers: Richard and Millard Cates.

For those who would like to commemorate his life, a donation to cancer research, your favorite charity, or an animal shelter would be appropriate.

Coltrain Funeral Home, LLC is honored to be caring for Lewis and his family.

SUNY Cobleskill Fighting Tigers Week Recap

The SUNY Cobleskill men's basketball team took to the road this week to win two-of-three contests defeating the host Cougars of Misericordia University by an 85-80 margin in Dallas, Pa. on Monday prior to splitting a pair of North Atlantic Conference (NAC) games beating the Wildcats of the SUNY Polytechnic Institute on Friday in Marcy, N.Y. 77-72 then losing to the Wildcats of Cazenovia College on Saturday 97-91 in Cazenovia, N.Y. to improve to 16-7 overall on the year including a 7-5 record in NAC play. Junior guard Andre Starks, Rochester, N.Y., Fairport High School/Corning Community College, averaged 20.7 points, 2.7 assists, and 2.3 rebounds per game for the Fighting Tigers during the week.

The Fighting Tiger women's basketball team split a pair of NAC road games over the weekend

losing to the Wildcats of the SUNY Polytechnic Institute on Friday in Marcy, N.Y. 58-52 then defeating the Wildcats of Cazenovia College on Saturday 66-32 in Cazenovia, N.Y. to improve to 13-9 overall on the year including a 9-3 record versus league opponents. First-year forward/center Emily Satterday, Latham, N.Y., Shaker High School, averaged 9.5 points, 13.0 rebounds and 1.0 blocked shots per contest during the week for the Orange & Black.

First-year sprinter Charlie Foote, Cobleskill, N.Y., Cobleskill-Richmondville High School, was the Fighting Tiger men's indoor track & field team's top performer at the 2023 Brockport Mini Meet hosted by SUNY Brockport in Brockport, N.Y. over the weekend. Foote posted qualified for the 2023 All-Atlantic Regional Track & Field Conference (AARTFC) Championships in the 400-meter

dash with a time of 50.75 seconds to finish in eighth place in the event overall. Led by Foote the Cobleskill men placed tied 17th overall at the meet.

The women's track & field team tied for 17th place overall at the 2023 Brockport Multi Meet hosted by SUNY Brockport at the college's Special Events & Recreation Center in Brockport, N.Y. over the weekend. Sophomore jumper Lilah Ward, Arlington, Vt., Arlington High School, was the Fighting Tigers top finisher at the meet placing ninth overall in the high jump clearing a height of 4'8 3/4".

UPCOMING HOME CONTESTS:

Men's Basketball vs. Northern Vermont University-Johnson 2/10, SUNY Canton 2/11

Women's Basketball vs. Northern Vermont University-Johnson 2/10, SUNY Canton 2/11

Local Tobacco Control Programs Educate Lawmakers On Progress And Unmet Needs

ONEONTA – Tobacco-Free Communities | Delaware, Otsego & Schoharie (TFC-DOS) and St. Peter's Health Partners, partners of the New York State Tobacco Control Program (NYS TCP), met with state lawmakers at the State Capitol in Albany this week to discuss how tobacco control efforts have successfully decreased New Yorkers' tobacco use and smoking-related deaths and disease. However, substantial unmet needs remain as 28,200 adult New Yorkers still die every year from smoking.

NYS TCP's policy-driven, cost-effective, and evidence-based approaches contributed to a substantial decline in tobacco use in recent years. For example, tobacco control partners have assisted public, affordable and market-rate property owners transition over 44,000 multi-unit housing units to be tobacco-free for the health and safety of residents. Also, during that time, Health Systems for a Tobacco-Free New York assisted 163 medical health care organizations and 152 mental health care organizations in implementing processes that ensure every patient is screened and treated for tobacco dependence

during their appointment.

The average adult smoking rate in New York State is now 12%, down from more than 23% in 2001, and the youth smoking rate is down to 2.4% from 27.1% in 2000. However, smoking rates remain high among certain demographic groups. Activities are now focused on communities and populations with high tobacco use rates, including: adults who report frequent mental distress; adults with less than a high school education; adults with an annual household income of less than \$25,000; ii adults enrolled in Medicaid,ii and adults living with a disability.ii

In addition to those adult New Yorkers who die each year from smoking, another 750,000 suffer with smoking-related illness. Moreover, 280,000 New York youth currently under the age of 18 will die prematurely from smoking. And, vaping, or e-cigarette use, is still dangerously high. Nearly one in four high-school-age youth in New York State vape/use e-cigarettes,v the most used tobacco product among youth.

"Teenagers should never be using e-cigarettes," said Erin Sinisgalli, Di-

rector, Community Health Programs. "There's a lot of concern in the public health world about what ingredients are actually in e-cigarettes."

For decades, the tobacco industry has used menthol and sweet flavors in tobacco products, making them more appealing to youth. They have also heavily marketed menthol cigarettes to the African American and LGBTQIA+ communities, making it more likely that African American and LGBTQIA+ smokers will suffer from smoking-related diseases and death. The reason is simple: Menthol makes it easier to start smoking and harder to quit.

"We know that menthol, along with sweet, fruity flavors in tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, make tobacco products taste better and feel less harsh on the throat, making them more appealing and easier for young people to use," said Jeanie Orr, Program Manager, Tobacco-Free Communities | Delaware, Otsego & Schoharie. "Flavors also create the impression that these products are less harmful than they really are," added Orr.

Learn more about The Human Cost of Tobacco in New York State.



Friday, January 27, 2023

At 7:21 PM, Cobleskill Police arrested Dylon Graham, 24, of Richmondville, N.Y. for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree and one other vehicle and

traffic law violation. He was issued traffic tickets to appear in Cobleskill Town Court on 02/21/2023 at 2:00 PM.

Thursday, February 2, 2023

At 12:35 PM, Cobleskill Police arrested Kristopher Keiper, 20, homeless, for disorderly conduct. He was issued an appearance ticket to appear in Cobleskill Town Court on

02/21/2023 at 2:00 PM.

At 7:10 PM, Cobleskill Police arrested William Buck, 47, of Cherry Valley, N.Y. for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the second degree and one other vehicle and traffic law violation. He was issued traffic tickets to appear in Cobleskill Town Court on 02/21/2023 at 2:00 PM.

Police Blotter

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Blackbirds Down Bulldogs



LEFT: Ashley Crandall #44 misses this shot with Isabella Carmody #2 of the Voorheesville Blackbirds blocking. Photos by Robert Duso.



RIGHT: Riley France #5 was working hard but was only able to put 3 points on the board all night. Blackbirds' defense seemed to be strong, throughout the whole game. Monday's matchup between the Bulldogs and the Voorheesville Blackbirds. The Blackbirds won 3-0.



Riley France #5 for the Bulldogs with the block, as Reese Hoeig #14 takes a shot at the hoop. Bull Dogs lost 60 to 51. The girls played a hard game.



Meghan Ellis #30 up for two points. Meghan would score 17 this game as Cobleskill fell to the Voorheesville Blackbirds 60-51 Friday.

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Bulldogs Fall to Voorheesville

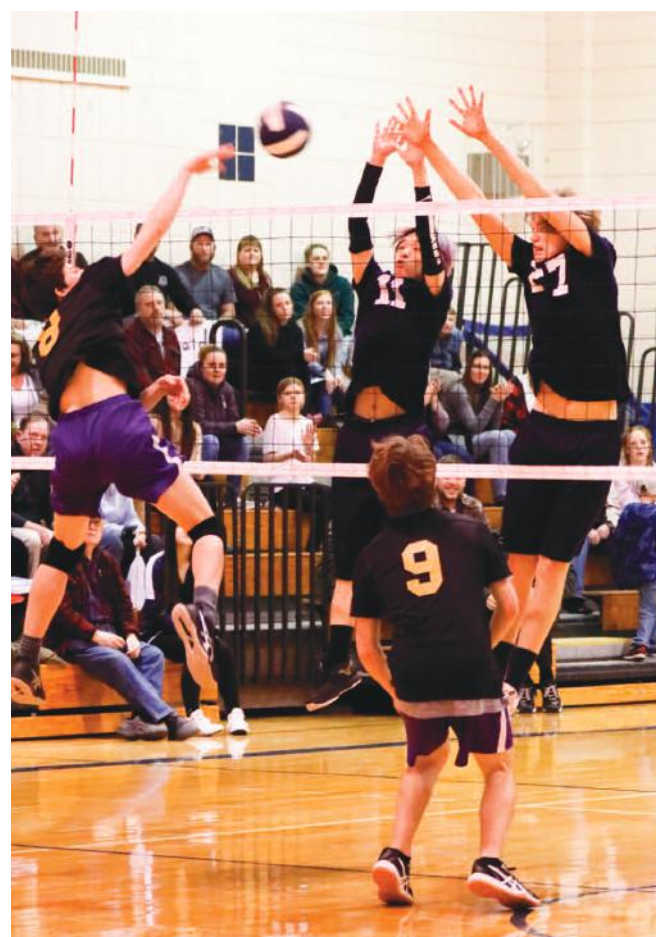


Michael Bruyette #27 gets the block, sends it back for the point.



Ryan Gaida #7 tries to block this lofted ball over the net. Bulldogs had a rough night against the Blackbirds. The Blackbirds ran games in a row ending the night.

Photos by Robert Duso.



Michael Rice #11, and Michael Bruyette #27 block this shot. The blackbirds played a controlled game just putting the ball over the net and not trying to power the ball.



Ryan Gaida #7 doesn't stop this ball in a 3-0 Voorheesville victory.

Institute to Offer Series of Virtual Small Business Workshops

COBLESKILL – The Institute for Rural Vitality at SUNY Cobleskill will offer three small business workshops over three consecutive weeks in March 2023. Each workshop has a specific focus related to a challenge that small businesses often experience when first getting started. All workshops will be offered virtually over Zoom and held from 6:00

p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on their respective dates.

Registrants can sign up to attend individual workshops or the full series. Individual workshops are \$24.99 per attendee, and the full series is \$35.99 per attendee. Click here to register.

Small Business Workshop Series Schedule:

Thursday, March 2
You've Started a Business, Now What?

Thursday, March 9
Growing Your Business Through Branding, Marketing and Technology

Thursday, March 16
Strategizing and Record-Keeping: Two Keys to Long-term Business Success

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Beekeeping, Continued from F1

est audit found the Department of Agriculture and Markets can do more to detect the diseases and parasites that destroy bee colonies.”

In its response to the audit, Ag and Markets generally agreed with the findings and expressed willingness to improve operations as per the report’s recommendations, like continuing to expand and develop the registration of active apiaries. In addition, the department will work to build relationships and procedures with other states to ensure honeybees traveling between states are healthy.

The department said it disagrees with the audit’s assumption that other testing methods would be more effective in preserving honeybee populations, but will continue to evaluate how well available testing works.

While the Comptroller’s audit and state department cooperation are important to protecting New York’s pollinators, so too are local groups



Beekeepers remove capped frames from honey supers for extraction.

like the Valley Beekeeper’s Association.

Members not only come together to support fellow beekeepers, but many bottle and sell their honey and products on the farmers market circuit, which inevitably leads to teachable moments. They also conduct beekeeping workshops, seminars and classes at local schools, libraries

and community events.

This kind of grassroots outreach from people with firsthand knowledge is an invaluable educational resource for the public and policymakers. More importantly, it creates a buzz about the importance of protecting pollinators, and hopefully new beekeepers along the way.

To learn more about the Valley Beekeeper’s Association, go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2914245048801103>. For information about the Comptroller’s audit, go to <https://www.osc.state.ny.us/state-agencies/audits/2023/01/19/protection-managed-pollinators-honey-bees>.



Sweet, gooey honey is a natural wonder.

LIVING DRUG FREE BY ROGER BARCHITTA, CASAC (RETIRED)

Who Becomes Addicted?

Our current epidemic of addiction rampaging across the US is driven by human beings who have a susceptibility to addiction because of their need to alter their consciousness for fun or escape. The problem of addiction is so widespread that most of us are related to or know someone who has a “problem” with alcohol or other drugs. Who are these people? Answer: they are us.

Anyone can become addicted to drugs. Some of us are more prone to becoming addicts than others. Alcoholism is very prevalent in my extended family. I did not become an alcoholic even though I tried to abuse alcohol in my wayward youth

along with my peers. Drinking small amounts of alcohol made me sick. My father also had the same condition and he passed it on to me. I consider myself to be lucky because enzyme action in the body determines how humans metabolize alcohol.

I did become addicted to nicotine because I was influenced by peers and the mass media of the time of my youth that presented smoking as “cool” and an image of tough masculinity. Remember the Marlboro Man? I quit smoking 42 years ago but I am still biochemically addicted to nicotine. I enjoyed smoking but the price of long term nicotine use has kept me in remission.

Why did I start smoking “coffin nails” as a 15 year old? It was risky, defiant and an adult privilege that we craved and emulated as immature, hormonally driven adolescents. My peers who I had grown up with, were a typical cross section of 1958 NYC youths who smoked cigarettes and used alcohol- the available and culturally accepted drugs. Only one individual in the group became an alcoholic and he fit the now accepted addiction prone profile of an individual who likes to take risks with little impulse control around experimenting and playing with new experiences and dangerous activities. He was the “poster boy” for Alcoholism.

Although the current consensus of addiction professionals is that there is no single personality type that could lead one into addiction, there are personality traits common among people who have a substance use disorder: an inability to handle stress, impulsivity, unaccountability and a lack of empathy or self-involvement. Anyone can be at risk for addiction especially when you have been dealt a ticket in Life’s Lottery that may include genetic predisposition, trauma, family issues, community and cultural influences. Those of us who have been hurt by physical or emotional abuse often look for relief from the pain caused by traumatic abusive rela-

tionships, environments and situations. The need to dull the pain of horrific memories of extreme life events can become overwhelming. When consciousness altering substances are offered to, or discovered by the suffering individual and temporary relief is achieved, this may be the beginning of a lifelong addiction especially if the individual has any of the common personality traits of the addiction prone.

Once addiction is triggered as a positive reward response in the brain, the life path of the new addict can become a highway to hell. The drug takes over the brain as a tidal wave or a slow drip. Dependency begins when the overwhelmed brain

loses its ability to naturally produce pleasurable feelings of well-being. The brain develops tolerance to the drug and dependence becomes evident when the drug use and the body responds with a “withdrawal” response that can be very unpleasant to life threatening. Obvious symptoms of addiction are the addict’s loss of control of their lives as they obsess and crave the drug and focus on risky drug seeking, destructive activities that will exact a price of serious life consequences. Addiction is a chronic, progressive and if untreated it can be fatal but there is hope for recovery through treatment and recovery support. To be continued.

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VALENTINES

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YOUR LOCAL HAPPENINGS FOR SHARON SPRINGS

Sharon Things

By Alexis Pencar
Hey Neighbors! Happy Valentine's Day to you all! <3

What a crazy bag of temperatures last week with negative temperatures as low as -18 early Saturday morning, followed by a swing of nearly 50 degrees and highs of 40s that followed on Sunday!

Sap House at Stone House was busy last Saturday morning for their Opening Day of the seasonal weekend pancake breakfast! The Arctic Blast temperatures didn't hold back the community from coming out to support this beloved family business!

Homeowners scrambled as pipes froze Saturday and Sunday despite proactive efforts on what may have been the coldest day of the year!

Village Construction

With rather early morning start times, the construction on Historic Main Street and over on Chestnut St continued. With more intensity, teams were spotted at Cornerstone Place digging up large sections of the short dead-end road.

This is in connection

to the long-term and long-awaited Water and Sewer Project backed by The Village.

Please continue to take caution while heading down the hill and around the Village since large pieces of construction equipment are on the roads.

Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to Alexis Bartlett on February 14th!

Sharon Springs Rescue Squad

The Sharon Springs Rescue Squad is a cornerstone of our community! With many active members, they are always looking for new volunteers for Drivers, First Responders, Social Members, and EMT's. SSRS will fund any training that is needed. SSRS meets the first Monday of the month at 7 pm and would be happy to answer any questions with how you can support your community.

The American Legion

The American Legion Post 1269 of Sharon Springs is looking for new members! If you are interested in becoming an American Legion member, volunteering, or even donating to the

many wonderful causes the Legion supports, please contact Commander Paul Todd at (518) 649-0024 for more information.

Sharon Springs Free Library

Black History Month would be a good time to read a book written by a person of color. There is a huge variety to choose from. Yes, there are contemporary books that speak to the history and experience of black people (authors Ta-Nehisi Coates and others). But there are also books of poetry and many, many novels.

You may have read books or seen movies based on books by Toni Morrison ("Beloved") or Alice Walker ("The Color Purple."). N.K. Jemison was the first woman to win Science Fiction's highest honor for her novels, the Hugo Award, and she was the first person to win it three years in a row. Books by black authors are not new. E. B. Dubois' classic, "The Souls of Black Folk" was published in 1903 and remains in print.

Zora Neale Hurston's works stemmed from the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920's and 30's. Ellison's "The Invisible Man" was published in 1952. Many of these books are available either in our library or through our MVLS library system. Our

librarians would be happy to help you find one.

Book Discussion will be Friday, February 17 at 6:00 p.m. Readers have been enjoying Liane Moriarty's "Apples Never Fall." We still have some copies available.

For February and March, the library remains on winter hours: Monday and Thursday 10 - 6, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 3 - 6, Saturday 10 - 1.

Daylight Savings Time starts March 12, only a few days more than one month away.

Saturday, April 1 will be our annual Great Book Giveaway. We are accepting donations of books in good condition during library hours. Please do not leave them on the porch!

Children's Reading Group is on Thursday mornings from 10-11 AM and includes story time, crafts, and a snack for preschool and home-school children ages preschool to third grade.

For more Library information please contact (518) 284-3126.

Worship Services

The Sharon Reformed Church (6858 State Route 10, Sharon Springs, NY 13459) of-

fers weekly service at 10:30 am. Contact at (518) 234-2387 for more details.

The Sharon Springs United Methodist Church (511 State Route 20, Sharon Springs, NY, 13459) offers weekly service at 10:30 am. Contact at (518) 284-2200 for more details.

The St. Thomas The Apostle Catholic Church (24 Maple Avenue, Cherry Valley, NY 13320) offers weekly mass at 10:00 am. Reminder: confession is available 30 minutes before every mass. Contact at (607) 264-3779 for more details.

The Zion St. John's Lutheran Church Seward (114 Mesick Ave, Cobleskill, NY 12043) offers weekly service on Sundays at 9:00 am. Contact at (518) 234-3222 for more details.

Cornerstone Baptist Church (7274 Route 10, Ames, NY 13317). Sunday Service is at 10:00 am. All are welcome. Contact (518) 673 3405 for more details.

Food Pantry

The Sharon Springs Food Pantry is an excellent local resource for all! They are located in

the United Methodist Church on Route 20, across from the school (511 US Route 20, Sharon's Springs, NY 13459).

They are always accepting donations! If you or someone you know is in need of the Pantry, the hours are Thursday 9:00 am -10:30 am and 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm.

Senior Congregate Meal Site

Local residents are invited to enjoy socialization and a noon-time meal at Schoharie County Office for the Aging congregate meal site in Sharon Springs (Mon., Wed. & Fri., Firehouse, Beechwood Rd.). Reserve a meal by calling OFA at 518-295-2001 by 1 pm on the day before you want to go. A suggested donation of \$4 is accepted from those 60 years old and older. Under age 60? You're welcome to participate and will be charged \$5.

To share community news, upcoming events, business specials, adjusted hours, birthdays, anniversaries, or even an outstanding resident, please reach out to: (772) 971-1410 or alexis.pencar@gmail.com.

Esperance Home Destroyed in Sunday Night Fire

ESPERANCE - A Sunday night fire on Herrick Road in the Town of Duanesburg destroyed the home of Robert and Bob Bever.

Bob Bever, a Past Exalted Ruler of the Esperance Elks, lost everything to the house fire. Volunteers are collecting clothing: pants and shirts size 3XL, men's 34x30 jeans, and large shirts.

A bank account has been set at the NBT bank in Duanesburg in the name of Robert J. Bever Jr. and Natasha Bever.



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Snowfest

FREE Winter fun for the entire family!

Sat, Feb 11 • 10 am – 3 pm

Activities Include:

- ❖ Photos with the Snow Princesses
- ❖ Dog Sled Demonstrations
- ❖ Sledding, Snowshoeing and Snow-Bowling!
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- ❖ Songs, Music & Storytelling
- ❖ Exhibits, Crafts & Local Food Vendor

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Excellent Family Resources Available at SCCAP

By Alexis Pencar
COBLESKILL - Did you know that Schoharie County has its own Community Action Program that just celebrated 58 years of serving the community?

Located in Cobleskill (795 East Main Street, Suite 5), Schoharie County Community Action Program Inc. is a non-profit human service or-

ganization in Schoharie County serving residents since 1965!

SCCAP is part of a nationwide network of 1,000+ agencies incorporated "to address the causes of poverty", including "the barriers families face while seeking to overcome economic instability".

SCCAP provides a wide array of programs, serv-

ices, and supports available like energy reduction measures, child care resources and referrals, health and nutrition, breastfeeding support, access to health insurance, free tax preparation, employment and training, family support and resources, mentors, supervised visitation and more.

According to SCCAP,

"its community partners collaborate through advocacy, referrals, and coordinated service delivery with the goal of moving families towards economic security".

If there is a service that Social Services does not offer, often SCCAP covers the middle ground. An example of this is that the Special Supplemental Nutrition

Program for Women, Infants, and Children or WIC is located within the SCCAP umbrella.

Community Action believes an "investment in families is an investment in community" and we can only achieve this together one family at a time.

SCCAP's Mission is: Building stronger, healthier communities and em-

powering families that experience economic and social challenges through strategic partnerships, education, services, and compassion.

If you, or someone you know, could benefit from the many helpful resources at SCCAP, please visit www.sccapinc.org or call (518) 234-2568 or even toll-free at (866) 849-2402.

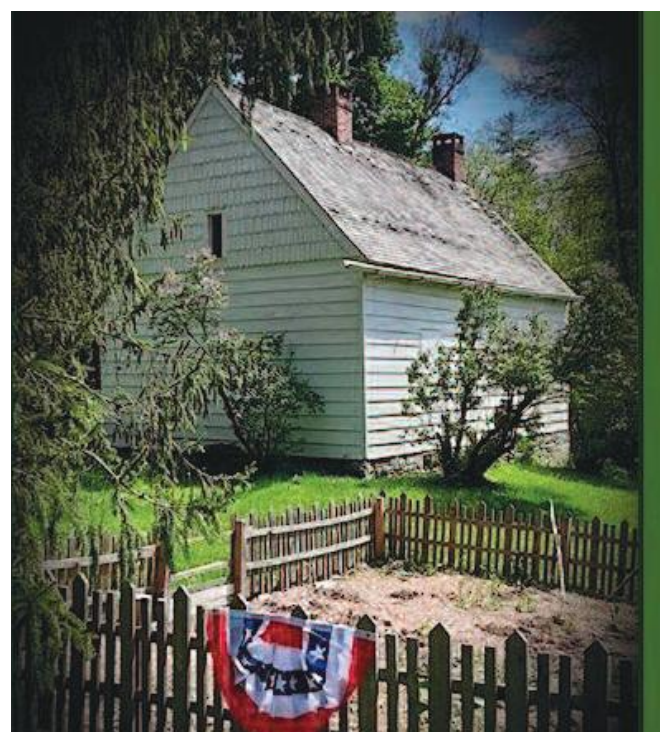
Sharon Historical Society Presentation Next Thurs.

We're hosting a new event, and we'd love to see you there. Join us for "The Palatine House - Schoharie County's Oldest Building", February 13, 2023 at 7:00 PM (New York Time).

Schoharie County's oldest building, the Palatine House (a. k. a. the Old Lutheran Parsonage), will be two hundred and eighty years old this year.

By the year 1742, the German Lutherans in the Schoharie Valley were well enough established, and prosperous enough, to build a church and to put in a call for a Lutheran pastor, ordained in Germany, to minister to the community.

Peter Nicholas Sommer, from Hamburg, Germany, answered the call and arrived in Schoharie in May of 1743. A parsonage was constructed and completed in September 1743. The building would serve as a



Church, as well as a parsonage until a church could be built. That building was not completed until 1751.

By then Pastor Sommer had married Maria Keyser. The couple had four children by the time the church was built and

by the time the American Revolution began, they were a family of ten.

The building was spared when the British forces burned the valley in 1780. A new parsonage was built in 1797 and the old building went through a variety of uses including rental property, and housing for the church sexton. By 1970 it was abandoned.

After a similar house of the same age was destroyed to build a power plant the Schoharie Colonial Heritage Association was formed to save any buildings from destruction. The Palatine house became available in 1972, and the building was restored and opened as a museum several years later.

SCHA continues to operate the museum today.

Register soon because space is limited.

We hope you're able to join us!

Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/schoharie-countys-oldest-building-the-palatine-house-registration-540067344967>

Acts of Kindness in Your Community for Valentine's Day

By Alexis Pencar
 Valentine's Day is February 14th and has traditionally been reserved for lovers, secret admirers, and proposals and it's high time we broaden that horizon!

Take time to show love for your community with acts of kindness this year for Valentine's Day. With so many different ways to make a statement, take your local community seriously while showing a little, or a lot of love this year!

Looking to show love to those less fortunate in your community? Donate food to your local food bank or church. Get creative and donate dry ingredients for your fa-

vorite soup and include the recipe or even donate a cake mix with a pan and birthday candles too!

Looking to show love to those small independent businesses that make our downtowns so special? Shop small for family and friends or even better, change your buying habits, since you'd be surprised what your local grocer can provide! You can always buy gift cards now for shops you frequent more in the warmer months too.

Looking to show love to those non-profit organizations that help make up the difference for so many? Make a quick donation to the organization that lands

closest to your heart. Without donations, these cornerstones in our communities could not get to where they are now.

Looking to show love to those local volunteer EMS units all around Schoharie County? Find out how you can help out your local Rescue Squad or even join! A community takes a team and this is a group that can always use more members!

Valentine's Day is meant to express and show love and the best recipient of love is the one that returns it! Make your actions heart this Valentine's Day with acts of kindness in your local community!



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Family Support Services

Did you know that Schoharie County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (SCCASA) offers free family support services and has a Family Support Navigator on staff.

We are here to help you and your family members navigate the complexities of being and loving someone with a substance use disorder.

Contact Chrystal Bushnell @ sccasa518.org or join her at SCCASA's new location 597 E Main St in Cobleskill every Thursday from 9 till 4.

NIGHT *to Shine*

Volunteers Needed

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6pm-9pm

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Local Methodist Churches Initiate "Operation: Home Repair"

Right here in Schoharie County and its surrounding communities, there is a tremendous need for critical home repair. Whether it's the addition of a ramp for accessibility, leaky roofs, or unsafe conditions within homes, the needs are many and the funds and labor to make these repairs are often not obtainable. Local member churches of the Mosaic United Methodist Cooperative Ministry would like to help. Church leaders are organizing the inaugural "Operation: Home Repair," a week of volun-

teer-led home repair projects that will take place the week of July 24-29, 2023 serving those in our own communities who most need the help.

Do you have critical home repair needs? You can apply to be considered for this project by obtaining an application at your local United Methodist church or filling out an application online: tinyurl.com/MosaicHomeRepairApp. Applications are due by April 1, 2023.

Would you like to volunteer? The Mosaic churches are calling for

any and all volunteers who want to be part of this effort. Whether you have a day or the whole week, you are needed! Whether you have lots of construction experience or are willing to learn new things, you are needed! Serve your community and make a difference. Read more about the project and fill out the volunteer application online at this link: tinyurl.com/MosaicHomeRepairVol.com.

All questions can be directed to the Cobleskill United Methodist Church office at 518-234-3671.

Sharon Defeats Schenevus

Sharon Springs dominated in the round one playoff this Wednesday, defeating Schenevus 61-47. The Spartans, ranked #6, started out strong, outscoring Schenevus 13-7 in the first quarter. Sharon Springs went on to tie in the second quar-

ter, with 16 points a piece, then notched 17-13 and 15-11 advantages over #7 seed Schenevus. Schenevus' Jackson Reed dropped an impressive 24 points, including two field goals. Sharon Springs saw impressive

performances with Luke Enyart leading the charge with 25 points. Brady Law was not far behind, with 20 points. Mike Cashman had 13 points, including two 3-pointers and Ethan Mickel cinched three points on the night.

SUNY Falls to Cazenovia

The SUNY Cobleskill men's basketball team ended their weekend central New York road swing, losing a high scoring contest to the host Wildcats of Cazenovia College by a 97-91 margin in North Atlantic Conference (NAC) play in a game that could have impact on the league's upcoming Western Division playoff picture. With the loss the Fighting Tigers are now 16-7 overall including a 7-5 record in conference action while the Wildcats move to 14-9 overall with an 8-5 mark in NAC play.

After the Fighting Tigers tied the contest at 70-70 with 6:24 re-

maining in regulation on a lay-up by junior center Markel Jenkins, Elmira, N.Y., Elmira High School/Corning Community College, the Wildcats kicked their offense into high gear going a 14-4 run to give them an 84-74 advantage with 1:57 left to play from which they never looked back.

Sophomore swingman Trent Lomax, Harlem, N.Y., Percy Sutton High School, came off the bench to lead Cobleskill in scoring with a career high 20 points and three rebounds while Markel Jenkins posted a double/double with 19 points and 12 rebounds. The Fighting Tiger

backcourt of junior Andre Starks, Rochester, N.Y., Fairport High School/Corning Community College, with 15 points and two assists and junior Izhiah Pigott, Brooklyn, N.Y., Urban Assembly High School/Dutchess Community College, with 15 points and three assists were also solid in defeat for the visitors.

The Orange & Black will next be in action when they return to the Iorio Gymnasium on Friday February 10 for a NAC home meeting with the Badgers of Northern Vermont University-Johnson with tip-off beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Building Community Page by Page



Learning about Groundhog Day with a story and craft for Thursday Reading Group at the Sharon Springs Free Library last week. Photos by Alexis Pencar.



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