



The Mountain Eagle

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DA Board Hears Capital Project Management Presentations

By Mary A. Crisafulli
DELHI - Delaware Academy Central School District Board of Education heard three presentations on Jan. 30 from project management firms regarding future capital projects. The district began the initial stages of capital project planning in October 2022. During the planning phase, board members seek community input through public hearings and surveys and assess facility needs to develop a preliminary project scope. A capital project survey is available to community members by visiting delhischools.org. Potential projects include paving the parking lot and driveway, gym loading dock repair, front step repair, sidewalk repair, boiler replacement, gym wall crack repair, technology and agriculture innovation lab updates, and sports field updates, among others. Representatives from Schoolhouse Construction Services LLC, TamCo Management Group, and LeChase Construction Services provided information on their expertise in capital projects and management processes. All three companies work with districts and on projects across the state and understand market trends useful for building

budgets. Representatives pointed to financial or cost management being a critical step in capital project planning. Board members plan to schedule a special meeting to discuss future capital project improvements. In other business: The Junior Prom is scheduled May 6 at the Bluestone Restaurant, Delhi College Gulf Course. Freshmen are permitted upon invite with the guest form submission. The ticket price and theme will be determined at a future meeting. The board heard a presentation on school-based healthcare by Jane Hamilton, a collaborative effort between the district and Bassett Healthcare Network for over 30 years. The initiative offers basic healthcare services to students at no charge. Oral healthcare is provided at scheduled times throughout the year. Pre-pandemic, the healthcare department conducted approximately 27,000 visits which increased to 32,000, said Hamilton. Resignations were accepted from the following individuals; School Counselor Anne Gregory, Science Instructor Peter Hannigan, Elementary Teacher Heidi Felton, and Elementary Teacher Ellen Moser.

Retirements were accepted for School Counselor Michelle Cleveland and Network Manager Luke Potrzeba. Margaret Ossit was appointed as a Highschool English teacher pending final certification from New York State Education Department for \$46,500 annually. Amanda Kane was appointed as a school counselor until Jan. 31, 2026, for \$64,000 annually. An agreement was made with Building Better Futures from January to June for \$29,000. SEQRA report was approved for an emergency capital project to repair the front steps, which due to its structural collapse, caused a safety hazard. The project contract with Smith Site Development LLC will not exceed \$425,000. A donation from St. John's Episcopal Church was accepted for \$140 to be used for the backpack program that provides prepared food to children. A donation from Helfgott-Renfroe Foundation of \$10,000 was accepted, with \$5,000 for the backpack program and \$5,000 for the bus garage. The next Delaware Academy Central School District board meeting is scheduled Monday, Feb. 27, at 5 p.m.

Tourism Promotion Tops Economic Discussion \$350 Million Belleayre Resort Project Requires Local Support

By Mary A. Crisafulli
DELHI - Delaware County Economic Development Committee members discussed tourism promotion efforts and budget at their monthly meeting on Feb. 1. The marketing plan is a significant component of tourism promotion efforts and \$279,680 is budgeted for advertising, travel guide and website updates, said Economic Development Director Glenn Nealis. Black Propeller will be hired to manage social media accounts and advertising at \$3,500 a month with a \$7,000 monthly media budget. An outside contractor focused on social media will free Blue Spark Creative Lisa Wisley, media representative, to focus on other goals, said Nealis. The county contracted with Blue Spark to promote businesses, events, and county happenings to be published in newspapers and magazines for \$72,000 annually in 2022. Other advertising and media opportunities that will be pursued in 2023 include a contract with Visit Vortex, a print media guide; media publisher Chronogram, which has been used by the county in the past; AAA Northeast, which offers digital packages aligning to the county brand; Discover Upstate, an award-winning travel website; NYUp Travel Guides, will pursue a four-page spread; and Filmmaker Magazine & Movie Maker Magazine, which will support the initiative to encourage filming in Delaware County. Funding will also be used to develop the website, greatwesterncatskills.com, for \$30,000 which will include regular maintenance.

Two new websites will be developed including a business resource site for business owners that will feature instructional videos, training webinars, and other resources. The first instructional video will be released shortly which features fire safety regulations, code compliance, and occupancy tax protocol, Nealis reported. The second website will focus on the wedding industry. It has been determined individuals seeking wedding venues gravitate towards areas where all their planning needs can be met with ease, said Nealis. The site would include resources regarding venues, lodging, caterers, photographers, disc jockey services, event planners, invitation designers, and more. Planning for the 2023-2024 travel guide has begun with a \$60,000 budget, said Nealis. Minor updates to photography and businesses will be made. An addition of the ability to track QR code use will be added to the new guide to determine consumer use of the guide. Transportation and available hotel rooms are two major concerns for wedding venues, said Stamford Supervisor John Kosier, and should be considered during website development. According to Kosier, there is a local venue that contracts a bus service to transport guests from lodging to the venue and back which would make a great addition to the website list. Approximately \$50,000 of county American Rescue funding was allocated to a transportation study, wedding venues are another potential revenue base and should be explored during the study, said Davenport Supervisor Dennis Valente. Nealis also proposed using occupancy tax revenue to fund tourism promotion ef-

orts which has been approved by the tourism advisory board. The committee unanimously approved use of occupancy tax funding for \$225,958. The resolution will need board of supervisors' approval before any funding transfer. A recent Daily Star article indicated that two counties north of Delaware County are seeing a decrease in bed tax revenue, said Valente. Those counties are very dependent on baseball camps which were shut down this year, Nealis noted. Delaware County is diversified in its dependency, and tourism promotion will continue to support that diversity, said Valente. The county has already allocated \$95,000 to tourism promotion. An additional \$45,807 in state I Love NY funding is expected in February or March. In another discussion, the Belleayre Mountain and Resort project, which has been discussed since 2002, will add over 200 lodging condos to Ulster and Delaware counties. The project cost is estimated between \$350 and \$450 million to construct the lodging facilities around an 18-hole golf course. A major issue that will require political support from local representatives, is that the project exceeds the state-mandated trail mileage regulation, Nealis explained. Former New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo agreed for the state to purchase the 1,000 acres of property proposed for expansion for \$14,000,000 to be donated to an independent group for the project to move forward within state regulations. Negotiations for the transfer of the property were deferred due to the global pandemic. Stakeholders are seeking reengagement with

Search for County Mental Health Director Continues

By Mary A. Crisafulli
DELHI - Delaware County Personnel Officer Carrara Knoetgen reported on search efforts for a behavioral health director following Cinthia Heaney's retirement at the end of 2022 at a human resources committee meeting on Feb. 1. Doug Elston is serving as an interim behavioral health director. Per state regulations, Elston may continue to serve as interim for six months following Heaney being removed from county payroll, Knoetgen explained. An extension of Elston's interim position would require approval from New York State. Knoetgen does not anticipate state approval for an extension of the interim position since Elston meets the requirements for the director position. Should supervisors hire Elston as director, an assistant director would need to be hired to fill his position. Colchester Supervisor Arthur Merrill, member of human resources and mental health committees, said both committees would like to see several prospective candidates before promoting

Elston permanently. Mental health committee members and department staff are pleased with Elston's work as interim director, he added. A recent applicant for the position was deemed unqualified as they did not have the state-required number of years of experience, Knoetgen reported. The position is listed on Indeed and was published in The Reporter, The Mountain Eagle, Albany Press Sun, and County Shopper. In other business, Knoetgen announced the second round of NYS Health Care and Mental Hygiene Worker Bonuses had been distributed to qualifying healthcare workers. A third round of bonuses will be available in March, though each employee is only qualified for two, she added. The state 2023 budget allocates \$1.3 billion to the bonus program to support the recruitment and retention of healthcare and mental hygiene workers. Gratuities are eligible for workers who make less than \$125,000 annually and remain in their positions for at least six months. Disbursements will

be calculated based on hours worked during designated periods for up to \$3,000 per employee. Committee members entered an executive session to discuss CSCA negotiations and legal matters. No decisions were made. The next human resources committee meeting is scheduled Wednesday, Mar. 1, at 1 p.m.

Pistol League Scores

Team and High Individual Match Scores 1/27/2023
Match XIV:
Sidney defeats Delhi : 1040-17X to 1013-8X
Stamford defeated Rockdale: 1090-24X to 1033-15X
Top shooters for Stamford were: Jim Hiitt 285-8X; John Wyckoff 273-5X; Carl Tubbs 272-8X; and Steve Baker 260-3X
Also shooting for Stamford were: Jan Hornbach, Larry VanDeusen, Maynard Vance, Mark Gifford, Jeff Mattice, and Bill DeSilva
High Scores for Rockdale were: Gerry Palmer 262-2X; Pat Hawkins 258-6X; Dave VanValkenburg 257-4X; and Steve Ingalls 256-3X
Other Rockdale shooters were: Tom Rees, Rick Braun, Ed Heath, Dave Dewey, and Joe Ocasio
Walton beat Oneonta: 1074-18X to 1057-13X
Win/Loss Record:
Stamford 13-0
Walton 10-3
Rockdale 5-8
Oneonta 4-9
Sidney 4-8
Delhi 2-10

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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Del. Co GOP Rallies Faithful



State Senator Peter Oberacker speaks at a Republican breakfast Saturday morning where he talked about the importance of combating substance abuse. More photos on next page.

Obituaries

Richard "Bruno" Bassani



Richard "Bruno" Bassani, 80, of Stamford, passed away Sunday evening, January 29, 2023 at Cooperstown Center. Born on July 18, 1942 in Stamford, Richard was the son of the late Bruno and Ida (Gray) Bassani.

He was a graduate of Stamford Central School and worked at the former Prospect Dairy in Stamford and then Mountain-side Dairy in Roxbury until his retirement. Richard enjoyed playing golf at the Stamford Golf Coarse and was an avid card player, often playing a game of poker or blackjack. Dick was a fixture at the local Stewarts Shop and loved talking to his friends and anyone else he ran into.

Besides his parents, Richard was predeceased by several aunts and uncles.

He is survived by his sister: Geraldine Bassani of Stamford, along with several cousins and friends.

A service will be held at 12noon on Saturday, February 4, 2023 at the MacArthur Funeral Home, 15 Buntline Dr., Stamford. Friends and relatives are invited to call an hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Burial will be in the spring at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Stamford.

Please visit www.macarthurfh.com to share a condolence with Richard's family.

Jeffery Laskow Sentenced to Probation on DWAI Charge

DELHI – Acting District Attorney Shawn Smith announced that Jeffery Laskow, 64, of Big Indian, New York, was 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.

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 2 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.

STOP DWI Coordinator Scott Glueckert added, "DWI is a serious crime that puts the safety of the community

at risk. Whether it is alcohol or illegal drugs, no one should operate a motor vehicle under the influence. Delaware County STOP DWI applauds the work of law enforcement and the District Attorney's Office in their effort to keep our roads safe."

Acting District Attorney Shawn Smith stated, "when a defendant attempts to drive a vehicle while under the influence of drugs, he puts everyone at risk. Thankfully, no one was injured this time although the defendant was involved in a one car motor vehicle crash.

I commend Trooper Siobahn Carey and Drug Recognition Expert Justin Mohr for their great work on this case."

Assistant District Attorney Schuyler Kinneman prosecuted the case.

Davenport Man Indicted For Burglary

DELHI - Delaware County Acting District Attorney Shawn J. Smith announced today that 46-year-old JUSTIN T. VALK, of Davenport, New York, was arraigned on January 30, 2023 by Acting County Court Judge Gary A. Rosa on an indictment charging him with 2 Counts of Burglary in the Second Degree, both Class C Violent Felonies, and One Count of Burglary in the Third Degree, a Class D Felony.

Count One of the indictment alleges that the defendant, Justin T. Valk, on or about between the 15th

day of January, 2022 and the 6th day of April, 2022 did knowingly and unlawfully enter a garage located at 226 County Route 30, Harpersfield, New York, with the intent to commit the crime of larceny therein.

Count Two of the indictment alleges that the defendant, on or about between the 15th day of January, 2022 and the 6th day of April, 2022 knowingly and unlawfully entered that same garage, while displaying what appeared to be a pistol, revolver or other firearm. Count Three of the indictment alleges that the

defendant acted in concert with another person to unlawfully enter a home located at 226 County Route 30, in Harpersfield, with the intent to commit the crime of larceny therein.

The defendant pleaded not-guilty to the three count indictment, and the Honorable Gary A. Rosa remanded the defendant to the custody of the Delaware County Sheriff in lieu of \$100,000.00 cash bail.

As are all persons accused of a crime, the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Board of Elections Notice

February 14 is the deadline for change of party enrollment up until the June Primary. Any change of enrollment made between Feb-

ruary 15th and July 5th shall be effective July 5th. Current New York State Election Law allows a voter to change their party en-

rollment at most times during the year without a waiting period. However, any political party change made during the holding period won't take effect until after the June 27th party Primary election.

2023 is a local election year. In many cases town clerks with a 2-year term will be up for election. Some members of council and superintendent of highway and town justice positions will also be up. Please contact your Town government as well as the county board of elections if you are interested in running for office.

To see which offices in your Town are up for election consult your Town clerk or the county Board of Elections website: www.delco.ny.us/departments/elec/elec.htm

We at the BOE office welcome inquiries from our citizens and are always happy to check for you on your current voting and enrollment status, your listed home and mailing addresses, and to answer any questions about elections.

The Board of Election offices will be moving on February 15th from 3 Gallant Avenue to 97 Main Street, Suite 5, Delhi. Our phone number will remain the same: 607-832-5321.

HELP WANTED
The Roxbury Arts Group, a nonprofit arts org, is seeking candidates for two new positions: Gallery Assistant, part-time, 10 hrs/week, \$16/hr; and Presenting Program Manager, full-time, 35hrs/week, \$20/hr. Applications due Feb 15. Complete details at roxburyartsgroup.org/about.

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Charlotte Valley Downs Roxbury



Roxbury's Christopher Garafolo takes the layup against Charlotte Valley's Simone Tunno (21) in Tuesday's league game at Davenport. CVCS won it.



Roxbury's George Proctor (34) puts the shot up against Charlotte Valley's Noah Johnson (50) during league action at Davenport on Tuesday. The Wildcats came from behind to win it.



Charlotte Valley's Noah Johnson (50) takes the shot under pressure in Tuesday's game against Roxbury. Trying to fend off the basket is Roxbury's George Proctor (34) and Taran Davis (30).

Photos by Liz Page



Charlotte Valley's Trevor Waid (2) takes the shot in over Roxbury's George Proctor (34) in Tuesday's league pairing at Davenport.

GOP, from Previous Page



Congressman Marc Molinaro talks to the large crowd Saturday. He spoke about how New York Republicans played a key role in taking the House of Representatives in the fall elections.



Stamford's George Bergleitner (right) poses for a photo with Acting District Attorney Shawn Smith (center) and Assemblyman Chris Tague (right). Assemblyman Tague announced a campaign for state GOP Chair. See related story in the Cobleskill Herald. Photos by Matthew Avitabile.

Econ. Dev., from A1

Governor Kathy Hochel's administration to reopen negotiations, Nealis explained. It is anticipated local municipalities will be requested to pass supportive resolutions to help push the project through political parties, said Nealis. "There is a fiscal benefit to the county in encouraging the project to move forward," said Nealis.

In other business: Approximately 22 applications for the state RAIL Grant, dispersed through economic development, have been received and will be reviewed by the end of February. A second application process is expected once initial applicants are notified. "The goal is to get as many Delaware County residents to access outside funding as possible," said Valente. All funding is required to be allocated by September, said Nealis. Underrepresented areas from the first round will take precedence in the second round of applications, Nealis continued.

The Restore NY Program application was completed and submitted on Jan. 23. Delaware County is seeking a little over \$1.8 million to repair several buildings on

Franklin's Main Street.

The Train to Work Program has 56 open contracts with local businesses. About one-third of the hired individuals do not continue their employment to the contract end, said Nealis. To date, the program has utilized \$150,000 in county American Rescue funds. The initiative is expected to continue into 2024. Grants are open to all businesses but focused on businesses with 100 or fewer employees, Nealis explained, because larger businesses with human resources departments have a better chance of getting state or federal funding opportunities for training. The program is designed to be simple for business owners who don't have the time or employees to work on securing grants, he said. "What we can do is lessen the burden of hiring someone," said Nealis.

The next Delaware County Economic Development Committee meeting is scheduled Wednesday, March 1, at 9 a.m.

Stamford / Jefferson Results in the Schoharie News section.

Sports Round Up in Tri-County Section

Coffeehouse at the Walton Theatre

Sunday, February 19, 2023

Bill Seneschal: "I'll Get By With a Little Help From my Friends"

Music on the Delaware is pleased to present Bill Seneschal and Friends at the February 19, 2023 Coffeehouse at the Walton Theatre. Coffeehouse presentations occur at the Andrea Retz Paternoster Room on the second floor of the Walton Theatre from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. and are free. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Bill Seneschal has been playing and singing timeless folk and country music since the 1960s, having been in-

fluenced by such groups as the Kingston Trio and the Limelighters as well as popular country musicians. He has performed as soloist and member of several ensembles over the past years, playing a blend of country, bluegrass, folk, blues, old rock n' roll, and some pop. Bill particularly enjoys performing with friends, several of whom will be joining him for this gig. In this program, he will also be doing some original songs.

This concert will also be available through zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84455407805>. For more information, see www.musiconthedelaware.org.

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Letters to the Editor

Condemnation of the Actions of the Memphis Police Officers

Having reviewed the video regarding Tyre Nichols in Memphis, Tennessee, I feel a personal and professional moral duty to condemn unlawful police conduct. As with the George Floyd case, I am issuing this public statement condemning the actions of the police officers involved. I often spend time defending the vast majority of good, hard working honest officers so, I must condemn the conduct of bad police officers when I see it.

After viewing the videos of the Memphis Police Officers' actions, it is very clear that the Murder Indictments are appropriate.

Their actions tarnish the reputation of the hundreds of thousands of honest, decent police officers in this Country who do an honorable job each and every day. Their outrageous and illegal conduct damages the hard work that has been done to rebuild trust between police and the communities they serve. I, as well as the members of the Sheriff's Office, are outraged and sickened, and understandably share the frustration being felt by the public.

Integrity is a core value of the Delaware County Sheriff's Office. Our members are professionally trained to treat people with respect, to show compassion and empathy, and to fiercely protect and safeguard their constitutional rights. While sometimes we many encounter dangerous and unpredictable situations, I absolutely have no tolerance for any excessive use of force. Deputies that violate our policies or break the law will always be held fully accountable. The honor of the Sheriff's Office and the trust of the public demand that.

I am blessed by a diligent and professional team that carry this mission out on behalf of the honorable Office of Sheriff and the people of Delaware County. Do not allow the actions of a few to tarnish your thoughts on the selfless service they provide. In my humble opinion, their service is worthy of the public trust they work hard to uphold on a daily basis.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Nichols family, and we remain committed to serving our communities, showing dignity and respect for everyone.

Respectfully,
Craig S. DuMond
Delaware County Sheriff

Our Civic Responsibility

How do we, the people of Schoharie County, hold our local governments accountable? Very few of us

even know what goes on at the level of our town governments, aside from getting our hunting licenses or building inspections. Even fewer attend the monthly, public town meetings where decisions are made, resolutions passed, and highway expenses approved. These choices have impacts: road repairs, lower taxes for seniors, higher fees for house rentals, changing rules for rentals, new electronic signs, approval or disapproval of development projects.

Recently the County Board of Supervisors' decision to deny a contract to the Director of Public Health made waves and the front page of local papers. Some noise was made by a few of the supervisors who objected to publicity about their decision and the public request to review that decision. For most of us in Schoharie County, the whole episode is shocking. The Board of Health, the only authority for hiring in this matter, unanimously appointed her to continue in the job, and a small majority on the Board of Supervisors voted not to pay her contract.

Thank you to the folks in the press and others who kept us informed when the Board did not.

This year, all the town supervisor seats are up for election. A couple town board or council positions are open in every town and village, highway superintendents and clerks and other posts too. There will be elections for county clerk and treasurer, coroners, and some local mayors and trustees. Who will challenge the incumbents for these positions? Who will explain local issues and take on these decisions, without political hype? Who will welcome accountability without name calling? It's on us to encourage them or become them. We carry this responsibility to one another as citizens of Schoharie County.

Sarah Meredith
Gillboa

Confusion in Hunter

An article published in the Windham Weekly section of The Mountain Eagle on Friday, 27 January, 2023 entitled Confusion in Hunter was recently brought to my attention. In brief summary, the Village of Hunter held a special public hearing on Monday, 23 January, 2023 in order to get public comment on a village-wide moratorium on the building of container homes. During said meeting, the proposed moratorium, which was written in very broad terms and contained no definition of a container home (I believe one attendee of the meeting stated the definition given was so vague it could apply to anything from a plastic bin to a shipping container),

was amended. I may be mistaken, but I believe several statutes at the local and state level require if a proposed law is amended, the process for passing that law starts over. Because the Village Board did not do this, would that not render the law null and void in its entirety?

One would also assume, given the lack of support that was apparent at this meeting for such a law, that the Village Board would have taken the public's opinion into account and not passed the measure as written. It also seems suspect that this meeting was called three days before the Village Planning Board was set to meet to approve the building of this container home. It would seem to me, given Mayor Papa's statements on being unsure of the structural integrity of these style buildings, he would defer to the building inspector (Mr. Carl Giangrande), as well as the Planning Board members on this matter. It is, after all, the planning boards purview, and they are subject matter experts on the building codes, construction styles, and safety of such buildings. Why then, is the Village Board trying to undermine the Planning Board's authority, especially when they seem to know less than the Planning Board on the matter?

Because this meeting has piqued my interest on what is happening in my former home town (I moved away several years ago, but like to keep up with events and happenings on the mountain top), I have done further looking into the activities of the Village Board. In recorded minutes of several meetings, Mayor Papa can be heard talking over citizens of the Village, chastising other board members for speaking to citizens about their opinions on various laws being voted on, invoking "confidentiality clauses" that board members are supposedly held to but in reality do not exist, and repeatedly saying "I am the mayor, I am running this meeting." It also seems that in every meeting in which a vote is taken, Trustee Grasso never votes against the mayor. I understand that the two of them are personal friends outside of their governmental positions, and both were appointed to their positions to fill vacancies. It would seem to me that, the mayor being responsible for appointing a trustee, Mayor Papa has attempted to stack the deck in his favor. In the minutes of another special public hearing on the demolition of a house on Main Street, Mayor Papa had papers signed and witnessed at 12 noon, then later brought to the meeting held at 11:30am. Unless he is able to time travel, is this not falsification of public documents? I am also aware that the meeting was held without proper advanced notice for the public to attend, and that the property in question is adjacent to a property that is owned by an LLC belonging to Mayor Papa's wife. Would the demolition of the house on this property not be a conflict of interest, as the mayor's direct family stands to receive a gain in property value if the "derelict" house adjacent is removed? And wouldn't the responsible thing to do in this instance

be to recuse oneself and let the Trustees make the decision?

One of my earliest memories at Hunter-Tannersville Elementary was voting in Ms. Basagic's first grade class for President in the 1996 election. Obviously, being first graders, our votes didn't count, but what we were told, I still remember now. We were told to pick the person we thought would best represent us. When asked, Ms. Basagic said that meant we should pick the person that best represents what we value, what our families value, and will try their level best to do the right thing. She told us that elected officials work for us, and they have to answer to us when they do wrong, or bad things happen. Listening to the recordings of Mayor Papa makes it clear he had no such teacher as a child. His inflated ego, and lack of regard for the Village he purports to represent is staggering. The childish antics I heard in these recordings, and the way meetings are called, laws are passed, and people are treated demonstrate to me that the mayor is using his position of power to further his own businesses, interests, and profits at the expense of the Village of Hunter. In response to these actions and attitudes, I can only say that I hope the citizens of the Village vote for someone else in March. While I am no longer a resident of the Village, I would like to say this to Mr. Papa: You are the mayor. You run this Village and these meetings, but you work for the people of the Village of Hunter. You are responsible to uphold the law, not take advantage of it for your own gain. I only hope that the people make you answer to them for your misdeeds.

Michael Wright
Hunter

While We Were Sleeping

If you take a collective look at all of the solar and wind projects that have been proposed, defeated, and / or moved to the development stage locally, you have to wonder what everyone was thinking when A. these technologies moved from laboratory experiments to being scalable and commercialized and B. that our topography, location, and easy going rural life style would make us ideal candidates to be exploited. The connection was never made because, even though all the data was available, the danger was never recognized and adjusting land use policy made a priority. Instead, we have moved to a reactive posture, and we are expending time and resources to fight these projects on numerous fronts at the town level. The point is that we, as individual townships, need to become proactive and recognize what can happen and get ahead of it.

Crypto mining runs hot and cold and at the moment it's sort of quite because of the decline in the value of crypto currencies. However, it's very possible that they will recover and increase the demand for crypto mining. Crypto mining is not done in a hole in the ground. It's a collection of thousands of specialized computers in one building that work in

concert to solve blockchain equations and harvest bitcoins as payment. On the surface, it seems like a benign endeavor however, a computer generates heat (just check out the cooling fans in your home or work machine) and a lot of computers generate a lot of heat. Removing this heat is the problem and it requires high-capacity industrial fans that make a lot of noise. Projects have already taken root in rural areas of New York State, and it can happen here. Read more are: <https://bit.ly/3Du4sRb>, <https://bit.ly/3jjSfHO>, and <https://bit.ly/3RgWY3j>.

The crypto miners look for inexpensive electric power and a low population density rural area where they can get away with making noise 24/7/365 (starting to sound like here, isn't it?). Now, take into account the low cost solar power that is becoming available and things start to take shape. Because there is no storage to convert wind and solar to base load power it's relegated to spot market pricing, making it very cheap. NYS has a current 2 year ban on crypto mining using fossil fuel power however, as 90% of our power is inexpensive hydro we present a opportunity for crypto miners. If I lived in Sharon, I would start thinking about this.

As with a lot of things, confronting this after a permit application is filed is a headache that is easily avoided by amending land use policy before any applications are filed. You don't need to ban crypto mining; you only need restrictions on noise levels and duration. Doing this now only requires town board approval and some paperwork. As we have seen with the various solar projects, doing it after the fact is not so simple. Now is the time to go to your town board meetings and start the dialogue.

Ted Werner
Fulton

Infection Control

The recent series in this paper on the opioid epidemic's impact on our local area upstate counties was timely and informative. Our ongoing national tragedy and acute crisis of death, social and economic destruction caused by addiction is a threat to our families and communities, national security and viability as a sovereign Constitutional Republic. How did we get to this point in our 247 years as a country? Answer: We did it to ourselves and we had a lot of help doing it along the way.

Addiction has been characterized as an "affliction" and for those who have been afflicted, and to those who care about them, they would agree that the characterization is accurate. Diseases are often said to be afflictions, but the word can mean anything that causes great suffering. Addicts do suffer and cause suffering. If they do not stop their chronic, progressive afflicted behavior, they will die and their deaths will be caused directly, or indirectly, by their affliction.

The Disease or Medical Model of Addiction has been described as a long-term and relapsing condition characterized by the individual compulsively seeking and using drugs despite adverse consequences. Addiction changes how the brain responds in situations involving rewards, stress, and self-control. These changes are long-term and can persist well after the person has stopped using drugs.

The idea that drug ad-

diction is a disease is not universal. Some argue that addiction is not a disease because: it is not transmissible or contagious; it is not autoimmune, hereditary, or degenerative in and of itself -acquired because the person gives the condition to themselves. However, it is transmissible through heredity, family risk factors, and social norming of behaviors and changes in community and cultural values.

Denial of reality is a characteristic of addiction. The denial of reality by the addicted person, the family, community, and by government leaders and bureaucrats who provide prescriptive doses of addictive substances and the instruments for their administration to addicts as a way of "reducing harm." The government controls the addictive substances it approves, while at the same time providing a "safe environment" for the use of drugs it does not approve. The government provides medications (Narcan) to those who may die from an "overdose" because they have willfully or accidentally ingested or injected opioids/fentanyl that is now killing 100,000+ Americans annually. We revive them and "protect them" but we are not helping them to get out of the addiction cycle.

The treatment system in NYS has been overwhelmed with sheer numbers of people needing treatment because of the tidal wave of drugs coming through our nonexistent Southern Border. Meanwhile our state government is now the regulatory agent of the legal and commercialized Cannabis industry that is another accelerant fueling the societal dumpster fire of crime, mental illness spreading in the cities, suburbs, and rural areas of our state. Problematic (CUD) Cannabis Use Disorder, increased by 25% among 12-17 year olds in states with legal cannabis shops (JAMA psychiatry).

A realistic strategy to stabilize and mobilize our resources as an epidemiological approach will require political will of our citizens and government representatives. The point of infection must be closed down; drug free treatment programs must be made a priority and prevention education programs based on the realities of the current crisis rather than bureaucratic "evidenced based programs" while continuing to normalize use. Selling and distributing highly addictive, and deadly substances, is a serious crime that threatens all of us, and the penalties "on the books" must be enforced contrary to the social justice and "harm reduction" beliefs. Only by promoting and accepting a "no use" policy, will prevention and treatment efforts succeed.

Roger R. Barchitta, MPA,
CASAC (ret.)

Schoharie Mascot

I believe I have a solution for the Schoharie mascot controversy.

If there is a problem with the Schoharie team being the Indians, then the school should keep the name the same.

Instead of using the name to reference the local Mohawk tribe, the school should model their mascot after the people of India.

Make the mascot a picture of Gandhi and use the colors of the Indian flag of white, orange, and green.

Sounds like a solution to me.

Ralph Jones
Esperance

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THE SCHOHARIE NEWS

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

Volume 8, No. 5 mountaineaglenews@gmail.com

FRIDAY February 3, 2023

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Jefferson Family Loses Home to Fire Donate to Relief Effort

Valley Briefs

2023 Village Of Middleburgh Meeting Schedule

First Monday Of The Month @ 7pm
Location: 309 Main Street, Middleburgh, NY 12122
February 6
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.

Middleburgh Central School District is dedicated to supporting high academic standards for all students. The National Honor and Junior Honor Society helps support students in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

Adult Softball Meeting Set in Schoharie
SCHOHARIE - There's been a lot of interest for an adult softball coed league recently for the Schoharie Valley area so organizers have scheduled a meeting next week to gauge interest in league.

There will be a meeting next Thursday, February 9, at the Glass Bar n Schoharie. If you're interested in putting in a team or joining a team, please plan on attending or sending someone in your place to attend.

This is all in very early stages, so they are very open to ideas for the future.

You must be 18+ and out of high school to be eligible to play in this league.

Please join and share the Facebook page to help them gain some traction.

By Liz Page

JEFFERSON - A Jefferson family of five lost everything to a fire that broke out in their Moxley Street home early Saturday morning.

According to Assistant Jefferson Fire Chief Dan Manalga, a neighbor saw the fire and reported it and called 911 just before 3 a.m. Saturday.

He arrived to find flames coming from one side of the residence and spreading quickly. By the time the first apparatus arrived, the home was almost fully engulfed. "There really wasn't much we could do at that point, except protect the exposures," said Manalga.

All of the family and several pets, with the exception of three cats, had evacuated the home after Nicole Merwin woke up, realized there was a fire and got the family out. It is believed the fire started from the woodstove, said Manalga.

Firefighters did save the garage and a shed, but the home and its contents is a total lost. Manalga said there were layers of



roofing on the double-wide home, along with additions that made it difficult to extinguish. He thanks Eklund Family Farm Machinery for help in excavating the structure and help get to the stubborn hot spots. "We just couldn't get to all the hot spots. It helped us tremendously."

He also thanks the Schoharie County Department of Public Works for coming in and sanding the roadway to help firefighters at the scene.

Mutual aid was called Stamford, Summit, Hobart, Richmondville and Daventport for tankers and manpower. Also on the scene was Summit EMS, Schoharie County EMS and the Schoharie County FAST team.

In all, there were 30 to 40 firefighters on scene, with Jefferson going back into service at around 11 a.m..

"They family lost everything," said Manalga.

The community is giving

an outpouring of support for the family of Tim and Nicole Merwin, who have three children. A Go Fund Me page has been established on Facebook where clothing sizes were also posted. John's Tavern, on Main St. in Stamford, has also offered to accept donations to be dropped off during their open hours.

Clothing sizes, according to the Facebook post are women's medium, men's medium, boys 16/18 and girls 4t (some 5t).

Schoharie Central School Wants Your Mascot Ideas

By David Avitabile

SCHOHARIE - Schoharie Central School wants your ideas and suggestions on a new mascot.

The Schoharie school board last month agreed to move forward with a plan for a school community vote on a new mascot. The New York State Department of Education has ordered school districts that have Native American-themed logos or mascots to change them, or face loss of state aid, which means the end for the Schoharie Indian.

"We want our future school mascot to be something our entire school community has a role in selecting and to be a new source of pride for everyone," officials said.

Ideas for a new mascot may be submitted to the following email address: SCSMascot@schoharie-schools.org.

There will be a 30-day period to submit mascot ideas. When that period

closes, a committee of stakeholders (students, staff, community members) will meet and review all of the submissions. They will select four or five options, and over a two-week period in March, the school community will have the opportunity to vote for their preferred option. The vote will be done electronically and by paper.

The school district will then work with a graphic designer to create a new logo inspired by the new mascot.

"We thank you in advance for your participation in this process. We know that change is not always easy, but with change comes opportunity and a chance for our school community to help guide the way forward," officials added.

About 35 people attended a public forum on January 18 to discuss the future of the mascot.

There was some discussion on the next mascot, but most of the talk cen-

tered on the process of choosing a new one. Some suggestions such as the Squirrels and S's were dismissed while others like the Coyotes and Blue Devils had some favorable appeal. Other possibilities thus far are the Snakes, the Patriots, the Cannons, and the Flying or Soaring Eagles.

Almost all districts in the same bind as Schoharie have agreed to change their mascot, though some are pushing back or looking for ways to keep or preserve their Native mascots and are waiting for more firm guidance from the state to move on. Some are also exploring whether the district has permission to keep using Native imagery. Some are considering changing the imagery but not the name (Warriors for instance).

The state education de-



partment has decreed that all Native American mascots and imagery have to be removed by the end of the 2023-24 school year. More than 60 districts in the state have Native American mascots.

In addition to policing a no mascot rule on school grounds starting in September, the district will have to remove the imagery from the gym floors (estimated at \$20,000 for the high school gym), remove the cement sign on the front lawn, and reupholster padded chairs. The entire change will cost about \$100,000, much less than other districts, Mr. Blanchard said. He has said that the district did not add the mascot imagery in the \$19 million building project that rehabbed the high school.

The district needs to make a decision on a new mascot by April because work on the new athletic fields and tennis courts will begin the spring and be done by August.



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Wood Arrested for Alleged Theft of \$265,000

On January 27, State Police arrested Amber M. Wood, 39, of Schoharie, NY, for Grand Larceny in the Second Degree, eight counts of Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, five counts of Forgery in the Second Degree, five counts of Falsifying Business Records in the First Degree, and Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree.

On October 6, 2022, at about 12:09 p.m., Investigators of Princetown Bureau of Criminal Investigation received a complaint regarding

missing funds from a guardianship estate assigned to Daniel S. Ross at Ross Law Offices in Middleburgh. During the course of the investigation, it was determined that Wood worked as a secretary for Ross Law Offices. The investigation further determined that between November 2013 and June 2021, Wood had stolen over \$265,000 from the guardianship account and had deposited checks from that account into her personal bank account. It was also discovered during the

same time frame, Wood had altered business records related to the guardianship bank account, which were subsequently filed with Schoharie County Surrogate Court containing false information.

Wood turned herself over to State Police for processing. She was arraigned at the Cobleskill Town Court and transported to Schenectady County Correctional Facility to await arraignment on charges in Schoharie County for the same incident.

Green Wolf Winter Film Series Continues Feb. 9th

By Bradley Towle

MIDDLEBURGH — The Green Wolf's Winter Film Series continues on Thursday, February 9th, at 329 Main Street in Middleburgh with a double feature. In honor of Black History Month, The Green Wolf will screen two silent films by the African-American independent filmmaker Oscar Micheaux. Following the release of D.W. Griffith's "Birth of a Nation" in 1915, Micheaux sought to reclaim how African-Americans were portrayed in the early days of cinema by creating strong-willed characters with agency and ambition. "Birth of a Nation" also promoted a resurgence of the Klu Klux Klan, whose notorious white robes were inspired by the costumes in Griffith's film (they had not worn such



outfits before the film's release). Micheaux tackled the revived Klan head-on through his art, often neutering their power through his narratives.

The first of the two films, 1920's "Within Our Gates," is the oldest film created by an African-American film-

maker to have survived (roughly 75% of American silent films are considered forever lost). "Within Our Gates" explores the realities of life for Black Americans in a post-WWI United States landscape where lynchings and assaults occurred without penalty, particularly in the Jim Crow South. The second film, 1920's "The Symbol of The Unconquered," explores issues surrounding racial identity, homesteading, and the looming threat of violence from the Klu Klux Klan. Though to have been lost, a newly restored version of the film includes a driving, ominous soundtrack from jazz drummer Max Roach. An intermission will occur between the screenings. Admission is free with a suggested donation of \$5.

Complaint Over M'burgh Power Pole

By David Avitabile

MIDDLEBURGH - A new utility pole is creating some handicap access problems on a street in Middleburgh.

National Grid added at least four new utility poles in the late fall, three on the east side of Main Street up from Railroad Avenue toward River Street, and one near the corner of Main Street and Railroad Avenue. It is this last pole, near the Four Star Realty Group office, that is creating a problem.

National Grid cut off the top of the old poles (so old that they are designated with "NM" on them for the company's old name, Niagara Mohawk) and attached their lines to new poles. There is enough space between the new poles and the curbs so people can walk by and wheelchairs can pass. That is not the same for the offending new pole on Railroad Av-

enue. The new pole is slightly more than a foot away from the old one (which stands about four feet from the curb) and the new one is only three feet from the curb.

A village official Monday said the poles were added in November and that one was needed because it was too close to the building at the corner of Main Street and Railroad Avenue to safely do work. The lines (mostly MidTel lines) will eventually be moved to the new poles in the near future, and a new pole will be placed on Railroad Avenue that is a little further from the curb and would allow more access.

Though narrow, it may meet the ADA standards of a minimum sidewalk width of 36 inches.

The issue was briefly brought up at the January village board meeting and then was a bigger topic on Facebook which

generated numerous posts.

In other action at January's board meeting, board members:

* Heard that the renovations on the firehouse kitchen are 90 to 95 percent complete with only trim and plumbing to do. Aaron's Electric donated their time to the project.

* Heard that there were 136 fire calls answered by the Middleburgh Fire Department in 2022.

* Heard that the village crew is building six new garbage cans for Main Street and other side streets. The new cans will have an opening of six inches which should cut down on the amount of household trash put in the cans. The new wooden receptacles will cost about \$150 each, as opposed to \$1,600 each if purchased.

* Heard that a new water service was added on Cliff Street.

* Heard the sewer department got a new tractor and added a service on Cliff Street.

* Heard that John Brust from Delaware Engineering should be at the February meeting to give an update on the repairs needed on the village hall that was damaged when work was done on the Stewart's parking lot a few years ago.

A Snowy Lesson to Dig Into!

SCHOHARIE -- This week's snow provided high school juniors from across the region with what was the first opportunity many of them to really dig into their learning at the Capital Region BOCES Career & Technical Education Center - Schoharie Campus.

Students in the Heavy Equipment and Construction program learn the knowledge and skills necessary to enter construction industry or pursue further education in college or technical school. They learn everything from maintenance skills and how to construct a building to equipment operation, including use of a plow, dozer and front end loaders used to clear and remove snow. They also learn site preparation and, of course, snow removal.

In the attached photo, high school junior Jacob Doherty, from Schoharie High School, (also not pictured are Cal Jones and Deagan Makarowski from Cobleskill-Richmondville High School, and Avery Knight from Duaneburg) practice new



skills during this week.

"BOCES gives you a lot of great opportunities to operate some great pieces of machinery. Luckily, I can be a part of this great program," said Makarowski.

Several graduates of the Capital Region BOCES Construction/Heavy Equipment program have been hired by the New York State Department of Transportation; others by county and town highway departments around the region. Still others, like current Voorheesville High School and Construction/Heavy Equipment senior Alex Stapf operate successful snow removal businesses.

During recent recruit-

ing events, representatives of New York State DOT and area county highway departments have actively pursued Capital Region BOCES students because of those skills.

"It's important for us to get out name out there and inform young people that we are a viable opportunity," Marty McClune, director of operations at Albany County Department of Public Work, said during an event last school year.

There are currently more than 60 students from Schoharie, Schenectady and Albany counties enrolled in the Construction/Heavy Equipment Program.

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SCS First Two-Hour Delay Next Friday

SCHOHARIE - The first monthly two-hour delay will be held at Schoharie Central School on Friday, February 3. The delay is for staff development. On this day, buses will pick up students and doors will open two hours later, just as they would for a 2-hour delay due to weather.

Staff and faculty will report to school at their normal times to focus on planning and improving how we deliver our academic programming and support services. The 2-hour delay will not apply for morning BOCES students, who would be transported to their BOCES facilities according to the normal schedule.

Looking ahead, there will be another 2-hour delay for staff development for both the Elementary and junior-senior High Schools on Friday, March, and then 2-hour delays will only be scheduled for the High School for the remainder of the year.

2-hour Delay Schedule
 Friday, Feb. 3 - 2-hour delay for the Elementary and Jr./Sr. High School
 Friday, March 10 - 2-hour delay for the Elementary and Jr./Sr. High School

Tuesday, April 25 - 2-hour delay for the Jr./Sr. High School only

Monday, May 22 - 2-hour delay for the Jr./Sr. High School only

While the district already has designated staff development days at different points during the year, the two-hour periods each month will allow the district to better address professional development needs as we head into the crucial final months of the school

year.

"We know that changes to the normal school routine can sometimes be frustrating, especially for younger students who may need care. We thank you in advance for your un-

derstanding," officials said.

Middleburgh Central School holds a similar day once a month when they release students early on the second Wednesday of the month for staff development.

Schoharie Co. Child Sex Crimes Fugitive Arrested in Kansas

A Schoharie County man accused of sex crimes with a child has been arrested in Shawnee County, Kansas. Brian Kosier, 28, was booked after a tip from the Schoharie County Sheriff's office about the whereabouts of the fugitive. The Shawnee County Fugitive Unit found Kosier and arrested him without incident. He is being held in Shawnee County with no bond pending extradition.



His previous warrant included a \$250,000 bond.

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All About Racing

By Ed & Betty Biittig

The three-day, Thursday-Saturday debut of the Short Track Super Series at Lake View Motor Speedway in South Carolina has been canceled.

Lake View promoter, Scott Tripp said Monday morning, "the facility already took an inch of rain overnight, it's still raining and the forecast is calling for showers and rain all week, no sun to dry it out."

Tripp wanted to make an early decision for the benefit of teams and fans planning to make the trip. "We wanted to get the word out right away for everyone to change their plans and get refunds on reservations," he added. All prepaid camping spots and car registration fees will be refunded.

Organizer of the event,

Brett Deyo, agreed with the decision and said he looks forward to taking the STSS to Lake View in the future.

Recently the New York State Stock Car (NYSSCA) announced the 2022 Hall of Fame inductees; Kenny Tremont Jr., Roger Phelps, Frank "Sege" Fidanza, Ray Bramall, Ralph Compani, and John Keegan will all be inducted at a ceremony to be held at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 7th at the Fonda Speedway Hall of Fame Museum located at the Fonda Fairgrounds.

Kenny Tremont, Jr., celebrated his first win on May 29, 1982 in a 30-lap event at Lebanon Valley and since then the "Sand Lake Sling-shot" has accumulated 174 victories at the track. Tremont has a career total of 392 wins at 22 different

tracks and a total of 46 Track Championships at seven different tracks.

Roger Phelps started racing in 1973 and hung up his helmet in 2001 and over his career collected 85 wins at three different tracks, 32 wins at Brewerton, 45 wins at Fulton and eight wins Utica-Rome; three track titles at both Brewerton and Fulton and was the Open Competition Champion at Utica-Rome in 1998.

Frank "Sege" Fidanza was a Western New York asphalt Modified star and competed against several fellow Hall of Famers, Richie Evans, Maynard Troyer, Roger and Merv Treichler. Fidanza accumulated 112 wins and eleven track titles, still a record at Lancaster Speedway and also had wins at Oswego and Holland Speed-

ways as well.

Ray Bramall owned the Freightliner Trucks No. 6 race cars with only two drivers throughout his ten-year career as a car owner from 1989 through 1998. Brett Hearn piloted the car for three years from 1989 through 1991 while Danny Johnson drove the car for the seven remaining seasons from 1992 through 1998. Hearn won a total 99 feature wins in the Freightliner No. 6 and Johnson won a total of 92, a grand total of 191 feature wins with Bramall as the owner.

Ralph Compani joined his brother Ron Compani and Seymour Hayes as a management team to promote the Fonda Speedway in 1980. After Ron Compani left Seymour and Ralph stayed on as promoters of the "Track of Champions" through 1996.

Compani promoted the initial "Thunder on the Mo-

hawk" \$15,000 to win the race in 1992 and the "Thunder on the Mohawk" race in 1996, the first DIRT sanctioned race to be televised live and the first ever race from Fonda to be broadcast nationally. Compani promoted the "Rumble" event at Fonda, an open competition 358-Modified version of the "Thunder" event paying \$10,000 to win. Ralph lived right around the corner from the Fonda Speedway and probably spent more time at the track than he did at home. He lived and breathed the Fonda Speedway and kept it alive and thriving through the late 1990's.

John Keegan has been involved in racing for much of his life, with his family as a kid at Woodhull Speedway and later as a driver himself and car owner.

John joined NYSSCA 25 years ago and since then

has either been on the Board of Directors or the President, a position that he held three different times for a total of seven years. John also served on the editorial and yearbook committees and continues to drive two hours one way to attend the monthly meetings that the organization holds during the racing off season.

All types of racing is beginning to rev up here in Florida and we will be doing our best to keep our readers updated on all the action.

Next week the STSS will be at All-Tech Raceway in Lake City February 7-11 and the DIRTcar Nationals runs February 6-18 and includes UMP Modifieds, Late Models and Sprints and the Northeast Super DIRTcar Series Modifieds, February 15-18.

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

Library News

Middleburgh Library

2/7 - 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.

2/7 - 12:00 PM - Embroidery Club - Join local artist Betty Pillsbury at our Embroidery Club. Bring whatever projects you are working on and enjoy the company of your fellow stitchers! Betty will not be teaching but will provide help if needed. No registration required. Refreshments will be provided.

2/11 - 12:00-2:00 PM - Homeschool Science Fair - Calling all homeschoolers in grades K-12, sign up to join in on our first annual science fair! It will be a fun non competitive fair. All kids will receive an award and the public is invited to walk through, explore and ask questions. (set-up at 11:30 AM).

Creativebug - You're more creative than you think! Use your Middleburgh Library card and PIN to enjoy unlimited access to thousands of on-line 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!

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 2 at 6:30pm Beyond Books: Tools & Resources for Book Lovers Join Adult Services Librarian Don LaPlant for this program highlighting a range of tools and resources for bibliophiles. Learn about apps, websites, podcasts, and publications that help you keep track of

your reading, find new recommendations, and read and share book reviews. We'll also cover hidden features in the library's catalog that make it easier to find your next favorite book.

Friday, February 3 at noon Fan Favorites Book Club. Join us on the first Friday of every month for our casual conversation about the books, tv series, and movies we love. No assigned readings, just a chance to meet people, talk about things you love, and perhaps pick up a few suggestions on things that will become your new favorite obsession.

Friday, February 3 and 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.

Tuesday, February 7 and 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.

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.

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@mvls.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 cobadult@mvls.info

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 Library 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 7 from 2-6:30 a representative from Western Catskill Community Revitalization Council (WCCRC) a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Rural Preservation Company will be tabling at the Library. WCCRC currently offers, accessibility modifications and emergency home repair grants for seniors in the towns of Broome, Conesville, Fulton, Gilboa, Jefferson and Summit. Our HUD Certified (#T3TNNU) Housing and Financial Counselor offers free budget counseling for first time homebuyer education, mortgage default assistance, workshops and personalized financial management.

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.

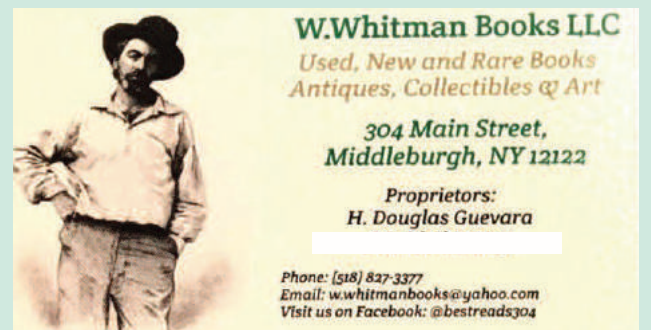
A reminder that our weather closures will be posted on TV, our Facebook page and web site. If Cobleskill-Richmondville School District is closed the library will automatically move to a delayed opening at noon unless it is determined unsafe for staff to travel and then the Library will close.

To receive Library News by email signup 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://communitylibrarymvls.info/>

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FFA Members Gather for Statewide Conference

SCHOHARIE - Schoharie Valley FFA joined over 700 NY FFA members from across the state for the annual Member Leadership Series Conference in Syracuse this past weekend.

SCS seventh-ninth-grade members participated in the "Connect" Conference where they learned how to cultivate healthy connections and grow their trust and influence with others.

Schoharie senior members explored strategies to

set identity-based visions for their future and how to tackle habits, priority, and life balance in the "I Am" Conference. Students finished off the weekend with a glow light party complete with a DJ and inflatable obstacles, followed by a fun afternoon of scientific exploration at WonderWorks, including team building on an indoor ropes course. "It was fun meeting new people from other chapters and doing the ropes course was my

favorite!" said 7th-grade member Mollie G. about her first trip to a Member Leaders Series event. Lillian E., a 10th-grade member also attended for the first time and said, "I learned more about setting goals and how I can work towards them."

SCS FFA members have switched gears into a competition mindset as they prepare for District 2 Leadership Contests to be held on February 4 in Pine Plains.



Blenheim Discusses Short Term Rentals

By Joshua Walther

BLENHEIM - On Wednesday evening, the Blenheim Town Board convened in front of a larger audience than usual for their monthly meeting, where they took public comments on the proposed draft for their short-term rental law.

The audience was mostly comprised of current short-term rental owners who have been operating commercial businesses in Blenheim for varying amounts of time. Taking advantage of the public comment period, they were sure to voice their praises and their criticisms in equal measure for the upcoming law.

Points that the owners agreed upon included areas surrounding code enforcement and requiring several tests, like water, to ensure the safety of the tenants. The Board also received praise for requiring insurance and the availability of a 911 address.

However, the audience wasn't afraid to take issue with several sections of

the draft. Notable requests from the public were changing permit regulations from "per parcels of property" to "per dwelling," and the desire to treat non-permanent structures on a commercial property, like tents, the same way as houses.

The Board saw the value in both of these propositions and expressed wanting to put the suggestions into writing when revisions to the draft came around.

Yet not all criticisms went unchallenged. Upon hearing the suggestion that property lines should be marked with a sign, Supervisor Don Airey and the Board were adamant in saying that the burden of this law should not be shifted to non-owners.

The open dialogue between the Board and the public continued throughout the meeting, and Supervisor Airey believes that the public hearing for this draft should remain open for a while longer. He also welcomed any comment from the public, whether it be ver-

bal or written.

In other news, Board members briefly discussed the old town hall, which has now been converted into a southern EMS station for the county.

According to Supervisor Airey, well water for the building has always struggled to maintain a consistently good quality, but it's been deteriorating as of late to the point where it contains "gray clay" and cannot be safely consumed.

Despite the highway superintendent's best efforts to try and make the water cleaner, the current well has not improved. Supervisor Airey made a motion to have the well inspected and possibly redrilled, which the Board unanimously supported.

Finally, members of the Board were able to broker a special negotiation with the Schoharie County Animal Shelter. Due to the lack of animal cases around Blenheim, the shelter has agreed to a fee per dog brought in, a change from their usual static amount paid.

Supervisor Airey wishes to show appreciation for the special contract, and members of the Board are currently considering a donation to the shelter for their cooperation in the matter.

WAC Bowling Highlights

Girls Varsity League Champion
Schoharie

Boys Varsity League Champion
Canajoharie

Girls Varsity League 2nd Place
MIDDLEBURGH

Boys Varsity League 2nd Place
FONDA/FULTONVILLE

CO-MVP & Girls Varsity High Average
Delilah Shultes-MCS-192.33

Teyah Mason-SCS-192.14

MVP & Boys Varsity High Average

Tyler Drexel- Duanesburg-209

Girls Varsity High Series
Mandi Williams - SCS, 684

Boys Varsity High Series
Anthony Paradiso-Ft. Plain 696

Girls Varsity High Single
Katie Morseman- BKW, 246

Boys Varsity High Single
Tanner Ackerhneut-Canajoharie

Ethan Meyers - Duanesburg, 277

Girls Varsity 1st Team All Stars
Mandi Williams-SCS-183

Tori Harrington -SCS-167

Katie Morseman- BKW-163

Kaedence David-F.T. PLAIN-157

Boys Varsity 1st Team All Stars
Anthony Paradiso-Ft. Plain-208

Tanner Ackerhneut-CANJO-199

Tomek Kowalczyk-FONDA-194

Ross Guernsey-MCS - 187

Dylan Scott- May - 186

Boys Varsity 1st Team All Stars
Anthony Paradiso-Ft. Plain-208

Tanner Ackerhneut-CANJO-199

Tomek Kowalczyk-FONDA-194

Ross Guernsey-MCS - 187

Dylan Scott- May - 186

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SCS Elementary Students Learn Equity Skills

SCHOHARIE - Schoharie students in the sixth-grade DEI (diversity, equity, inclusion) class have been learning about self-awareness, communication skills, appreciating differences, and empathy.

The culminating project for this quarter's sixth grade DEI course was to put their learning into action and create picture books focused on empathy. Students worked hard to come up with stories that would be relatable to younger students. After their books were complete with illustrations the sixth graders visited Mrs. Oakes' first-grade class to read their stories and to share their knowledge about empathy with younger learners.

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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 6
SUNY DELHI ANNOUNCES SPRING WATER AEROBICS CLASS SESSION

DELHI, NY - The SUNY Delhi Spring Water Aerobics first session will run from Monday, February 6, 2023 through Friday, March 3, 2023 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 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.

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

Sicity 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 kellerr22@gmail.com

September
Sicity tour, 13 days, with Rosemarie Keller.. In the midst of the Mediterranean, discover an island with personality all its own—full of flavor and teeming 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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Indians Lose in Close Game

Wolves 42 - Schoharie Indians 36



Above left: It was Senior Night, with a ceremony before the game Friday. There were flowers for the three seniors on the Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville team, and here, Lily Ballard presents a bouquet to the Schoharie Girls Varsity Basketball Team's senior Emily Lehoe. Above right: The Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville Wolves' Anderson Eggleston is blocked by Schoharie's Alaina Martin as she looks to shoot or pass the ball. Photos by Scott Keidong.



Above: A jump shot by Lily Ballard adds two to Schoharie's score in the second period of Friday's girls varsity basketball game. The Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville beat the Indians 42 to 36 in a tough game. Above right: Schoharie's Lily Ballard grabs the ball and drives down court for the Indians. She was Schoharie's high scorer in the Friday night game, with 22 of the Indians' 36 points.

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Benninger, Youmans, Shaul Win Girl Scouts Races

MIDDLEBURGH - Cars crafted by Charlotte Benninger, Liberty Youmans, and Hannah Shaul took the top spots in three heats in the annual Savannah Speedway Saturday at the Community Center in Middleburgh. The races attracted 81 girls and their cars. The Scouts ranged from kindergarten to 10th grade. The top three winners in the 10am meet were: first place, Charlotte Benninger, second place, Kylie Soucia, and third place, Eliza Daniels; noon, first place: Liberty Youmans, second place, Carly Yorks, and third place, Sadie Goldstein; 2pm: first place, Hannah Shaul, second place, Lexi Gage, and third place, Elizabeth Regan.



Just before the start of Friday's races, cars were weighed and checked in. One of the last to check in were the family of Courtney, Cooper, Carl, Carter, Cklyer, and Carl III Simmons with Camryn DeLaet.



Dennis Shaul gets ready to start another race with the help of LeGrand Shaul. Photos by David Avitabile.



Camryn DeLaet KayLee Lawton, and Dennis and Carrie Shaul check out the cars Friday night at the Community Center.



A crowd of Cub Scouts watch their cars approach the finish line during a race at the annual Pinewood Derby Friday night at the Middleburgh Community Center.

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Clyde Shaul collected the cars after the race was over.

Local Worship Services

Send us your local worship services at mountaineaglenews@gmail.com.

Christian Community Church of Faith
Sunday 8:30 AM
An Independent/Non-Denominational Church, 355 State Route 7, Richmondville.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
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
Saturday 5:45 p.m. Sunday 9:00 a.m. Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Virtual Mass available at

Facebook.com/our Lady-of-theValleyParish/
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Evangelical 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

Sunday 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
209 Phillip Schuyler Road, Cobleskill 9AM service every Sunday

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Youmans Wins M'burgh Pinewood Derby

A car fashioned by Spencer Youmans came out on top and won the annual Middleburgh Cub Scout Pack 30 Pinewood Derby Friday night at the Community Center on Cotton Hill Road.

Gavin Simmons' car came in second and finishing in third place among 19 cars was the one built by SJ Dugan.

There were other prizes awarded Friday night. Other prizes were:

- * Best Paint job: John Ondrek.
- * Most imaginative: Gannon Burdik.
- * Smoothest finish: Gavin Simmons.
- * Judges' favorite: Joey Gilligan.
- * Most artistic: Grace DeLaet.

- * Most original design: Katherine Lawton.
- * Fanciest car design: SJ Dugan.
- * Most creative: Cooper Simmons.
- * Most detailed journal: Sean Dugan.
- * Most creative journal: Spencer Youmans.



Girls and adults watch the cars travel down the track to the finish Saturday at the annual Savannah Speedway Race Saturday morning. There were so many girls involved in the race that there were three heats of races, at 10am, noon, and 2pm.



Damian Zurek with the help of Malachi Zurek start another race Saturday morning at the Middleburgh Community Center.



Judges Lisa Rendina-O'Neill, Anna VanWormer, and Isadora Fileti check out the cars in the 10am heat of the annual Savannah Speedway Girl Scouts races.



ABOVE AND BELOW: Young racers, including one devoted Jets fan, watch the cars start off for another race Saturday.



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Stamford/Jefferson's Villeneuve Scores In Hunter-Tannersville Win

By Mary A. Crisafulli

JEFFERSON - The Hunter-Tannersville Wildcats defeated Stamford/Jefferson in a grueling game on Tuesday. The Wildcats immediately took the lead ending the first period 6-15. The Wildcats played good defense when Stamford/Jefferson players stole the ball down the court a few times. Just as the quarter ended, Stamford/Jefferson players picked up their game, scoring four additional points. The game picked up in the second period, with a lot of back and forth down the court, but the Wildcats continued to dominate. Stamford/Jefferson had several attempted shots that bounced off the rim. In the last five seconds of the first half, Stamford/Jefferson produced some steals, but they were quickly taken back by the Wildcats, who scored an additional two points for the team, leaving them with a big 19-point lead. The third period ended 26 to 42 with the Wildcats still in the lead. Stamford/Jefferson players picked up their game in the final quarter scoring several times to end the game 15 points shy of a win. The Wildcats' Jevail Mckinnie finished the night with the game-high of 21 points, with teammate Grady Glennon close behind with 14 points. Other scorers included Jaedyn McKinnie and Nicolas Uhrlik, each with six points. Thomas Houlihan and Garrett Legg, each had four points. Jacob Staroba led Stamford/Jefferson with 16 points. Other scoring players included Caleb Hardenbergh and Patrick Terk, both scoring six, Christopher Hardenbergh with five, Brandon Harris, Jon Michael Leas and Mate Villeneuve, all with two points each.



Hunter-Tannersville's Jevail Mckinnie and Stamford/Jefferson's Jacob Staroba reach for the rebound.



Above: Caleb Hardenbergh attempts to score two points for Stamford/Jefferson.

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Windham Town Cautiously Optimistic About Windham Path

By Michael Ryan

WINDHAM - Dog bleep getting left behind at the Windham Path and objections to the bleepy bleep continue to be a dilemma for local government leaders who are hoping a solution has been found.

Very cautious optimism is being expressed by town council members regarding the poop problem after three residents volunteered to step forward so others don't have to step in it.

Councilman Kurt Goettsche voiced the issue, earlier this month saying, "there are a lot of complaints about irresponsible pet owners at The Path and other places leaving feces all over the place in bags and out of bags."

"People want to know why we aren't fining people for not cleaning up after their dogs. People want to have fun and enjoy themselves, not be walking around this stuff," Goettsche said.

It is not the first time the situation has been discussed although officials are flustered, not

wanting to become the poop police.

"If we have to have a police officer sitting out there writing tickets, what kind of a world do we live in?" town supervisor Thomas Hoyt said at a recent meeting, noting concerns have likewise been voiced about unleashed dogs, a violation of local law.

Enforcement is difficult and time-consuming but on the other hand, "I have a three-year old child that was chased by a dog at The Path," councilman Ian Peters said, indicating he would take protective action if need be.

There has even been talk about banning pooches altogether since giving folks friendly reminders to do the common sense and commonly decent thing haven't worked. In fact, the droppings are worse.

And the smelly, sticky messes are not limited to The Path, also occurring at C.D. Lane Park and elsewhere within the community, motivating local attorney Marilyn Carreras to get her hackles up.

Carreras, in a recent

Facebook post, wrote to the culprits, whoever they are, "while you enjoy yourselves, we seek from you ultra-respect for our laws, culture and God-given beautiful natural environment.

"Please carry-in and carry out all trash and waste," Carreras respectfully but resolutely requested, prompting another pointed Facebook posting, "this should be made into a poster and distributed around town."

Goettsche, at a subsequent council meeting, last week, told his colleagues that while the "complaints continue," there may be cause for celebration.

A proposal has been put forth by Sarah Mirsini, James Morzillo and Phil Devlin, offering to pay for dog bleep bags and special receptacles to deposit them in, also serving as caretakers.

The trio outlined what they termed "Our Vision & Mission," stating, "the Windham Path is a place of serenity and enjoying nature."

"This should be a clean and happy place for both

humans and animals," noting their Vision involves, "placing two, small pet waste stations on each side of the path for dog owners to dispose of their smaller waste such as poop bags, juice boxes, energy bar wrappers etc.

And their Mission is, "keeping the Windham Path [clean and beautiful] all year around, without having visitors and locals be disturbed by the garbage laying around."

The trio further outlined their Proposal, stating, "we are frequent users of the Path and both our dogs enjoy their walk there."

"Lately there have been a lot of complaints on the 'Friends of Windham' Facebook group, and it has gotten to the point where certain individuals are threatening to physically scare dogs and their owners, and even suggesting banning dogs from the path completely," the trio state.

"Dogs are a big part of people's lives up here, and we can understand the frustration with non-dog owners seeing poop bags laying around. We

find this disrespectful as well.

"But we also pick up kids' juice boxes, water bottles and energy bar wrappers pretty much every time we walk the Path.

"And this is even worse for the environment that dog poop. So we will gladly donate equipment and time to keep the path clean and dog friendly.

"It's worth a try, and we have several individuals that want to donate to keep the poop bag supply and to also pay Phil Devlin who has willingly offered his time to pick up the trash bags weekly," the trio stated.

"We are suggesting putting a dog waste station on the beginning of each side of the path so people can throw their [doggie bag] garbage either on the way in or on their way out of the Path.

"Free bags will be provided year around and they are also biodegradable should someone throw them in nature.

"The cans will be checked-on every other day and emptied when needed by Phil Devlin,"

the trio wrote, also touching on a touchy subject for government leaders.

"The dog waste station is small, so residential garbage won't fit and it has a lid with a lock on so bears will not get into this," the trio wrote.

Government leaders have been resistant to putting garbage cans at the site, not wanting to give people an opportunity to misuse them for household trash, but are willing to give this a try... with a caveat.

"We don't want to create a bigger problem by trying to get rid of a smaller one," Peters said. "We have make it clear that [the receptacles] are on town land so we have discretion to move them out.

"If people put even one trash bag next to them, I am coming to the next council meeting to say, 'get them out of there,'" Peters said.

Goettsche agreed to communicate with Mirsini, Morzillo and Devlin to work out the logistics for placement of the receptacles as soon as possible.

LOCAL FEATURE

Fred's Coffee & Donuts

By Michael Ryan

TANNERSVILLE - There is a reminiscent 1950's feel about Fred's Coffee & Donuts and a pleasant problem with their hole-in-the-middle sweets.

They taste too good to have just one so they're available in half-dozen or even-dozen batches (or more) with an added, pre-21st Century twist.

Everything can only be ordered ahead online or picked on the spot up at the Happy Days-like drive-in window (with a phone line being added perhaps as soon as this week).

Nobody delivers the donuts on roller skates but the service couldn't be quicker and access is easy, located along Route 23A between the mountaintop villages of Tannersville and Hunter.

And oh yeah, one other thing. There is nobody named Fred involved unless you include members of the Ryan Chadwick family tree.

Chadwick is the energetic and eclectic source

behind Fred's Donuts, a seemingly never-stopping creator of businesses including the very successful "Tanners Boathouse" in Tannersville.

He has been the proprietor of a square-pizza shop in Aspen, Colorado, a sushi restaurant in New York City, on the Lower East Side, and a French Creole eating spot featuring live jazz music.

Chadwick and his wife Emily moved to the mountains three or so years ago, wasting no time before getting involved in entrepreneurial pursuits.

He envisioned and encouraged the transformation of an all-but-forgotten, municipally-owned lakeside building into a lobster shack with boat rentals, bringing a bit of Boston Harbor and the Venice Canals to the Catskills.

Never resting on his laurels, he then formu-

lated the Kaaterskill Trolley Company, which carries weekend and local travelers to a series of shopping spots between Hunter Mountain and Palenville.

His newest venture is Fred's Coffee & Donuts, named in honor of his father and grandfather. On the same site as the former "Pete's Place" pizza joint, accessible from either Route 23A or Bloomer Road (County Route 16).

The menu is simple but also slightly exotic, starting with original plain, powdered sugar, cinnamon sugar, hot apple cider, maple glazed and chocolate glazed donuts. Gluten free donuts are available.

Bacon can be added if wished (a nice touch for maple glazed lovers), accompanied by Specialty Coffees such as classic drip, cold brew, Americano, flat white, Macc-



Fred's Coffee & Donuts is a 1950's style, drive-up shop located at 6715 Route 23A midway between the villages of Hunter and Tannersville.

chiato, cappuccino, latte and Chailatte.

Seasonal lattes include local maple, cacao & peppermint, cacao & chai, cacao & cayenne, Nutella and Turmeric.

Is hot chocolate your desire? Enjoy some classic, peppermint or spicy with cayenne. You may add espresso shots, make any drink iced, ask for almond or oat milk and

add whipped cream.

Beyond the scrumptiousness of the holed-goodies, there is one other pleasant problem at Fred's Coffee and Donuts.

"We were so busy today we couldn't keep the donuts coming fast enough," said Allison Scholten, one of the donut makers along with Zach Eastman, during a

recent visit to the shop.

An outside deck will be open when the weather is warmer. Online waiters and waitresses await at fredsdonuts.com. Regular hours are Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Friday-Sunday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

More photos of Fred's Coffee & Donuts on C



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“Water Protectors” On Display Through February

By Michael Ryan

TANNERSVILLE - Imagination and worldly awareness have come together in the “Water Protectors” art exhibit on display through February at the Mountaintop Library in the village of Tannersville.

Kids from Ms. Todd’s 4th grade class at Hunter-Tannersville school applied paint brush to paper, expressing the message they received from the picture book “We are Water Protectors.”

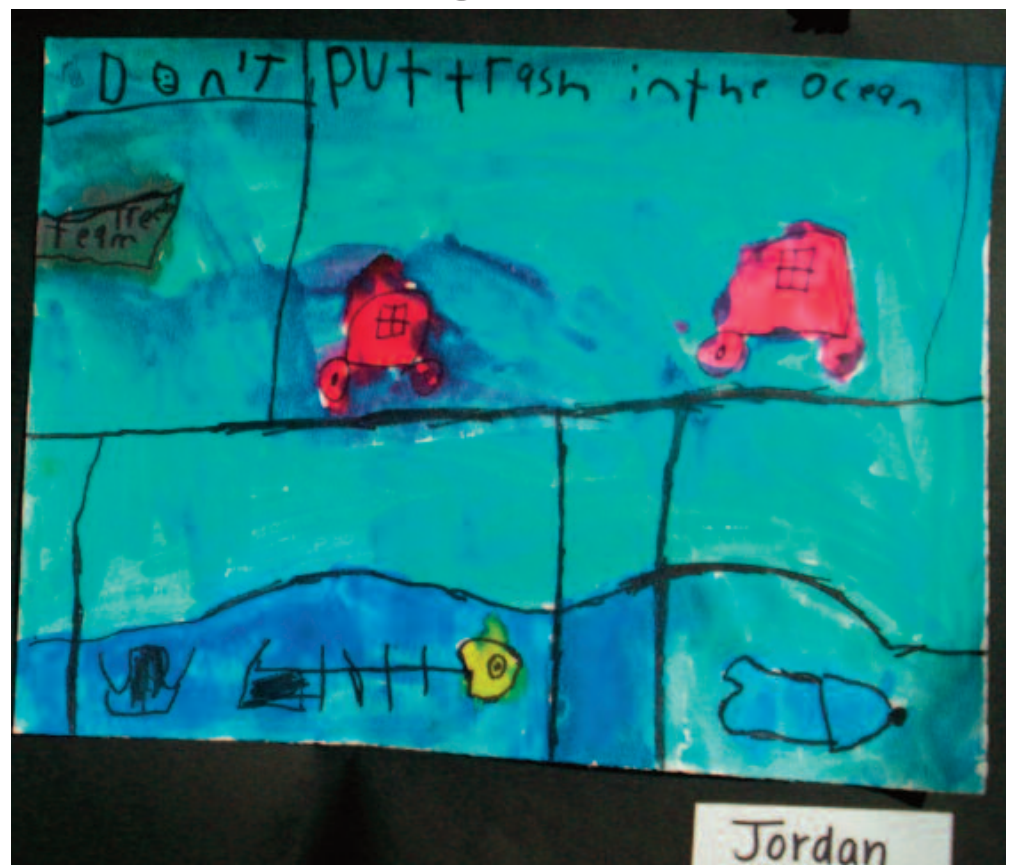
The tome, written by Carole Lindstrom and Illustrated by Michaela Goade, was inspired by protests surrounding the Dakota Access pipeline.

It weaves the tale of an Ojibwe girl who resists the installation of an oil pipeline on and around the lands of her people.

The young girl recalls her grandmother’s teachings about the sacredness of water and her ancestors foreseeing a “black snake” that would potentially spoil their homelands and their water.



Is young painter Liam saying it is patriotic to be a Water Protector?



Above: “Don’t Put Trash in the Ocean”... please....asks Jordan.



Left: “The Water Protectors” was the theme for Ms. Todd’s 4th grade art class at Hunter-Tannersville school which is on exhibit through February at the Mountaintop Library in the village of Tannersville.



A little bit of the poet in Aaliyah comes out in “save the waves.”



Is this a cosmic perspective from Mariana on protecting precious waters?

Fred’s Coffee & Donuts, Continued from C1



When one drive-up window opens, the deal is closed on fresh-baked donuts delivered by Zach Eastman.



Allison Schotten is one of the donut-makers in the sparkling clean bakery, turning out 100-plus donuts in each batch.

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(518) 622-3286 / www.RLC.life
Online Worship (after 8:15am)
Inside Worship (8:15am, 9:15am & 10:30am)
Sunday School & Bible Study (9:15am)
Barnerville United Methodist Church
224 Shady Tree Lane Howes Cave
Sunday at 8:30 AM
Greek Orthodox Church of the Assumption
State Rte 23 Windham, New York 12496
(518) 734-4631
assumptionwindham@gmail.com

Hope Restoration Christian Fellowship
117 State Route 296, Windham
518-734-3826
www.hoperestorationchurch.net
Sundays 11:00 AM
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Tent Services begin June 26th
Living Faith Community Church
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Sundays 11:00 AM
Find us on Facebook
St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church
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www.Sainttheresas.weebly.com
Lexington / West Kill United Methodist Church

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Out Lexington Way

By Christine Dwon

Here we are into February already. Yesterday, Feb. 2, was Groundhog Day. Did the four-legged prognosticator predict an early spring or six more weeks of winter? Since I write this column several days in advance of the publication date, I don't know if the critter saw his shadow or not. Chances are no matter what the groundhog saw or didn't see, winter will be around for awhile.

The combined worship service on Jan. 29 at the Kaaterskill UMC in Tannersville was very well attended. Pastor Amy Royal's Sermon and Time of Sharing was "Blessed are....." The congregation shared how blessed we are for caregivers, pastors, friends and families, music, retired people, truck drivers, EMS, nurses and so many more. The service was inspiring and a blessing. After the service there was a lovely covered dish luncheon.

Happy birthday to Rose Williams Thursday, Feb. 2.

Saturday, Feb. 4 Emma Dwon celebrates her 6th birthday.

Diane Potter's birthday is Tuesday, Feb. 7.

Happy birthday to Charlotte Jaeger on Wednesday, Feb. 8.

Thursday, Feb. 9 Debbie and Jim Buscarello celebrate their 43rd wedding anniversary.

Best wishes to everyone!

Would you like some

barbecued chicken? On Friday, Feb. 10 starting at 3 p.m. and going until 6:30 p.m. is the annual Lexington/West Kill UMC Trustees Thank Goodness It's Friday - T.G.I.F. Brooks Chicken BBQ at the Lexington Church hall, 54 County Route 13A, Lexington. The menu includes half BBQ chicken, baked potato, green beans, coleslaw, roll, assorted cupcakes. Adult dinners are \$15, child 5-10 is \$7, under 5 are free and chicken half is \$8. Take out only.

The Greene County Department of Human Services Senior Nutrition Program menu for the week of Feb. 6 - Feb. 10 is as follows: Monday—Sloppy Joes, cauliflower/broccoli medley, white rice, tropical fruit; Tuesday—Baked salmon with dill sauce, peas/carrots, Au gratin potatoes, chocolate chip cookies; Wednesday—Chicken Divan, Monaco vegetable mix, white rice, pears; Thursday—Hot turkey dinner with gravy, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, carrot coins, stuffing, chocolate mousse with mixed berries; Friday—Macaroni and cheese, three-bean salad, stewed tomatoes, 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.

The next covered dish Dinner Church will be held Friday, Feb. 17 at 5 p.m. in the Ashland Community United Methodist Church, 1216 State Hwy 23, Ashland.

There is no meeting in February or March for the Town of Lexington Fire/Rescue Company Ladies Auxiliary.

The Tannersville Food Pantry, located at the Tannersville Village Hall, One Park Lane, is open on Wednesdays from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. If you have questions call 518-589-6787 or kaaterskillumc@gmail.com.

Nice to see the slowly increasing daylight hours.

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

My grandparents, Addison and Carrie Legg Wiltse, owned and operated the Wellington boarding house and livery stable on Spring Street in about 1910. It wasn't winterized, so it catered to summer guests. A horse-drawn wagon transported people to and from the railroad station near Tannersville Lake.

My father, James Cornelius Wiltse, was born in 1901. In about 1917, Addison Wiltse was seriously injured in an accident involving a horse-drawn wagon, and my dad left high school to provide for his parents. He worked as a teamster for Oliver H. Perry in a sawmill operation on Stoppel Point in Haines Falls. It was challenging work - the employees lived in a barracks-type building near the summit. They spent long hours cutting trees by hand and hauling the logs down the mountain by horse teams. The barracks only had minimal heating, and meals were taken in a communal dining room. Sunday was the only day off from work. Many of the lumber products went to use in World War I.

On November 11, 1918, dad said that when Germany surrendered and the war ended - the steam whistle was blown for hours to celebrate until the boiler had no more pressure. Dad eventually left Perry's job to work for the Village of Tannersville. In the 1930s, he worked for the Constable Bender Coal and Lumber Company on Main Street (Pratt's Place and the Yacht Club).

My mom, Leah Showers Wiltse, was born in

1905. My brother James was born in 1926, and my sister, Shirley Wiltse Dunn, in 1928; both were born at home on Spring St. I was born in the Catskill Hospital in 1942 (six weeks after Pearl Harbor), making my mom 36 when she gave birth to me.

And, like lots of folks in the "Roaring 20s," my mom and dad invested part of their life savings in the stock market. Like many folks, their life savings evaporated with the economic "crash" in 1929. The banks failed, destroying savings accounts. Some families had to stand in line at public "soup kitchens" for food! The Civilian Conservation Corps created jobs and improved public land.

The Yankowski family from Pennsylvania (?) established several sawmills. They cut trees and logs into boards to sell to builders. Yankowski were loggers and lumbermen by profession.

The trees are round, and the boards are square, so there were always piles of "slabs" that accumulated.

Money was tight, and folks burned either coal or wood to heat their homes. Paul Fromer and my dad were about the same age and were good friends. Paul Fromer loaned dad the money to buy a dump truck on the strength of a handshake agreement. (I guess dad paid it back with interest since they remained friends for many years!)

The ideal length for firewood is 14". The Yankowski sawmills cut the "slabs" into 14" chunks of "slab wood," and dad hauled it away

(it was a nuisance to the sawyers at the sawmills). Dad established a good business selling firewood to locals. Mom took phone orders and kept the records. It was a cash business - nobody got a second load of firewood until they paid for the previous load.

Coal was also a popular fuel during the depression years, and dad took his truck to Pennsylvania and brought back coal for his customers.

The attack on Pearl Harbor and World War II made the shortage of heating fuels worse. Gasoline and tires were rationed to help the effort. The Yankowski family was selling lumber for wartime projects and received extra "ration tickets" for gasoline and tires. They shared these with dad. Everybody worked hard, and it was not unusual to see the Yankowski vehicles and dad's truck parked in front of Curran's Tavern at the end of the day.

Bill Brown operated a garage in the building known as the "Roller Rink," across from Curran's Tavern. Dad's trucks were serviced there. Local man, Ray Clinton, was one of the drivers for dad.

Dad would take any load that would produce a profit. He moved folks from one home to another with his dump truck. He once moved a priest from Haines Falls to New York City.

Part two will be available next week. Thanks for reading, and thank you to Oscar Wiltse for sharing his memories of the Mountain Top with all of us.

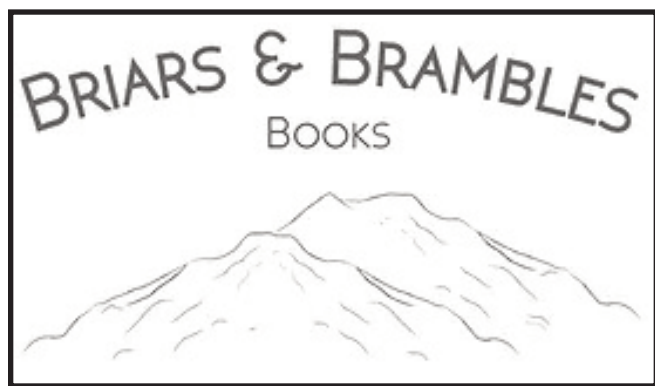
Greene Co. Unemployment Lower than National Average

The New York State Department of Labor released preliminary December 2022 employment figures, outlining gains in specific fields, industry losses, and labor force participation rates. Overall, State and nationwide figures are showing continued job

gains in the private sector, outperforming nationwide figures for the second consecutive month. Statewide private sector job growth also increased 3.4% compared to December 2021.

In Greene County, unemployment figures continue to outperform NYS and the national average.

Greene's December 2022 unemployment rate landed at 3.0%, lower than the State's 3.7%, and the nation's 3.3%. Overall, Greene County's total unemployed figures remained unchanged since December 2021, while there was a .1% growth in total employed.



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MESSAGE OF HOPE BY SISTER CHIRYA

True Love

Love has a connection with the heart. When we speak about love, we always put our hand on the heart, not on the head. This reminds us to love ourselves from the heart before acting, and then perform good actions with my hands. The way to find true love is to extend love first to yourself. Now with the knowledge of the soul we become aware within of our original and true qualities of goodness and love, and what we have acquired and is false. With meditation and regular spiritual studies, the power increases to accept myself as a soul, a being of light, separate from the physical body. What is false and acquired is deleted. By going subtly deep within I, the soul, tells my mind to stay peaceful and I tell my in-

tellect to think in the right way. When these feelings of good wishes are merged with the words I speak, love emerges.

The practical form of love is respect. Respect means accepting each individual is unique and different and has something important and valuable to contribute. Whatever is spoken with love and respect is free from selfishness and negativity and has a powerful effect on others. Only words spoken out of love can bring about change in others and in myself. The Law of Attraction does not mean We Get What We Want, it actually means We get what we are; our thoughts and words are what we are. They vibrate out to the Universe and we get them back. Love is the life

giving force. There is great power in spiritual love. When you receive love you give the best of yourself. Build and base your self esteem on core values, not on achievements or other people's acceptance.

Clean your heart with love. Don't let any rubbish accumulate in your heart, or depression and pain will be experienced. Rubbish means thoughts such as "I have given so much love and received so little", or "If others give me love first, I will reciprocate." Most of us come into relationships to get love, respect and acceptance, without realizing our role is to give, not get. And when our expectations are not fulfilled, we try to change people, which means we aren't accepting them. We send them negative

energy, causing them to move away from us. Our relationships especially with loved ones hold so many promises, but today people are moving away from each other at alarming rates.

"As children of God we first take love from connecting with God, fill the self with love and give this Godly love honestly. We behave with others in the right way, and learn what good manners are. Look at each one with a spiritual vision and interact with love. This is how true love grows and flourishes." - Dadi Janki

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The Prattsville Scoop

By Abby and Gabby

PRATTSVILLE - We wish everyone a happier and less stressful future. Thank you to our health-care workers, police officers and essential workers. We shall stand together.

Jim Thorington, our Greene County Legislator, gave an update on his and Chrissie's children. Kendall is a nurse and working at St. Pete's and Kyle is taking on learning the family business under the leadership of dad Jim. Kendall has the same opinion of her work as many in her profession, too much paperwork when she would rather be providing TLC to the patients. As with most work places, more co-workers would be very much appreciated. Good to hear of success stories.

Feel better wishes go out to Laurel Van Aken. We also send good health wishes to Lorraine Brainerd Robinson and Jerry Raeder and to all the others who are not feeling well but expect to hear of a speedy recovery real soon. With prayers for your speedy recovery.

So good to have a chance to see Anita Creazzo and have some conversation with her. With her physical health issues she has been staying pretty close to home. She looked very nice, she always does, so the time she has had to stay at home did her good. Keep your recovery progressing Anita.

At the end of the vegetable growing season for 2022, which seemed to never end, the garden was stripped of Swiss Chard and Brussels on November 11 due to the lateness of a killing frost. It was not a pleasant afternoon of washing, blanching and freezing but both vegetables taste yummy right now. The Swiss Chard is great when

sautéed in lemon olive oil and thinly sliced garlic, also from local garden, and the Brussels sprouts with thinly sliced red peppers and garlic and toasted sesame seeds.

Congratulations to Beth and Mike Camna, owners of the Prattsville Diner, for the March arrival of a new member of their family. Mike was overjoyed by the fact that the baby is going to be a boy. Back to the diner's menu. For a superb lunch go there when you can get the eggplant parmesan - very tasty, you want to lick the dish. Those who recently sampled the eggplant recently were Teddy Cline, Mary Cline, Marianne Krauss, Diana Jaeger and Ginny Gurley. The table conversation was like a local history lesson. Teddy and Diana told us who, and what families they were part of, lived on what road in the Huntersfield area. They could remember the many one room schoolhouses that were in that area and the color of the schoolhouses and the homes. Someone better get these ladies to put all their memories down on paper. Some how Diana, nee Truesdell, and the Clines are related. My brain was getting fuzzy about that time. Thanks for family and area memories.

Christina Gurley and son Tanner visited Grandpa Bob and Grandma Jen and Great grandparents Bob and Ginny on Saturday. It is amazing how much a six year old child can change or learn in just two months - and it was all for the good. After a full tour of the house, he declared he wanted a house just like his great-grandparents home. Nice compliment

February 5 was a busy day - so Happy Birthday on that day to Ray Bracaliello, Luke James Haight (great grandson of Janet Brainerd), Karl Gonzalez and Dorothy Irwin. Way out west it is Happy Birthday on February 6 to Michael Hill, son of Larry and Sandy Case Hill. Janet Brainerd is wished a very Happy Birthday on February 7. That reminds me, Janet, give me a call. Happy Birthday to Andy Lutz on February 10.

Happy Anniversary to Connie and Donnie Lane on February 8. Happy Anniversary to Marianne and Johannes Krauss on February 9.

Send news to gurleryv@gmail.com or 518-299-3219.

By Lula Anderson

Sitting here, wondering what to write. When you read this, it will be February and the start to the "end" of winter. I can report on my progress in following my yearly determinations. I go through the mail daily, and throw out what is not wanted. I don't let it pile up. I don't put my dirty dishes in the sink—I rinse them and put them in the dishwasher. I make it a point to put things that I have used back to where they really belong. Every day I throw out something. Clothes go in a bag and when it's full, I take it right to a collection bin so I can't rethink. I'm still following the rule, One thing in, two things out." Somedays it's really difficult, especially when a neighbor drops off 2 large boxes of goodies. Kudos to me: I gave the majority of the stuff away already.

Attention Mt Top residents!! The Home Delivered Meal program that is located in the Town of Jewett Town Hall is in desperate need of volunteers to deliver meals. Right now, Gail needs a driver for the Windham route on Wednesdays. We complained loudly about not having meals delivered, and we got them back. Please help

Ashland Speaks

us keep 's our shut ins fed and safe in their homes. The daily visit from the volunteers means so much to our elderly. You know how you feel when you can't go out for a couple of days. You go stir crazy. Now think of those who can't get out, and never see anyone. Call Ruth at the Dept of Aging 518-719-3555, and set up a schedule that you can live with. We always hear about activities "for the kids". Let's do something for the ones who raised us: former teachers, religious leaders, scout leaders, grandparents.

What a day Friday. The sun came out, the clouds rolled back and 2 helicopters hovered overhead. Wow, they looked like transport copters. Yes, the were bringing in some of the Wounded Warriors for their week-end of skiing at the Adaptive Sports Center at Windham Mt. What a weekend it was! Many local businesses contributed to make the entire weekend memorable. The WAJ elementary chorus regaled them with a selection of Patriotic songs, a delicious buffet at the VFW, and snow sports. A wonderful way to say Thank You to our Veterans.

A great service at the Kaaterskill UMC on Sun-

day attended by the members of the Mt Top Parish which consist of Windham, Ashland, East Jewett, Tannersville Lexington and Westkill. We gave examples of how The Beatitudes fit into our daily lives. (Blessed Are They...)Next 5th Sunday service will be in April.

On Friday, February 10, The Lexington Church will be holding their TGIF Brooks Chicken BBQ from 3 - 630. Take out dinners only. \$15 adults, \$7 children gets you 1/2 chicken, potato, coleslaw, roll, green beans and cupcake. For just a chicken half, it's only \$8.

The next Dinner Church PotLuck will be Friday Feb 17th at 5:00 at the Ashland Church. Skit for the evening will be Fishers of Men. Hymn singing following dessert. Come join us.

Happy Birthday wishes to Carol G. , and Bonnie Jean.

Ruthie Cross is moving better after hip surgery, while sister Janice is still hobbling along. Get Well wishes and prayers to you.

Get well wishes to Joan Rappleyea.

Sympathy to the family of Mike Laterza, Sr.

Sympathy to the family of Kathy Story Jergins.

AS I REMEMBER IT 50 years ago the WA-

JPL Golden Age Club was organized. In 1973 the several people came together to start a social group for senior citizens. WAJPL stands for Windham, Ashland, Jewett Prattsville and Lexington, the towns that sponsor the club. The meetings were held at the Ashland Community Hall, before the fire destroyed the building. They were a very active group (and still are), holding bake sales at Windham Mountain, making quilts, teaching members how to sew, and holding raffles. The members included: Una McKean, Les and Gladys Holdridge, Joyce and Bob Tompkins, Ken and Hope Rappleyea, Olive and Buell Morse, Carl and Henrietta Lane, Rose and Martin Hudecek, Birdie Goff, Pauline Lawrence, Madeline and Charlie Brown, Vi Dubois, Minnie and Chet Partridge, Wally Thompson and Ruth Brandon.

Now, we are excitedly making plans to move into a handicapped accessible building in Windham.

Next week, I will be going through old notes and during the winter and spring, bring more of the club's history to yo. Hopefully, the end of the old will be the beginning of the new—in our new home.

Grant Funding Available in Schoharie Reservoir Watershed

Applications for the 2023 spring round of funding are now being accepted for the Stream Management Implementation Program (SMIP). Established in 2008, the SMIP is a competitive cost-reimbursement grant opportunity administered through the Schoharie Watershed Stream Management Program (SWSMP) at Greene County Soil and Water Conservation District (GCSWCD), in partnership with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Through the SMIP, funding is offered to implement projects, programs, or management efforts that serve to protect water quality within the Schoharie Reservoir watershed (Watershed). To be considered qualified, proposals should be consistent with the recommendations identified in the SWSMP's Stream Management Plans and Ac-

tion Plans, located within - or support - the Watershed, and follow the Catskill Streams' Principles of Stream Stewardship. SMIP project proposals are reviewed and prioritized by SWSMP staff, and eligible project proposals are presented to the Schoharie Watershed Advisory Committee (SWAC) - a committee comprised of Watershed municipality representatives, Subcommittee representatives, and a Greene County Legislator. The SWAC holds the final vote to determine which projects are funded.

The SMIP operates on a 5-year cycle and offers funding twice a year under the following categories: Education & Outreach, Highway & Infrastructure, Stream Restoration, Habitat & Recreation, Planning & Assessment, and Local Flood Analysis. Currently in Cycle 3, funds remain in all but the Highway & Infrastructure category,

and there is very limited funding in the Stream Restoration category. To date, 119 SMIP grants have been awarded - bringing over five million dollars to the Mountaintop's government agencies, individual property owners, schools, and 501(c)(3) organizations in support of flood resilience, water resource improvements, and watershed-related programming. Applications are due by March 15th and September 15th every year.

For more information about SMIP including program history, Stream Management Plans, Action Plans, the Principles of Stream Stewardship, funding category descriptions, and access to the SMIP application, please visit <http://www.gcswwcd.com/swp/smp/smip>. Interested applicants are encouraged to inquire with SWSMP staff to discuss ideas prior to submitting an application. To inquire, please contact smip@gcswwcd.com or 518-622-3620.

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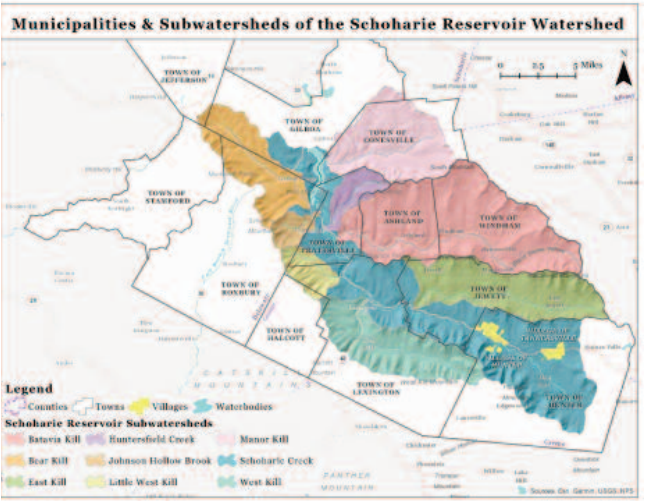
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To be eligible for SMIP funding, projects must be located within or support the Schoharie Reservoir watershed (pictured in the image above). The Schoharie Reservoir watershed is part of the Catskill/Delaware Watershed, for the New York City public water supply. The Schoharie Reservoir watershed includes the entirety of the towns of Windham, Jewett, Ashland, and Prattsville as well as the villages of Hunter and Tannersville. The towns of Conesville, Gilboa, Hunter, Lexington, Halcott, Jefferson, Stamford, and Roxbury are all partially included.

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**Hunter-Tannersville
Results in the Schoharie
News section.**

**Sports Round Up in
Tri-County Section**

**National Bank of Coxsackie Supports
Capital District YMCA
Annual Campaign with Donation**



Greene County YMCA Executive Director Toni Carroll, The Greene County YMCA School Site Supervisor Debbie Gecco, National Bank of Coxsackie Loan Operations staff Ellen Jennings and Brittany Rieseberg, and National Bank of Coxsackie Senior VP Mark Maraglio.

COXSACKIE – The National Bank of Coxsackie has donated \$2,000 towards the Greene County YMCA’s Annual Campaign.

The Greene County Y is a branch of the Capital

District YMCA and holds an Annual Campaign each year to raise funds for the community. Every dollar raised helps scholarship programs including Running Start, a program that purchases back

to school clothes and supplies for families in need, Basket Brigade, which provides a complete Thanksgiving Day meal to those in need, and Membership for All, which provides scholarships for families and individuals who cannot afford a membership.

“We are so thankful to NBC for making a difference in our community,” said Greene County YMCA Executive Director Toni Carroll, “Because of companies like NBC, we are able to provide services to those who need it most.”

“NBC is grateful to be able to support local, worthy organizations such as the Greene County YMCA that truly benefit our communities.” Mark Maraglio commented, “The work that Toni and her staff provide to Greene County, specifically to those in need, is extremely appreciated.”

If you or your business is interested in supporting this campaign for Greene County, contact Toni at tcarroll@cdymca.org or for your local YMCA, contact Tovah Lisky at tlisky@cdymca.org

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**Sgt. James F. Carty, D.S.C.
VFW Post 1545**

Welcome to February. We had a busy time this past week as we hosted a dinner at the post for the Warriors in Motion program which is sponsored by the Windham Adaptive Sports Foundation.

For VFW Post 1545, this event started our post to upgrade our post. This came about when the Adaptive Sports Foundation started bringing wounded soldiers to the mountain to allow the veterans to ski on the mountain.

The events were held at different venues in Windham at that time and our post was not equipped to hold it at our building.

So we raised funds to have our foundation repaired, install new bathrooms (ADA), a ramp for the handicapped allowing us to be able to handle the warriors at our post.

We were fortunate to raise the funds - thankfully to our residents' generous donations. This was our goal back in 2010 and we are so proud to hold this event at our building each year.

The wounded soldiers get to meet our WWII, Korean, Vietnam, and veterans from the War on Terrorism. Seeing them mingle with the older generation of veterans is amazing.

Our message is “never again will one generation of veterans forget another”. They begin to see the camaraderie these older generation of veterans have and come together to support and help them. As combat veterans, we know first-hand how they feel.

At the dinner we introduce them to us along with presenting of the colors, singing of the National Anthem; sung by Laura Marriot, introduce them to what the VFW is all about and sit and have a dinner with them.

Our goal is complete now that we can hold this affair at our post for the past 12 years; except throughout the covid epidemic.

The Adaptive Sports foundation with John Iannelli, Kiera McMullan and James Mitchell work miracles with the wounded. Thank you for letting us be a small part of your event.

Getting them to go out and perform on the slopes gives them new hope that they can move on and have a life that they otherwise would not think possible.

Amazing work by the entire staff at the mountain. We thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the weekend. They invited us to the luncheon at the mountain to meet some of the warriors which was a warmup to the dinner at the post.

I would like to thank them all, along with Laura Marriot for her singing. She sang God Bless America at the end of the evening which brought the house down.

The food that the Adaptive Sports Foundation chose was supplied by the Windham Main Street Market and was outstanding.

A thank you also to the Mountain Detachment of the Marine Corp League, Gill Hughes for her help setting up the hall with me, Lynn Verrengia for her getting all the food set up and Debbie Iocca for her contribution with serving among other chores.

We had two past VFW State Commanders, Mr. Gene Ratigliano, Michael Hoag, current VFW District 3 Commander Harold Patchen attending and adding support to our event.

These gentlemen are what makes the VFW work so well in supporting the veterans who served our country. All are my heroes, and I am proud to have served in the VFW with them as a past District 3 Commander.

A special thank you to Jay and the crew at WRIP radio for letting us use their sound equipment. I don't know what the mountaintop would do without them on the air.

Our post donated \$ 1,000 to the Adaptive Sports Foundation at the dinner. Should you like more information on what the ASF organization does, go to their website at adaptivesportsfoundation.org.

ASF is a 501c (3) organization should you want to donate and help them continue the great work they do for veterans. God Bless America and its service men and women.

Marc Farmilette – VFW Post 1545



VFW Post 1545 hosted a dinner for the Warriors in Motion program, last week. Among those on hand were (left to right) VFW District 3 Commander Harold Patchen, VFW past-State Commanders Michael Hoag, and Gene Ratigliano, VFW 1545 Post Quartermaster Marc Farmilette, Adaptive Sports Foundation representatives John Iannelli and Kiera McMullan, VFW 1545 Post Commander James McLaren, VFW 1545 adjutant Richard Hughes and VFW 1545 Jr. vice-commander James Scarey.

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TRADITIONALLY SPEAKING BY PAT LARSEN

The MAGIC of Making Bread

There's a magical element inherent in the process of becoming a bread baker. The journey for me began at the age of 4, in my grandmother's kitchen in old Brooklyn. I knew it was going to be a bread baking day when I was encouraged to finish up my breakfast cereal quickly so that the preparations could begin to create the dough.

As a young impatient child, I knew the day ahead would be a long one, but I loved every moment because it meant spending time with my grandma and getting to play with the gooey concoction of flour and water that made up the delicious treat that we'd later dip in olive oil scented with basil and a dash of salt.

So, in truth, this column is not entirely about that mixture of the flour and the yeast with water in just the right proportions. I will not be sharing any sacred family recipes because there were none written down when it came to bread baking. Nor is it about the kneading that I would watch my grandma undertake as she nuanced the springy dough into this perfect smooth creation that would spring to life with some nurturing and time wrapped in a warm cloth on the kitchen counter.

Although there is a heart warming metaphor built in there regarding the effort that it takes as I'm sure you've detected. This column is about



bring the bread to life. For a 4 year old kid, that was pretty magical in itself. To this very day, as I make bread, most Tuesdays now, I direct that packet of yeast in the very same way that I did from back in the day.

So let's get back to traditions and the laying of foundations not so easily accomplished in this day and age of endless distractions for these kids. There has to be some value placed on the time we spend with the younger generations. The reasons behind bread baking, let's say, or defining the importance of sitting down when eating a meal together. While we're at it, why not add organizing one's room and making the bed everyday as well to the important skills to demonstrate and encourage. Things that keep order in one's life and skills that put value on sustaining our abilities to feed and care for ourselves have to be taught to kids or we lose out on an incredible opportunity to keep chaos at bay.

So what does it mean and what are the implied but not actually spoken messages when we spend time with children?

I'm going to simply speak from my personal experience of having 8 grand kiddos. The kids recognize and accept strengths and vulnerabilities. Regardless of our efforts sometimes, even the best of ingredients can fail for reasons beyond our control.

the passing on of the traditions that became the foundations of the person that I have become today.

Sure, I can say a lot about the negative aspects of society at this point and the direction that young people have seemed to take or not take for that matter. But, I'm going to refrain. We've beat that dead and dying horse to death. This is about a rekindling of that flame within us as the present day grandparents and the kiddos (as they are affectionately referred to) that will lay the building blocks for the responsible, compassionate and focused adults down the road. LONG after we're gone.

I recall being included in every aspect of the preparations as though my involvement was the most important ingredient. At least that's how my grandma would explain it to me. I got to sprinkle the yeast, oh so slowly, over the warm water just like it was fairy dust. Grandma would encourage me to talk to the yeast and tell it how important it's job was to

Grandma would remind me that it was important not to let the rising bread dough "catch a cold" because that would stop it from rising to become a larger loaf of bread.

We each move at a slower pace, together, the children uncertain as to what comes next in the sequence of creating bread and me, in this case tapping into my memory bank and using both my actions and my words to create the desired outcome. We accomplish this, together. A bond is created. Knowing that we each played a part in the outcome. It's just so satisfying and truly a blessing for both our hearts to share

in this activity.

Of course, at the end of the day, when we would then gather with family to share in the meal and the bread, as the grandparents, and as my Grandma did, all the credit gets given to the child.

But there was that twinkle in my grandmas eye that was forever more and to this very day, be the building block, the very metaphor for all the ingredients that make up personal accomplishments that created not only the delicious bread but the achievement of focusing on a great outcome, together.

Bread baking is but one of the ways we can

encourage and teach by our own example. I'd love to hear about the ways you connect with your own grandkids and build those bonds that will last forever.

Pat Larsen, is a Dance Fitness instructor, specializing in Senior, Baby Boomer and Elder fitness. Programs relevant to this age group are offered at The Shamrock House in East Durham weekly for morning classes. Days and Times vary in winter time. Please call Pat @ 518-275-8686 to chat about classes, programs that are offered, what clinical hypotherapy could mean for you to solve some recurring issues or just to say hello.

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LEGISLATURE STUFF

It's Not Only Money

By Michael Ryan

CATSKILL - The reverberations are still being felt from one little itsy bitsy financial crash, motivating Greene County Legislature members to establish a bunch of very specific reserve funds.

Actually, it wasn't so itsy bitsy and a recent report by county treasurer Peter Markou, telling lawmakers the county has a cool eighty million smackers stockpiled, had a little to do with making it happen too.

Actually, a lot. "It's one thing to say we have \$80 million in the bank," legislature chairman Patrick Linger says.

"Eighty million sounds like a lot and it is, but it has to be put in perspective," Linger says. "Too many people could take that wrong.

"People hear that number and ask the question, 'if we have all that money sitting there, why aren't you lowering my taxes?'" Linger says.

The answer is fiscally simple and complex. "If we thought we could lower taxes we would. This is about efficiency and transparency," Linger says.

Lawmakers, in one fell swoop, want to make it more clear why financial wisdom dictates not cutting taxes and how the 80 million got there.

They have approved an amendment to the county's Fund Balance Policy by changing rates initially set in 2013, increasing the maximum balance range of 7.5 to 12.5 percent to between 7.5 and 15 percent.

While the change doesn't significantly impact existing practices, it does clean up ledgers, wrapping neat ribbons and bows around the various Reserve Funds and allowing the legislature to fill them fatter.

The Fund Balance Policy, "ensures that there are adequate reserves with the capacity to maintain sufficient cash flow, maintain favorable investment grade bond ratings, offset significant revenue shortfalls, and complete emergency purchases," the resolution states.

Toward that same end, lawmakers have established a Real Property Tax Stabilization Fund for the purpose of financing, "unanticipated revenue losses or expenditures chargeable to the eligible portion of the annual bud-

et, and to lessen or prevent projected increases of the real property tax levy needed to support the eligible portion of the annual budget.

It is rooted in the fact that sales tax is the largest single revenue source for the county, in terms of the annual budget, and while sales tax has been resplendently plentiful the past three years, it has proven unreliable.

Harsh experience has taught government leaders to put away dollars not just for rainy days. "Basically what we're doing is giving official names to what's been done anyway," county administrator Shaun Groden says.

Greene County got whacked hard in 2008 amid the nationwide economic downturn, losing 10 percent of its reserve fund in one or two blinks of the eye, needing half a dozen budget cycles to catch up.

Lesson learned. A sales tax Reserve Fund was created, currently swelling to \$10 million, being used to keep taxes exactly where this new Real Property Tax Stabilization Fund says it aims to do...stable.

"People may say we aren't lowering their taxes, but we have had zero tax increases for three straight years and we are already looking forward to having another zero in 2024," Groden says.

"This is primarily about budget consistency. We are in a great position right now. We should acknowledge that and by creating these particular reserve funds, we're telling taxpayers where their money is going," Groden says.

Lawmakers have also designated distinct reserves for the following:

—Highway Equipment and Facilities, including necessities such as Heavy Duty Trucks w/Snow & Ice Control Equipment (26,000 lbs. and over);

Medium Duty Trucks w/Snow & Ice Control Equipment (less than 26,000 lbs.) Light Duty Trucks w/Snow & Ice Control Equipment (Building Supervisor & Personnel transport pick-up trucks);

Heavy Duty Equipment (Loaders, Excavators, Boom Flail Mowers, Low-boy trailer, Tag-trailer, Truck Lifts, etc.), Medium Duty Equipment (Roadside mowers, Rollers, Chippers, Track Loaders, Equipment trailers, etc.)

Light Duty Equipment

including Mechanics Tools (Chain saws, trimmers, mechanics tools, etc.), along with proper storage facilities, such as buildings, shops, and salt barns.

—Departmental Vehicle Fund, accumulating money to finance the cost of vehicles necessary for departmental use, such as the 911 Center, etc.

—Solid Waste Equipment And Facilities Reserve Fund, saving up to repair or replace aging Heavy Duty Trucks (Roll-Off Trucks), Heavy Duty Equipment (Excavators, Loaders);

Medium Duty Equipment (Compact Loaders, Yard Tractors, etc.), Snow & Ice Control Equipment (Snow pushers, Salt spreaders, etc.)

Recycling Equipment (Box Truck, Compost Machines, Cardboard Bailer, Roll-off Containers, Skid Steer, Fork Lift, etc.)

Computer Software/Equipment (7 computers including fueling stations & scale program); and unforeseen needs in the rapidly evolving and more expensive world of waste treatment and recycling.

—The Emergency Services Equipment Fund, to pay for maintaining a fleet of safe, fully operational equipment that efficiently delivers the services necessary for county residents.

Emergency services is another swiftly shape-shifting entity, potentially moving toward a countywide, paramedic operation.

"This all has to do with how you run a business," Linger says. "This is the right thing to do. We just put \$1.5 million into our highway department. It was all cash. We didn't need to do any borrowing.

"Nobody else is doing that and when we do need to go to bond, like for the new Justice Center that is being planned, Moody's is impressed we have that amount in reserve," Linger says.

Designs are being developed for the Justice Center, a planned addition to the county courthouse, providing needed office space for the District Attorney and Public Defenders offices.

Moody's Investors Service does international financial research for bonds issued by commercial and government entities, directly influencing risk decision-making and interest rates.

BETTER THAN HEARSAY

Water Waiting

By Michael Ryan

WINDHAM - The political underpinnings professed to be part of the lawsuit filed recently against the town of Windham by local business owner Nick Bove have apparently dissipated through other puzzlements remain.

Bove, twice a candidate for Windham town supervisor, lodged the lawsuit in October, 2022, in Greene County Supreme Court, related to allegations by the town that he was responsible for two "illegal water hookups."

Fines and fees were assessed for the connections, which the town alleges were made at Bove's cafe and a rental residence without notifying the town, and for unmetered and unpaid water usage for over a year.

In the lawsuit, Bove and his attorney Cassandra Gipe denied Bove tied into the water system, "without the Town and/or the Water Superintendent's authorization," while also challenging the constitutionality of the town's water district law and how it was being enforced against Bove.

"The town of Windham has, without any basis in fact and in violation of [Bove's] due process rights, imposed a criminal fine on [Bove] for allegedly stealing water from the town," Gipe stated.

The town, "did this without regard to the true facts of the matter and without providing [Bove] any opportunity to defend himself," Gipe stated.

The suit claims Bove, "has a number of defenses to the alleged violations and should have had an opportunity to present his defenses at a hearing in front of an impartial fact finder(s), to present evidence and to cross-examine any witnesses against him.

There is, "no administrative procedure for an individual to appeal or dispute the penalties imposed and the Town has not enacted any procedural regulations offering such due process protections," Gipe stated.

Bove is "not guilty of Criminal Tampering as defined in the NYS Penal Law § 145.15, which the Town Board has found him guilty of without due process of law," Gipe stated.

Gipe states that Bove was, "not provided advanced notice of the allegations against him, nor was he provided with any notice that the alleged violations would be discussed at [a] Town Meeting.

Her client, "was not provided with any opportunity to be heard at the town meeting or any other forum regarding the allegations against him."

Town officials have stated that Bove contacted the town after receiving a violation letter and was told

he could discuss the matter at a later water district meeting and that Bove did not attend that meeting.

The town and its attorney, Nicolas Pascale in a January 12, 2023, response to the court, states that Bove, "admits to the unmetered use of Town water from about September 2021 through at least...October 20, 2022."

Bove "does not allege an application was made, nor approval or permit was obtained, nor that notice was given to the Town Water Board before tying into the water system as required by the Local Law," Pascale stated.

Further, "the Town's position is that the Local Law is facially valid, that the Town's decision to send the Violation Letter giving notice of the Town's intent to collect a \$200 fine is not a deprivation implicating due process as no action to perfect or collect the fine was taken," Pascale stated.

"It is also the Town's position that assessing a \$100 fine for each of [Bove's] two properties making unmetered and unapproved use of municipal water, for a total fine of \$200, was appropriate under the circumstances and does not "shock the conscience," Pascale stated.

Pascale has asked the court to dismiss the lawsuit in its entirety but Gipe, in a just-released January 27 response, has asked the court to deny the dismissal request, potentially leading to a trial.

"That the Town has not attempted to collect the fine is immaterial as the damage has been done," Gipe stated.

"A criminal fine has been adjudicated and assessed and Bove's good name in the community has been slandered, all without due process and under a local law that simply does not provide for any due process," Gipe stated.

Different versions of the same scenario are being presented by the two lawyers. Bove's attorney states that, "upon information and belief, [town] Water Superintendent Kyle Schwarz was aware of, and had approved the hook-up [at the cafe], and had previously been on the property with the plumber to review and approve the use of existing piping materials.

"Upon information and belief, the plumber followed proper own procedure when tapping into the Town Water," Gipe states.

Pascal conversely states that Bove, "agrees to pay the penalty rate for the over one year of unmetered water use, and blames this circumstance on a plumber [Bove] hired to perform this work," producing multiple affidavits telling a story that differs from Bove and his attorney.

Schwarz, in an affidavit, says Bove's plumber, "did not notify me before any connection was made and activated...neither [Bove] nor his plumber provided notice before making the connection to either property.

"If not for State Sanitarian Del Regno bringing the issue to the attention of the Town, the Town would, to this date, remain unaware either of these connections were made," Schwarz says.

The town says it was first made aware of the situation in June, 2022, after a routine inspection of Bove's cafe by State Department of Health sanitarian Victor Del-

Regno.

DelRegno was reportedly told by Bove that the cafe was connected to the municipal water supply, newly transferring from a private well, allegedly unbeknownst to the Health Department and the town.

The town reportedly confirmed the hookup with Bove, leading to a violation letter and notice of the fines being sent to Bove, ultimately leading to Bove disputing the legitimacy of the actions and bringing his lawsuit.

Gipe, in her January 27 argument to the court, states the "motion to dismiss should be denied because [the town has] provided no documentary evidence utterly refuting [Bove's] factual allegations."

Referencing case law, Gipe concludes, "since there is no regulation or local law providing an avenue of appeal, no further avenues of administrative review are available and therefore this action is ripe for judicial review."

Many months or more could go by before the court makes a ruling on whether to proceed to trial or throw out the case.

A negotiated settlement could take place though Bove's previous attorney, prior to the lawsuit being filed, asked the town to write a letter declaring "there was no wrongdoing or criminal conduct on the part of Mr. Bove."

That request was refused and has gained no traction. Meanwhile, neither attorney has made mention of a claim included in Bove's lawsuit that the whole episode is possibly rooted in political skulduggery.

Bove, in the suit, also names the Windham water district, the Windham town board and Thomas Hoyt in his roles as town board supervisor and water district president.

Hoyt has a vote on both entities. The suit, digging up political skeletons, claims Hoyt, "was not an impartial decision maker as [Bove] ran against him in the 2019 election for town supervisor."

In 2019, insinuations were made that Hoyt, the chairman of the Windham Republican Party, was involved in a high-level conspiracy aimed at preventing Bove from winning the Democratic Party nomination.

Those not-well-veiled insinuations were part of another lawsuit brought by Bove at that time after he was forced to appeal to the Greene County Supreme Court to have his name put on the Election Day ballot.

Bove won the nomination in caucus, but then-Democratic Party chairman Thomas Poelker did not deliver required paperwork on time to the county Board of Elections, potentially keeping Bove's name off the ticket.

A judge later ordered that Bove's name be placed on the Democratic line. Bove subsequently lost to Hoyt. No substantiation was ever produced about the conspiracy theory espoused by Bove.

No evidence has been shared in the latest lawsuit showing Hoyt was, "not an impartial decision-maker" in the water district board vote. Hoyt ran unopposed for supervisor in 2021.

The five members of the town board also comprise the water district board. The decision to fine Bove came in a 5-0 vote.

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Warriors In Motion Weekend Comes to Close

Contributed by
James Mitchell
ASF Social Media
Coordinator

WINDHAM - After four days of skiing, snowboarding, and sharing stories, the Adaptive Sports Foundation's Bob Stubbs Warriors in Motion® (WIM) Winter Sports Weekend concluded, last Sunday afternoon.

"The Adaptive Sports Foundation put together yet another great ski weekend for disabled veterans and their families," veteran Jeffrey Adams said.

"Having our families here makes it so much better because they really are our support group. Having an organization that brings not only us veterans, but also our families to share that with us, it's great for the family and the soul. It helps rebuild lives and keeps us moving forward."

14 wounded veterans and their families made the trip to Windham to enjoy a weekend together, learning how to ski, how to snowboard, to see old friends and to meet new ones as well.

They arrived on Thursday evening to get fitted for their equipment. The participants received their skis, snowboards and any of the proper adaptive equipment needed for a fun-filled weekend on the slopes.

Dinner, which was provided by Jesse's Harvest House, was served at 6 p.m., and the Gwen Allard Adaptive Sports Center was alive with stories and laughs.

The participants hit the snow for the first time on Friday morning, as they met the volunteer instructors they would be working with for the next three days. After the morning on the mountain, the ASF and Windham Mountain held a special lunch in Seasons to honor the veterans and to pay tribute to the late Bob Stubbs and his family.

The festivities began with retired Senior Master Sergeant from the U.S. Air Force Dodie Libby singing the National Anthem and was followed by the Windham-Ashland-Jewett Elementary School chorus and 2nd grade class singing patriotic songs for the veterans.

New York State Senator Michelle Hinchey was a special guest for the ceremony and said a few words about her appreciation for U.S. servicemen and women, her passion for supporting the military and how organizations like the Adaptive Sports Foundation really helps disabled veterans return home and become whole again.

Windham Town Supervisor Thomas Hoyt was

also in attendance for the ceremony. After lunch was served, the tribute to honor Bob Stubbs began with Adams making a speech alongside the Stubbs family.

Adams was invited to Windham during the first Warriors in Motion Winter Sports Weekend back in 2005, and he is deemed as one of the "original nine." Since his first trip skiing with the ASF, he and the Stubbs family kept in touch with each other. So much so, that he called Bob, his wife Rosie and their children his "second family."

"When I came in 2005, it was three months after I got injured, so I still had stitches," Adams, an amputee, explained.

"Everybody here was so welcoming with open arms and at the forefront was Mr. Bob Stubbs. He would tell us 'Whatever you need, just let me know' and he would take time to go ski with us. He was always smiling and he was constantly moving."

"Bob was such an amazing individual, and it wasn't just Bob, but his wife Rosie was there all along the way."

"The whole Stubbs family, down to their daughter Charity, their son Grant and son-in-law Lee, I just love them all and what they contributed and what they still contribute, and it all started in 2005," Adams said.

Adams presented challenge coins to the Stubbs family that the ASF had made. The coin had Bob Stubbs' face engraved in the coin and it was presented in a plaque.

Bob Stubbs, a former Chairman of the ASF Board of Trustees, passed away in 2020. Stubbs, a U.S. Army veteran himself, was one of the first ASF donors to ensure that wounded warriors had everything they needed for a weekend of fun and empowerment on the slopes.

He and his wife Rosie would attend many of the WIM events the ASF held, and often the couple would build friendships with the participants. Beginning in 2021 after his passing the ASF renamed its Warriors in Motion Winter Sports Weekend in honor of him.

After the moving ceremony, the warriors and their families hit the slopes again for their afternoon lessons. Once those ended, the participants were able to go back to their hotels and get ready for another special meal.

This time it was dinner at the Windham VFW Post 1545, catered by Main Street Market. It was there where Post Quartermaster Marc Farmillette and the rest



A team effort makes the Warriors in Motion Weekend a continuing success at Windham Mountain and the Adaptive Sports Foundation. (Courtesy Ianelli Photography)

of the members of the VFW honored the warriors with presentations and presented the ASF with a donation for \$1,000.

Saturday was more like a typical lesson day for the ASF, as it hosted the participants for a full day of lessons with lunch in the ASF Lodge in between. The Warriors in Motion team hit the town again that night, as dinner was held at The Chicken Run.

Sunday morning the veterans arrived at the ASF Lodge for breakfast and their morning lessons. Not all participants skied or snowboarded that morning, but they did remain active, as they opted to snowshoe up the mountain instead.

After another lunch at the Gwen Allard Adaptive Sports Center, served by the kitchen volunteers who served breakfasts and lunches all weekend, the warriors and their families departed.

"ASF as a program does a lot for me, it's therapeutic to be out here," warrior David Snypes said. "I have chronic nerve pain and when I'm active, I don't feel it. Especially with a high-adrenaline sport like skiing, it keeps me not thinking about the pain."

The Warriors in Motion (WIM) program provides participating injured United States servicemen and women with a basic knowledge and practice of wellness and the importance of lifelong healthy living.

All Warriors in Motion programs are goal-oriented and empower the warrior to take charge of their own fitness and wellness. One of the many things that makes this weekend special is that the warriors who will be joining the ASF are able to bring their families along for ski and snowboard lessons.

If you'd like to donate to the Adaptive Sports Foundation and its many programs, visit www.adaptivesportsfoundation.org.



Tribute was paid to the late Bob Stubbs as Adaptive Sports Foundation chairman Vince Passione (far right) presents plaques and challenger coins to family members. (Courtesy Adaptive Sports Foundation).



This is what it is all about, getting wounded veterans such as amputee Jeffrey Adams on the slopes to continue their recoveries and their lives. (Courtesy Adaptive Sports Foundation).

Catskill Mountain Shakespeare Announces 3rd Outdoor Summer Season and Move to Hunter

HUNTER — Catskill Mountain Shakespeare (CMS) presents their 2023 Outdoor Summer Season with Shakespeare's comedy *As You Like It* opening July 15, 2023. This year, CMS is thrilled to formally announce their move to the Mountaintop, with performances under a tent at The Red Barn on Main Street in Hunter, a venue generously hosted by The Catskill Mountain Foundation. The production will be directed by Sydney Berk, a graduate of the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts who is currently Assistant Directing Lucy at The Minetta Lane Theater in NYC. The three-week run will feature a diverse cast of NYC and local talent in twelve performances staged within the picturesque landscape of the Catskill mountains. *As You Like It* runs July 15 - 30, 2023. For more details, visit catskillmountainshakespeare.com.

"We are ecstatic to bring CMS to the mountaintop for our third summer season," says Artistic Director & Founder (and West Kill

resident) Sarah Reny. "We are looking forward to welcoming back our old friends and fans and making new ones!"

CMS has expanded its team this year by hiring Elka Park's Carolyn Marie Wright (Theatre Program Director at The Ontario Club, former Manager of Education & Community Engagement at Geffen Playhouse) as Outreach Director and Hudson Valley-based performer and educator Brittany Proia (Denizen Theater, Shadowland Stages) as Producer. The CMS team aims to expand their community outreach and increase production offerings for audience members this season. In addition to main-stage performances, CMS will offer numerous community events and opportunities including a Low Cost/No Cost ticket initiative, a pay-what-you-can performance, an LGBTQIA+ summer social, a relaxed performance geared for families (with free tentside childcare), no-fee theatrical workshops for kids, teens and adults taught by artis-

tic professionals, and local farmers' markets pop-up events.

Inspired by the majesty of the mountains, CMS creates professional, theatrical, and immersive experiences while fostering diversity, inclusion and equity for all. CMS believes outdoor summer theater invites the local community, weekenders, and mountaintop visitors to enjoy live art together. Garnering wide support from patrons, business owners and investors, CMS sources existing locations for performances that provide infrastructure, accessibility and a beautiful landscape while leaving a minimal carbon footprint.

Catskill Mountain Shakespeare announces its 2023 Summer Season with Shakespeare's comedy *As You Like It* directed by Sydney Berk. Performed outdoors and under a tent at The Red Barn at 7970 Main Street in Hunter, NY - July 15-30, 2023. Visit catskillmountainshakespeare.com for season details and contact information.

Greene Co. Tourism Welcomes Kieran Coleman to Team

Kieran Coleman is another new hire on the Greene County Tourism team, taking the Senior Tourism Sales and Marketing Coordinator role. In addition to helping visitors, he will work with groups looking to visit Greene County, marketing campaigns, and work closely with local tourism businesses. Kieran stated, "I am eager to start with

Greene County Tourism. Selling the county as a tourism destination is a passion of mine, so I am excited to do it for a career!" Kieran grew up in Cossackie and lived in Greene County for most of his life. He is an avid hiker and snowboarder and spends his summers on the river and lakes in the county, making him an excellent fit for the

role. Kieran graduated from SUNY Oswego with a Bachelor's Degree in broadcasting and mass communication. Kieran currently lives in Athens with his wife and dog.

Injured Stuck Atop Bearpen Mountain for Hours Following Accident

By Mary A. Crisafulli

ROXBURY - A routine snowmobile ride turned into a long night in the snow for friends Mathew Vajtay, 20, of Roxbury, and Robert Peters, 20, of Roxbury, following an accident that left Peters injured.

Long childhood friends, Vajtay and Peters, decided to meet up on Sunday, Jan. 29, around 4 p.m. for a quick cruise on their snowmobiles after nice powdered snow just dropped. The two headed along Montgomery Hollow Road toward Bearpen Mountain. The friends decided to stop along the route to enjoy the scenery and chat with one another, Vajtay said. After their stop, the trip took a turn for the worse.

To set the scene, Vajtay explained that Bearpen is a widely used snowmobile trail and is groomed to the size of one snowmobile.

"If you ride snowmobiles you know that they can get caught in powdered snow and cause them to tip," he said.

Since the two were at a stop, they had pulled up next to one another so that they could talk. Once they decided to ride again, Peters had to ride in the powder a bit to get ahead of Vajtay and back on the trail. To level out the tipping after the snowmobile track hit a

tree stump, Vajtay said, Peters hopped off the snowmobile to the one side, a common way to avoid tipping further. However, when Peters put his foot down, the motion immediately snapped his leg, and he fell off. "It was a freak accident," Vajtay said. "At first I just thought he fell off."

When Peters attempted to get up, he knew the leg was broken, said Vajtay. The two were about four to five miles from the nearest roadway when the accident occurred.

"Out of sheer luck, my phone had one bar available, when most of this trail there is no service," he said.

Vajtay called Peters's brother, who immediately came with gear to make a splint so they could ride back down the mountain. An attempt to remove Peters's snow pants for the split made it clear the brake was much worse than initially assumed, said Vajtay, and more assistance was needed.

It was at that point that emergency services were contacted. However, the big question was still, "How are we going to get him down," Vajtay explained.

The first plan, he said, was to get Peters airlifted out. According to Vajtay, emergency services had difficulty securing a helicopter



First responders find a way to get Robert Peters down Bearpen Mountain after a snowmobile accident.

due to low cloud cover, and they were back to the drawing board.

At this point, Peters had been lying in the cold snow for over an hour. "We piled our coats around him to keep him warm, but he's still sitting in the snow," said Vajtay. "It's tough to watch your best friend in pain, you know."

In the meantime, first responders arrived on scene to assess Peters's condition after hiking up the mountain. Another hour had gone by,

said Vajtay.

"I was impressed with all the emergency responders coming out on a Sunday to hike in the snow. We were all working toward the same goal and it was incredible."

He explained that the Roxbury Fire Department did not have access to a vehicle that could drive through the snow to transport Peters. The Grand George Fire Department had an Argo all-terrain vehicle, in which they switched the tires out for snow-friendly treads in winter; they were contacted for assistance, explained Vajtay. Since the trail is designed for snowmobiles, Vajtay said, firefighters had to cut trees along the path to get the vehicle up the mountain. After two and a half hours, Peters was strapped to the vehicle on a gurney and on his way down.

"It was a long trip down," said Vajtay reluctantly. "All those bumps could not have felt good when you're hurting."

The vehicle had to drive slowly, and Vajtay estimated they were going two miles an hour, landing them at



Mathew Vajtay follows behind on his snowmobile as first responders haul Robert Peters off Bearpen Mountain following a snowmobile accident.

the bottom another hour and a half later.

Peters was transported to Margaretville Hospital and was shortly transported to Albany Medical Center for surgery. Peters is now recovering at home with a metal rod in his leg, reported Vajtay.

"You think something is going to be a quick ride in the woods and it turns into a four-hour affair," said Vajtay, still in astonishment over the situation. "It's tough to see him in pain, but you just block everything out and get what needs to be done, done," he concluded.

THE TAPESTRY BY DR. DEBORAH HERODES

Temperature's Risin' January's Thermometer

I have been coughing for five weeks, and no matter what I take to help quell the hacking, I'm still coughing. This is the story most people who live in upstate New York are telling. If they aren't coughing, they are vomiting or have severe sinus infections or UTIs. This is an ordinary January for me; it is the unhealthiest month of the year for me. I have always chalked it up to the busy days that surround the holidays, and the lack of sleep that go hand in hand with this time of year.

Sadly, however, it is not just me this year, who is struggling with January madness; most of the people I know are suffering, "health-wise," through January. Kids are dropping and drooping from RSV, influenza, Cox-sackie virus, stomach bugs, severe ear infections and Covid. As parents, who are trying to keep-up with the doses of "pink medicine" (Amoxicillin) in the refrigerator, and cough medications, inhalers, and out of stock Tylenol, I found my own grown children coming to me to ask for some old-fashioned remedies. I laughed, because most of the time, my old-fashioned ways are pushed aside for more new age ideas. My heart went out to them and to their children, however, so I began to list some things they could try to do to relieve the limpness and suffering of their children.

First and foremost, I reminded them, it is Winter, so hats SHOULD BE WORN! Little ears need to be covered and most of the body's heat escapes through one's head. I also have begged for years for children to wear their coats in the car, even though car-seat companies swear that seatbelts in car-seats cannot be made tight enough, with a winter coat on. I must remember, however, that I didn't grow up with car-seats. And for that matter, not even seat belts, so this isn't really an old-fashioned idea. I

mentioned Vicks, for back and chest rub, and of course, under the nose, and, also added that my grandfather used to swallow Vicks every night of his life. Additionally, I recommended tepid baths, moist-air vaporizers, warm Wesson oil drops in the ears, followed by puffs of smoke, covered with cotton, for ear-aches, cool wash cloths on head, under arms and on feet to bring down fevers, wintergreen lifesavers for coughing, along with peanut butter, on a spoon, for asthmatic coughs. Ginger-ale and hot tea with honey, along with chicken broth and pop-suckles were my suggestions for food and drink. Cox-sackie virus needed a pair of soft gloves on small hands to avoid torn sores from scratching. Most importantly, however, was the need for sleep in a quiet place, and free of video games, television etc. For headaches, if no Tylenol was available, I suggested ice packs and teabags on eyelids.

As most people reading this, are probably either shaking their heads in agreement, with the aforementioned, or laughing hysterically at these old-time remedies, the one thing we can all agree on is kids are sicker than usual and so are adults.

The reasons for this unusually sick January are twofold. The first reason has to do with sending children to school who are sick. When both parents work, it is difficult to get time off to care for a sick child, so off he/she goes, with fever intact, to spread his/her germs to other children. When I was teaching, I never was more irritated than when a classroom full of kids were coughing and blowing their noses. The classroom epidemic usually started with one ill child, and, within 10 days, all were in concert with each other, teacher included. Used Kleenex lined the classroom garbage can all day long, just waiting to spread its deposits, with all who dared to enter Rm. 158. As I taught high school students,

I was pretty much protected from the projectile vomiter, of the elementary school, who left his/her impression on his/her desk or squarely in the hallway, on the way to the bathroom. Teachers need to learn to control that gag reflex, and somehow, they do, but little ones have no idea how to rid themselves of that pukey feeling.

The second reason for all this non-stop sickness surrounds Covid and all the ramifications of masking, disbelief and believing that the entire safety issue is over. The wearing of masks protected children from Covid, until vaccinations came along to boost their immune systems. Those who were not immunized were also protected from all kinds of viruses, due to the masks. When the masks came off, however, and a year and a half of immune systems sitting by silently, waiting to be used, were forced to kick back in, because viruses were free to enter through the mouth and nose, they were not prepared. There is good news however, for those with little ones. Each illness your "not yet school age" child endures means a stronger immune system, once they enter school. Believe it or not, the longer I taught, the less I got sick, because my body got so used to these attack germs that eventually it just warded them off.

Take heart parents and other adults who are struggling through these cold months, your immune systems are also getting stronger, and despite your lack of sleep dealing with your little ones, you will get through this, and the Spring and Summer will bring us some natural vitamins. In addition, it still is smart to wear your masks if you are ill or are going to an event full of people. It is now considered the norm, so keep one in your pocket. By the way, vaccinations are still available, if you are so inclined.

THE CATSKILL GEOLOGISTS BY PROFESSORS ROBERT AND JOHANNA TITUS

Lake Bottom Rivers

We have been talking about the classification of streams in recent columns. Scientists love to classify things, all sorts of things. The first thing that is done when a new science is established is classification. When mineralogy emerged as a science in the 19th Century, mineralogists scurried about looking for and describing all the new minerals that they could find. They still turn up a few new ones every year. Paleontologists spent generations finding new fossil species. That process goes on too. Geologists have classified a lot of things and that includes streams. We have been describing the work of Harvard professor William Morris Davis. He not only classified streams but also developed a scientific theory for how they developed over time. The Davis's "fluvial cycle" saw the same stream pass through youthful, mature, and old age stages. A single stream would grow old as the landscape around it also grew old. The mountains and hills would erode away while the floodplains would flatten and widen. In the extreme end, Davis thought that great landscapes would just erode away. They would erode down to sea level and disappear! It was, to say the least, a controversial notion. So far, we have only found



Former Lake Schoharie

youthful streams in the Catskills. We struggled with mature streams last week and now we are going to run out of luck looking for old age streams. As their name implies, old age streams require a lot of time to develop, even by geological standards. There are none in the Catskills. But there is something else. Take a look at our photo. It was taken from the top of Vroman's Nose near Middleburgh. We are looking down on the bottom of the Schoharie Creek Valley. That's a floodplain down there. Right? That makes it a floodplain, or mature stream. Right? Nope! Wrong, and wrong again. That's not a floodplain; that's the bottom of a lake. It's the bottom of Glacial Lake Schoharie. See our January 1st column (you clip them and keep all of these columns, right?). What

should be a mature, floodplain stream is actually an altogether different landscape feature. So, let's call Schoharie Creek a lake bottom stream. That wasn't in the Davis scheme but that's what it is.

Where we are going with all this is to something most remarkable. The William Morris Davis fluvial cycle stood as accepted scientific theory for more than half a century. But, having observed valleys like that of Schoharie Creek, geologists realized that his theory didn't always work. It had to be abandoned. This is one of the very few examples of a scientific theory that went belly up.

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

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, Hensonsville, 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 Hensonsville, 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 Hensonsville 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, Hensonsville, 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 Hensonsville, 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: Krissy's Sparkle Cleaning SVCS LLC; Date of filing: July 7, 2021; Office of the LLC: Albany 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 Northwest Registered Agent LLC, 90

State St, Suite 700, Office 40, Albany NY 12207; Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LLC MINIMALLY INVASIVE TREE REMOVAL, LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 09/08/22. Office in Schoharie Co. SSNY designated Agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC @ 1881 Western Ave STE 180, Albany, NY 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 2022- 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 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 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 Llc: Catskills Junction LLC; Date of filing: 4/21/2022; Office of the LLC: Delaware 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 MEREDITH, 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 - Bids Wanted
The Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC) is seeking proposals from portable toilet vendors for bids to lease and maintain toilets at fifteen locations in Delaware, Greene, Schoharie and Sullivan Counties adjacent to four reservoirs from May 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023. Bids must be received by CWC by 3pm on March 10, 2023. For bid documents, please contact Barbara Puglisi or Timothy Cox at 845-586-1400. EOE

Public Notice - Windham
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Windham at 371 State Route 296, Hensonsville, NY on February 9, 2023 at 6:50 PM. All persons wishing to speak upon this matter shall be heard at this time. A copy of the Local Law #1 of 2023, a Local Law of the Town of Windham "Providing Real Property Tax Exemptions for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Section 466-A of the Real Property Tax Law" is available for review at the Town Clerk's Office during business hours 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Public Notice - Waj CSD
A Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at 5:00 p.m., at the beginning of the Regular Board of Education Meeting of the Windham-Ashland-Jewett Central School District. The public is invited to discuss the proposed Real Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers pursuant to Section 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law. Information regarding this proposed Real Property Tax Exemption may be found on the District's website at www.wajcs.org and will also be available at the Public Hearing.

Public Notice - Schoharie
There will be a Workshop held by the Planning Board of the Town of Schoharie on Monday, February 6, 2023 at 6:30 PM at the Schoharie Firehouse (basement meeting room), 114 Fort Road, Schoharie, NY. Primarily held to review the Travel Plaza Site Plan, Special Use Permit, and Environmental Assessment Form, any other business may be conducted.

Public Notice - Greene County
The Greene County Legislature on December 14th, 2022, adopted Local Law Number 4 of the Year 2022, as follows:
LOCAL LAW NUMBER 4 OF 2022
A LOCAL LAW amending Local Law Number 1 of 2004 re-

lating to exemption from real property taxes of property owned by persons with disabilities and limited incomes.
BE IT ENACTED by the County Legislature of the County of Greene, as follows:
SECTION 1. The purpose of this Local Law is to amend Local Law Number 1 of 2004 by increasing the maximum income limit from its current amount of \$29,000. to \$34,000.
SECTION 2. This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon its filing with the Secretary of State.

Public Notice - Prattsville
Town of Prattsville Notice of Public Hearing to enact a Local Law Establishing a Senior Citizen Tax Exemption Pursuant to Section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Prattsville, Greene County, NY shall hold a Public Hearing at a Regular Meeting thereof held on the 13th day of February, 2023 at 7:15pm for the purpose of considering and enacting a Local Law establishing a Senior Citizen Tax Exemption pursuant to section 467 of the real property tax law in accordance with the sliding scale set forth therein.
The Secretary of State.

Public Notice - Schoharie
There will be a Workshop held by the Planning Board of the Town of Schoharie on Monday, February 6, 2023 at 6:30 PM at the Schoharie Firehouse (basement meeting room), 114 Fort Road, Schoharie, NY. Primarily held to review the Travel Plaza Site Plan, Special Use Permit, and Environmental Assessment Form, any other business may be conducted.

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BRIGHT/SPACIOUS HUNTER/CATSKILLS MOUNTAIN GETAWAY
4 Bedroom,3 Bathroom House for rent - \$450/night.
Mountain view,private sauna,hot tub-hiking,skiing,biking
Please call Joseph- 631 745-0193

SERVICES OFFERED

Services Offered
My services of vacuuming and rug shampooing to Schoharie County Seniors. Apartments only. Monday-Friday, Noon to 3:00 PM. \$15 per room. 518-231-2359.

Public Notice - Lexington
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the Town of Lexington Town Board will hold a Public Hearing on February 7, 2023 at 6:00 PM at the Municipal Building, 3542 Route 42, Lexington, N. Y. with the Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting to immediately follow. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to create Local Law #1 of 2023 Senior Citizen Real Property Tax Exemptions, Local Law #2 of 2023 Establishing Disabled and Low-Income Citizen Real Property Tax Exemptions and Local Law #3 of 2023 Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers Real Property Tax Exemptions.

Public Notice - Stamford CSD
The Stamford Central School Board of Education will be attending Board of Education Budget Workshops on March 1, March 15, March 29, and April 12, 2023, at 6 p.m., in the cafeteria, at Stamford Central School, Stamford, NY. No business will be conducted.

Public Notice - Jefferson
There will be a public hearing at 7PM on February 15, 2023 at the Town of Jefferson Planning Board Meeting, 677 North Harpersfield Rd., Jefferson. The purpose of this meeting is a change of use for a property at 1688 State Route 10, Jefferson. The request is to create the Awen Center, which is proposed to be a place for groups and individuals to come to revitalize, to learn new information and skills related to wellness and sustainability.

Public Notice - Schoharie
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SEEKING

We are looking for a person to do stonework on our stone walls in Stamford, NY. (607) 652-2449.

Looking for someone to refurbish GE 4 line business phones. Approximately 10 phones
Please call Janet 607- 588-4700 noon-4:30pm

ARKVILLE - Summer helper, part time, weekends. Some heavy lifting and porting. May through October. Call David (845) 586-6287.

ANTIQUES

ANTIQUES
All old, most over 100 years, solid wood, not reproductions: dark wood music cabinet with drawer and shelves, light wood cradle with solid ends and sides, oak short chest of drawers, dark wood sewing caddy, upholstered ornate platform rocker. All in very good condition. Not cheap but reasonable asking prices. Call for pic and price, Pat at 518-827-7508.

REAL ESTATE

Vacant Land
5 acres in Jefferson, NY. \$35,000
90 acres in Harpersfield, NY. \$285,000.

Delaware County Public Health Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic

For dogs, cats and ferrets on:
Wednesday March 1, 2023 from 5PM- 6:30PM, at Colchester Town Garage: 6292 River Rd. Downsville, NY 13755
If you are not feeling well, Please stay home.

It's the law! Every dog and cat must be vaccinated against rabies.

Cats and Dogs can get their first rabies vaccine at 3 months of age.

Please bring the previous vaccination record to verify if your pet is eligible for 3 year coverage.

Dogs must be on a leash & under proper control. Cats and Ferrets should be in a carrying case.

Local organizations have volunteered their facilities for your convenience. It is your responsibility to clean up after your pet. It's the law, you can be fined.

Vet only available at the advertised clinic time-no earlier!

For questions or more information call 607-832-5200

or see our website www.delaware-countypublichealth.com

Man Arrested on Bench Warrant

DELHI - Sheriff Craig S. DuMond announced the arrest of 47-year-old Robert Burke of Ogdensburg, N.J.

On the afternoon of January 17th, 2023 Delaware County Sheriff's Deputies were contacted by Delaware County Communications who stated that Robert Burke was currently at the Delaware County Sheriff's Office to surrender himself for his active Delaware County Court Bench Warrant.

Deputies subsequently arrested Burke on an active Bench Warrant out of Delaware County Court for failure to appear.

Burke was arraigned on the Bench Warrant, in Delaware County Court where he was committed to the Custody of the Delaware County Correctional Facility pending further appearance in court at a later date to answer for said charges.

Queens Woman Arrested in Del Co.

DELHI - Sheriff Craig S. DuMond announced the arrest of 34-year-old Jessica Arnott of Queens, NY.

On the afternoon of January 17th, 2023 Delaware County Sheriff's Deputies were contacted by Delaware County Court Officers who stated that Jessica Arnott was currently at the Delaware County Court to surrender herself for her active Delaware County Family Court Arrest Warrant.

Deputies subsequently arrested Arnott for an active Arrest Warrant out of Delaware County Family Court for Article 10 of the Family Court Act.

Arnott was arraigned on the active Arrest Warrant, in Delaware County Family Court where she was committed to the Custody of the Delaware County Correctional Facility pending further appearance in court at a later date to answer for said charges.

DISABLED VET living in Stamford is looking for home health aid. Flexible hours and days. Please call (607) 652-2449.

HELP WANTED

Help Wanted
Margaretville Senior Dining Center Driver
Valid NYS driver's license, clean driving record. Ability to relate well to senior citizens and to help shut ins stay independent. 15 hours per week, Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. \$14.40 per hour. Annual, Sick, and Paid Holidays. Sign on bonus of \$250.00 after a month of employment. Applications accepted until filled at Delaware Opportunities Inc., 35430 State Highway 10, Hamden, NY 13782, or Margaretville at the Senior Dining Center. Or RAngerer@delop.org Equal Employment Opportunity MF/ F/ Disability/ Protected Veteran Status

Help Wanted
Gerster Trucking Now Hiring For: Class A CDL Drivers Local - Tank Endorsement Required. Milk Pick Up Routes

Competitive Salary, Health Insurance.

Help Wanted
The Town of Bovina Highway Department is looking for a full time heavy equipment operator. The applicant must be capable of operating highway equipment, have some mechanical skills, have a CDL class B license or the ability to get one and pass a drug screening. Benefits are available after a probation period. Contact Highway Superintendent Edward Weber, at 607-832-4220 or email at bovinahighway@hotmail.com Edward Weber Bovina Highway Superintendent

Help Wanted
DISABLED VETERAN looking for an aid in the Stamford area. Flexible hours and flexible days to do housekeeping and some meals. 917-670-1647.

Help Wanted
ARKVILLE - Summer helper, part time, weekends. Some heavy lifting and porting. Now through October. Call David (607) 326-6829.

Help Wanted
The Town of Middleburgh Highway Department has an open position for a Full time Laborer. A CDL license is preferred but not required to apply. Please stop at the Town Clerks office, email the clerk at tmidd@gmail.com or call 518-827-5100 for an application.

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Town of Bovina Highway Department is looking for a full time heavy equipment operator. The applicant must be capable of operating highway equipment, have some mechanical skills, have a CDL class B license or the ability

to get one and pass a drug screening. Benefits are available after a probation period. Contact Highway Superintendent Edward Weber, at 607-832-4220 or email at bovinahighway@hotmail.com Edward Weber Bovina Highway Superintendent

Help Wanted
Computer Technician needed for local Computer Store, Experience is a Plus. System Builds, System repairs, Virus and Spyware removal, Networking, Security Camera Installs. Salary Commensurate Experience. Call Michael 518-231-0622 to schedule and interview

Help Wanted
The Cornell Cooperative Extension After-school Program at Schoharie elementary school is in need of an Activity Leader. The program runs from 2 to 5:30pm, Monday through Friday. If you or someone you know is interested

in becoming an Activity Leader, please contact Susan Salisbury at 518-234-4303-extension122 or sms248@cornell.edu

Help Wanted
The Village of Middleburgh is currently accepting applications for a part-time Deputy Codes Enforcement Officer (5-10 hrs. per week). Candidates must have the ability to enforce the Uniform Code and conform to the requirements of 19 NYCRR Part 1203 (Uniform Code: Minimum Standards for Administration and Enforcement) and be up to date on all NYS certifications. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

If you would like an application you may stop in at the Municipal Office 309 Main St. or call 518-827-5143 or email middleburgh-nynillage@midtel.net.

Help Wanted
Full Time Wash Bay Position available to wash and detail com-

mercial trucks and trailers in a fully equipped wash bay. Excellent Medical Insurance available immediately. Vacation and retirement available after one year. Please call 607-278-5212 or email prgerster76@aol.com

Help Wanted
Full Time Wash Bay Position available to wash and detail commercial trucks and trailers in a fully equipped wash bay. Excellent Medical Insurance available immediately. Vacation and retirement available after one year. Please call 607-278-5212 or email prgerster76@aol.com

Help Wanted
Gerster Trucking Now Hiring For: Class A CDL Drivers Local - Tank Endorsement Required

Competitive Salary and Health Insurance Available Immediately. Paid Vacation and Retirement Plan Available after 1 Year. Call 607-278-5212 or email prgerster76@aol.com

Rams Boys Again Clinch First Place

DELAWARE LEAGUE – The South Kortright Rams continued undefeated in league play last week to clinch first place as the season enters its final week of regular season play. Davenport picked up a league win on Tuesday, to finish at 7-1, in second place.

The Rams defeated Downsview 69-42 last Thursday to finish the league perfectly, once again, at 8-. However, they picked up another non-league league loss against Cobleskill-Richmondville last Friday, a Class B school.

In other action last Thursday Margaretville defeated Hunter-Tannersville 53-36 and Jefferson/Stamford picked up its first league win, a close pairing with Roxbury, 41-38. Gilboa fell to non-league Schenevus in a close 54-52 game.

In Thursday's win, SK got 28 points from Connor Quarino, with Troy Dianich and Josh Anderson chim-

ing in 18 and 17 points, respectively. The Rams owned a 32-20 lead at the half and posted a 27-13 third quarter to outdistance Downsview by 26 points moving into the final quarter of play.

Patrick Terk and Jacob Staroba scored 12 and 10 points, respectively, to lead J/S to a three-point win over the Roxbury Rockets. For the Rockets Jordan Johnston and George Proctor each scored nine points.

Roxbury took an early five-point first quarter lead, but J/S closed the gap to just two points going into the half. They held Roxbury to single digits over the final two quarters in last Saturday's action to take over the lead and go on for the win.

The Rockets were coming off a 71-68 win over Gilboa last Friday. Mason Hamil scored the game-high of 29 points to lead the Rockets, while teammates Chris Garafolo and Jordan Johnston added

another 14 and 12 points, respectively. Dakota Oliver led Gilboa's scoring with 19 points on the night.

The Blue Devils owned a three-point lead over H-T in the opening half but went on to hold them to single digits in each of the final two quarters to outdistance the Wildcats and bring home the win. Ryan McVitty led the way with four three-point baskets to finish the night with 18 points. H-T was led by Jevail McKinney's 17 points and 15 rebounds.

It was a seesaw battle for Gilboa as the traded lead with Shenevus, who eventually took the win. William Cipolla led Gilboa with the game-high of 21 points and teammate Joe Wille added another 12 points in double figures.

Last Saturday, SK fell to C-R 69-62. Connor Quarino led the Rams with 24 points that included four three-point baskets. Josh Anderson chimed in another 17 points.

The Charlotte Valley

Wildcats defeated the Windham Warriors 59-25 last Friday. Jamison Quigley led the charge with 20 points on the night, while Trevor Waid chipped in another 13 points. For WAJ, Aaron Cohen scored six points.

CVCS handed Roxbury a 54-46 loss on Tuesday as the pulled back from a first half deficit, scoring two quick baskets in the final minute to narrow the gap, then returned from the break to outscore Roxbury in the second half to go on for the win, trading leads until the Wildcats finally pulled away in the final quarter to take the win.

Jamison Quigley led the charge for CVCS with 22

points on the night and teammate Ezra Ontl added another 12 points in double figures. Roxbury's George Proctor turned in the game-high of 29 points. He also pulled down 19 rebounds and had eight steals.

Hunter-Tannersville defeated Stamford/Jefferson 55-40 in league action on Tuesday. Jevail McKinnie led the Wildcats with 21 points and 12 rebounds on the night, while teammate Grady Glennon chimed in another 14 points, five steals and five assists to the win. Jacob Staroba led J/S scoring with 16 points.

Gilboa defeated Windham 51-20 in Tuesday's league action. Joe Willie

led the way with 18 points and seven rebounds, while teammates William Cipolla added another 16 points in double figures. Jacob Strauch helped on the boards with 10 rebounds for H-T. Windham got four points each from four different players.

Margaretville defeated Downsview 70-46 on Tuesday. Connor Wayman scored the game high of 28 points for the Blue Devils and teammates Ryan McVitty and Christian Bravo added another 18 and 17 points, respectively to the win. Gavin Brunner led the Eagles, connecting on five three-point buckets to finish the night with 17 points for Downsview.

4-H Teens Recognized For Accomplishments



Friday, January 27th was a night of excitement, friendship, and good times when the 4-H teens of Delaware County, who submitted completed 4-H Member Record Books, came together to be recognized for all of their accomplishments and hard work during the 2021-22 4-H year.

Members and their families shared a dinner together which was provided by Delaware County 4-H, followed by an awards ceremony.

Emily Roach, 4-H Team Leader, welcomed the teens and their families and offered a few thoughts on the past few years. Emily and Corrine Tompkins, 4-H Resource Educator, handed out certificates and awards to the teens.

After the awards ceremony, everyone took time to catch-up before heading for home.

Expanded Little League To Host Sign Ups

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 offering the 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 are open to 4-12 year old boys and girls. Sign up events will be held at the following dates and locations: South Kortright Central School: February 4th and 11th from 8-10am; Charlotte Valley CS: February 7th from 4:30-6:30pm; Gilboa-Conesville CS: February 8th 5-7pm; Jefferson CS: February 9th from 4-6pm; Delaware Academy: February 9th 6-8pm; Andes CS: February 10th 5-7pm; Stamford CS: February 10th 6-8pm. Sign up 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/cmll2023>. To find out if you're in the CMLL area, visit <https://www.littleleague.org/play-little-league/league-finder/> or contact Bill Abbattine at (518) 376-1603.

SK, Stamford in Showdown of Undefeateds

DELAWARE LEAGUE – Stamford/Jefferson and SK each picked up league victories last Friday to remain perfect in league play heading into the showdown that was set to take place Wednesday, after press time. The Windham Lady Warriors are in the fray as well, just one loss out. Windham will face Gilboa on Wednesday and Stamford on Friday.

In action last Thursday, Hunter-Tannersville defeated Margaretville 50-38 in league action. Julia Legg led the way for the Lady Wildcats with 13 points and teammates Hedda Flynn and Marissa Legg chimed in 11 points each. For Margaretville, Ava Fonckowiak scored the game-high of 15 points and Ana Gavette chimed in 13 points.

Stamford/Jefferson defeated Gilboa 61-41 as Tryhnati Donato poured

in the game high of 21 points and dished off six assists. McKenna Hoyt added another 20 points, 16 rebounds, 8 steals and five assists. Karly Sutton led Gilboa with 14 points.

South Kortright defeated Downsview 47-14 behind a balanced attack, led by Caitlyn Deysenroth's 14 points and nine rebounds. Addy Eckert scored 10 more points and pulled down 10 boards. Downsview got 10 points from McKenzy Brown.

Windham brought home a 43-36 victory over Charlotte Valley. Amanda Nilsen led the win with 17 points and teammate Ashtyn Hansen added 13 more in double figures. Ella Gerster led all scorers with 18 points on the night for CV and Jessica Zuill added 10 points.

In Monday's action, Charlotte Valley lost 39-

36 to non-league Franklin. Ella Gerster led the Lady Wildcats with 14 points and teammate Amanda Zuill added nine points.

Stamford/Jefferson picked up a 48-33 win over Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton on Monday in a non-league pairing. McKenna Hoyt led the way with 19 points and 16 rebounds, while Tryhnati Donato added another 13 points in double figures and dished off six assists. Paige VanEtten had a good night on the boards, pulling down 14 rebounds for S/J. Franklin's Hannah Bonczkowski led Franklin and scored her 1,000th career point.

On Tuesday, the Windham Lady Warriors lost to non-league Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton 34-30. Amanda Nilsen scored 17 points to lead Windham.

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ACROSS

- 1) Greek square of old
- 6) The Munsters' pet
- 10) Seen
- 14) Bails
- 15) Skin opening
- 16) Packaging material
- 17) Grade school math lesson
- 20) Cajun staple
- 21) "Besides which ..."
- 22) Standing straight
- 23) With aloofness
- 25) 180 from WSW
- 26) Entirely exposed
- 29) Bing Crosby or Rudy Vallee, e.g.
- 33) Blow holes?
- 34) Remove wrinkles
- 36) Pie ___ mode
- 37) Time, relatively speaking
- 41) Bad ___, Germany
- 42) Unwanted organism in an aquarium
- 43) Relative of the giraffe
- 44) Kind of supplement
- 47) Travel pamphlets
- 48) Big game animal
- 49) Sources of Davy Crockett hats
- 51) Harsh Athenian lawgiver
- 54) Open to breezes
- 55) In ___ of (replacing)
- 59) One of a well-known 52
- 62) Classic door-to-door marketer
- 63) Twist-apart cookie
- 64) Greek lyric poem
- 65) Brand of construction toy
- 66) Bull's weapon
- 67) Caruso or Domingo

DOWN

- 1) Kind of sax
- 2) Stare, like a tourist
- 3) Skunk's weapon
- 4) Merchant
- 5) Burning remnant
- 6) Compete in a bee
- 7) Odes, sonnets, etc.
- 8) About
- 9) It comes in a bag, often
- 10) Two-dimensional sound
- 11) Smooth the way of
- 12) Grand in scale
- 13) Word heard at an auction
- 18) Vice squad action
- 19) Ashcroft's predecessor
- 24) Start fishing
- 25) White-tailed eagle
- 26) Not yet nourished
- 27) A Judd
- 28) Container for liquids
- 29) Prolonged unconsciousness
- 30) Aquatic nymph
- 31) Dispense with nuptials
- 32) Punjabi princesses
- 34) With no apparent purpose
- 35) Tractor-trailer, e.g.
- 38) "___! The Herald Angels Sing"
- 39) Person, place or thing
- 40) It may run down a mountain
- 45) Dance-music genre
- 46) What little things mean?
- 47) "The Naked Maja" painter
- 49) Juice pressed from apples
- 50) Noted nebula locale
- 51) Bargain hunter's delight
- 52) French bank
- 53) Full of anticipation
- 54) Disco Stu's hairstyle
- 56) Look ___ (visit briefly)
- 57) Edible corm
- 58) End ___ (ultimate customer)
- 60) "That feels good!"
- 61) Was introduced to

GO FORTH AND MULTIPLY By Jill Pepper

EDITORIAL

Nominees So Far

We have our nominees for our person of the year awards in so far. We'll start announcing them next week! Send us yours at mountaineaglenews@gmail.com.

Send us your ideas about a person who has made a difference in the area in any field. Send us business owners, elected officials, worship leaders, sports

So far, nominees include:

Delaware County

- Shawn Smith
- John Hubbard
- Michael Reichman
- Craig DuMond
- Deb Crute
- Bev Shields
- Collin "Stumpy" Miller
- Robert Schneider

Schoharie County

- Curt Van Steele
- Bob Roney
- Nick Juried
- Kim Witkowski
- Jean Cain
- Bill Federice
- Scott Bennett, Jr.
- Sigrid Wood
- Steve Humphrey
- Pastor Maryellen Moore
- John Stiles

Greene County

- Ken Maybe
- Linda Sutton
- Pastor Cliff Cool
- Carolyn Bennett
- Greg Cross
- Dede Terns-Thorpe
- Patrick Linger

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

Mood Swings



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.

This week's column was written by Paul Hetzler, a Cornell Cooperative Extension agent from St Lawrence County. Although Paul lives quite a bit north of us, his winter seems to be a lot like ours!

I'm not claiming it has been a hard winter thus far, just a rather temperamental one. We go from zero to fifty above, then back to single digits all in one week, each transition punctuated by freezing rain, sleet and high winds.

Following each meteorological mood swing, I hear people comment how confused the weather makes them. You plant spring bulbs one day, shovel snow the next, then have to lace up the crampons the day after that because it rained and then suddenly froze. If you think it's annoying for us humans, who have the luxury of retreating into our warm homes, imagine how the animals feel.

Freezing rain can really mess things up for resident songbirds. Chickadees are not able to break apart the birch and alder catkins they depend on for food. Nuthatches can't extract seeds from pine and

spruce cones which are encased in ice. This type of weather is normal, of course, but glaze events occur more often when the weather changes its mind every few days. An ice crust on top of the snow can make it hard for grouse and turkeys, and deer as well, to find browse.

Retired Wildlife Biologist Ken Kogut, formerly with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, explains that "The depth and character of snow has a profound impact on wildlife." We can probably understand how deep snow might keep deer from finding food, in addition to hampering their movement. As the snowpack gets sixteen or more inches deep, their bellies drag, and it's hard for them to raise their legs high enough to take a step.

In these conditions, deer will "yard up," finding shelter in a conifer stand. These places have much less snow on the ground because the dense canopy intercepts a lot of the snowfall. The problem is that there is very little to eat, and they may starve to death.

Kogut points out that while it might not be as obvious, in harsh winters a lot of turkeys also starve to death. Typically they forage by walking, scratching at the duff to unearth food, but they are unable to do this in deep snow. They will seek berries that may remain on shrubs and trees like highbush cranberry and hawthorn, but this food is limited.

Yet some creatures de-

pend on snow for survival. Small rodents, meadow voles in particular, fare well in the world under the snow, which science nerds call the subnivean environment. They're safe from birds of prey, their most significant predators, and can find plenty of weed seeds and other vegetation on which to feed. Unfortunately this sometimes includes the bark of small tree trunks, much to the disappointment of orchardists and homeowners. However, in parts of the Adirondacks, the American (pine) marten hunts rodents under the snow.

When the white stuff piles up, Snowshoe hares, with their furry oversize feet, have an advantage over predators such as dainty-footed foxes. But with alternate-week thaw cycles, that advantage melts away. And how about species who change into white for the winter? Camouflage doesn't work so well for ermines and hares when fickle weather keeps swapping out the background color.

The effects of winter weather are not limited to fur and feather. A small number of fish typically die as a result of winter conditions every year. In winters with a long period of ice cover, though, oxygen in the water can become so depleted that large numbers of fish may suffocate.

Down here in Florida we are also experiencing fish kills, but these are due to a particular kind of algal bloom known as "Red Tide". I will have more to say about this phenomenon in a future column.

WHITTILING AWAY WITH DICK BROOKS

Clearance

Telly, my trusty canine companion and I were just finishing our daily morning ura-peeing tour of the yard when I noticed the deplorable condition of my favorite pair of gloves. They were less than a year old but the passage of time since I purchased them last July had not been kind to them. I had picked them up from a clearance table in a local emporium because they were a good bargain and looked warm. I found the price of \$3.00 most appealing to the bargain seeking side of my nature which had been largely neglected until I became a senior citizen. They were as warm as they had looked but shoveling needed this winter had taken its toll and the threadbare portions warned of the higher possibilities of frost bite. Since the thermometer was reading below freezing and snow covering the yard, warm gloves didn't seem to be an optional article of clothing. There seemed to be a simple solution to the problem, Telly and I would motor back to the store where we had originally purchased the gloves and check the clearance table in the hopes that there would be yet another pair of warm cheap gloves. If there were none to be had at the bargain rate of the first pair, I was fully prepared to pay full price for a new pair, when you find something that you like, stick with it.

The clearance table sadly held nothing that looked even vaguely like gloves although I did get a "Clapper" at a good price. Maybe I can "Clap on" my way to the bathroom without walking into the door like I did

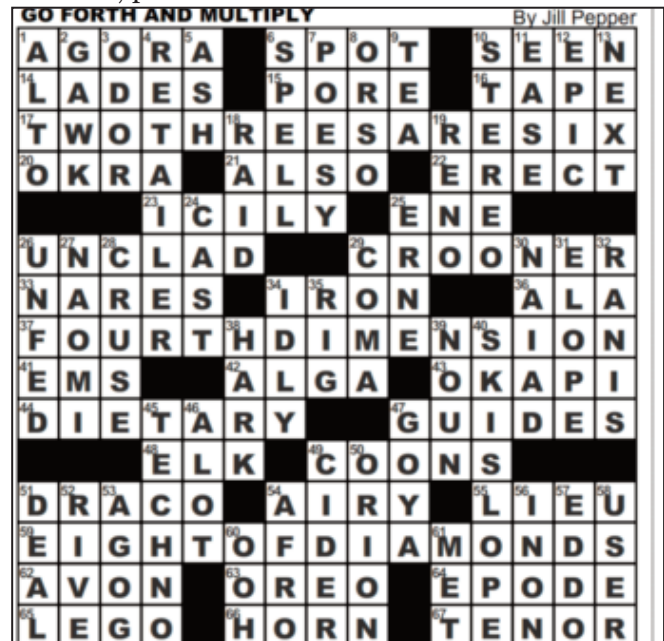
last week. I headed for the clothing section to get gloves. When I got there, no gloves, no warm jackets, no wool socks, no scarves, no snow boots or hats with ear flaps. There were swimming trunks, a large display of flip-flops, some pretty jazzy t-shirts, an assortment of shorts in all sizes and colors. I found a twelve year old with a store ID hanging around her neck who said that she was the Men's wear clerk. I asked her where the gloves were and she laughed merrily and told me that they had been put away to display the summer wear. I asked her when this switch happens and she said, "In early December". Since it was snowing outside the big display window now, I asked her when the warm winter clothing would be available again. "Early June" was her reply. I then purchased a pair of warm looking athletic socks that I figured I could use as mittens until June when I could once again purchase a pair of winter gloves. I went back to the car, pulled the socks

over my cold hands and headed for home. Telly looked at the socks on my hands and tipped his head quizzically which is something he does when he doesn't understand the people thing that I'm doing. I tried to explain retail marketing to him but I'm not really sure I understand why most of it happens. The stores are full of Spring and Summer stuff. You can find vegetable and flower seeds, they're right next to the swimming stuff and the chlorine tablets. I can understand the Easter stuff, that's only a month or so off but I'll bet in a day or so they will be taking down the Easter stuff and putting up Thanksgiving displays. I think I've finally got the whole system figured out and I will start my Christmas shopping in a week or so.

Thought for the week-- Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?

Until next week, may you and yours be happy and well.

Whittle12124@yahoo.com



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Correctional Peer Program Making Impact

By Amber Gray
Photos by

Jessica Vecchione

The Delaware County Sheriff's Office's Peer Program is funded by the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council of Delaware County. After a COVID-pause, the program returned to the Correctional Facility in November 2022 with Jen Cutting, Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA), providing services to incarcerated individuals suffering from substance use disorders.

Sheriff Craig S. DuMond, First Sergeant Ivan Brkaric, and Jen Cutting recently sat down with Jessica Vecchione to discuss the collaborative program and its role in reducing recidivism and improving the lives of incarcerated individuals during their time as inmates and after release. This article, written by Amber Gray, reflects that conversation. Photos by Jessica Vecchione.



Certified Recovery Peer Advocate Jen Cutting poses in a cell at the Delaware County Correctional Facility in Delhi. — Photo by Jessica Vecchione

"I want six things written down that you were not able to do because you were always busy getting high — six things you always wanted to do."

Jen Cutting, Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA), assigns this weekly task to each Delaware County Correctional Facility inmate that she coaches one-

on-one for substance use disorders. The six things become goals and breaking them down into attainable steps is a key part of Jen's recovery peer ap-

proach, which along with her other methods helps to build up the confidence, recovery toolkits and life skills of the individuals with whom she meets.

Recovery peer coaching in the Delaware County Correctional Facility (jail) was restarted in November 2022 after the mandatory pause of all outside programs due to COVID. Recovery peer coaching is offered to inmates who suffer from substance use disorders which have oftentimes led to their arrest and incarceration. The jail's peer program helps interested individuals transition into recovery and sets them on a trajectory of self-awareness and growth which reduces the likelihood of recidivism.

Cold environment

In reflecting on her time as an inmate at the jail, Jen states, "It's a very cold environment. It's made that way. It's not for fun, it's not meant to be a happy place. It's not camp. We don't want to keep coming back." For those in active addiction, law enforcement and incarceration can force a break in self-harm behaviors and a lifestyle that is difficult to escape when inside the disease. A dead stop, jail is often a wakeup call that is evidence of something very wrong in someone's life, and if treated

as a new beginning, can lead to a more fulfilling life upon release.

In her fifth year of recovery, Jen has returned to the jail as a CRPA, sponsored by the Delaware County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council, to provide services and advocate on behalf of incarcerated individuals.

She also provides continuing services after their release, reaching out and disrupting old habits that may try to slip back in. Working closely with corrections officers and First Sergeant Ivan Brkaric, Lieutenant Alan Weaver, and Sheriff Craig S. DuMond, Jen meets individually with incarcerated individuals on a weekly basis.

Expectations

During her first meeting with each incarcerated individual, Jen sets expectations, discusses rules and regulations, and asks each person to answer four questions about themselves to establish who they are, their background, and information about their substance use disorder and lived experience. The in-depth responses tell the story of each in-

continued on E8

Major Effort Rescues Injured Snowmobiler

By Liz Page

ROXBURY – It took a multi-agency effort to get an injured snowmobiler out of the woods and to the hospital on Sunday after he crashed on state land near the Delaware/Greene county line, far from the nearest roadway.

Roxbury Fire Chief Jim Bouton said the rescue effort took nearly three hours in the dark as his department and others worked to get the equipment they needed and access the 19-year-old patient located 4.5 miles from the nearest roadway.

The 911 call was dispatched to Roxbury Fire and EMS at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, as darkness was taking hold.

"We were initially told he was located on the mountain behind this residence off South Montgomery Hollow Road, but it turned out to be much further away," said Bouton. Fellow snowmobilers alerted family members who made the call to 911.

It was dark and difficult to determine exactly where you were located at times, said Bouton. The area is dotted with hiking, skiing and snowmobile trails along state land at an elevation that can bring conditions far different than those at the command post. It was in the area of Bear Pen Mountain. "I know the area and the conditions can be a lot different

continued on E4

Andes Superintendent Situation Unresolved Year After Allegations

By Brian Sweeney

Nearly one year after he was placed on paid administrative leave, there is still no resolution of the harassment case involving Andes Central School (ACS) Superintendent Dr. Robert L. Chakar Jr.

Dr. Chakar was placed on paid leave on February 16, 2022, the day after several complaints were made under New York State's Title IX statute regarding sexual harassment and anti-discrimination. Three of the complaints

allege sexual harassment and one complaint involves a charge of discrimination.

At the time the complaints were lodged, Dr. Chakar also served as a shared superintendent with the Margaretville Central School District. Under that arrangement, the districts each paid half of his salary, which totaled \$172,650 for the 2021-22 budget year. He was also placed on paid administrative leave by the MCS District following the allegations.

Margaretville's contract with Dr. Chakar expired on June 30, 2022, and the board voted not to renew the agreement. The ACS Board of Education had signed a new agreement with Dr. Chakar in July 2021 that runs until 2026.

Contacted for an update on the situation, ACS Board of Education President Kelly Bauer said this week confirmed, Dr. Chakar remains on paid administrative leave. Since no

continued on E4

INDEX

Obituaries.....	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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New Village Shop Promises A Totally Good Time

Pop Culture Whimsy Reflected In Fun Original Designs

By Brian Sweeney

When you enter Kyle Menard's shop in Margaretville, the proprietor has a simple wish for customers — to enjoy a Totally Good Time. In fact, that's the name he gave his store.

Totally Good Time is a clothing brand featuring original designs inspired by pop culture, the Catskills, and a good time. Visitors can shop for graphic tees, sweatshirts, hoodies, joggers, stickers, cups, and more. However, the concept goes beyond the merchandise.

"The store experience also offers something for free -- a vibe! It's an experiential shop with an arcade machine, Polaroid Camera, bounce balls, and anything else to promote whimsy and a positive well-being through nostalgic play," Kyle explained.

He pointed out, "To-

tally Good Time is pure escapism. Leave your world behind and enter a world of make-believe and feel-good vibes. Shop graphic apparel you may recognize, graphics that may keep you guessing, and graphics that make you feel good."

Kyle opened his store at 816 Main Street last fall. His primary focus is on apparel and apparel-adjacent (accessories, home, etc.) "Anything to drive home the Totally Good Time vibe," he related.

Make it yours

In addition to the unique offerings available, the shop owner said he's received considerable community input requesting custom work. While he doesn't typically provide that service, Kyle said he will be offering it during February as a limited time offering. He invited anyone interested in making a request can go the

footer in the website (totallygoodtime.com) click Custom, and get the process started.

In a quest to always provide an interesting experience, Kyle said new styles and more sizes drop every Saturday in the store. He indicated that offerings are constantly evolving and growing in real time as he adapts to feedback from visitors.

Evolution

Regarding the origins of his shop, Kyle said the business evolved out of a drive to create something for himself. He has experience in design from previous projects, but had never done anything like this. He started Totally Good Time in 2015 as strictly an online retail operation. Adding the "brick and mortar" location last year has resulted in an entirely new avenue of creative expression.

"To open an actual storefront, take these ideas and make them a



Bright colors and plenty of fun browsing are hallmarks of the Totally Good Time on Main Street, Margaretville.

real life experience has been enormously rewarding. The reactions from the audience and their excitement for what could be next in new arrivals are what keep me moving this business forward. It feels like a dream to have people enter the shop and play with the different phrases and Totally Good Time smiley styles," Kyle commented.

Because he lives locally, Kyle has witnessed firsthand the energized retail environment that continues to make Margaretville a "must-stop" destination for many folks. When the retail space became available, the vision and potential were crystal clear.

"It's that quintessential "Schitt's Creek" vibe that people are seeking out right now after the pandemic. People are eager for connection, to walk into a business, and to be seek out a new adventure," he observed.

Kyle said it wouldn't matter if his shop location was Margaretville

or New York City, he would still strive to give customers the same experience. The goal, he said, is "I want you walk in and realize that someone really cares about the experience you're about to have and the possible purchase you're about to make."

Changing times

Kyle recalled that the brand started as something else entirely. When the initial concept didn't gain traction, he shifted to apparel. With the change in direction, the previous name, while similar, didn't fit. During a brainstorming session with the abbreviation, the new name just popped out.

He thought, "Why wouldn't you want to have a totally good time?" The rest is history.

During winter, Totally Good Time is only open on Saturdays from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. When the weather warms, he plans to have hours mirroring those of neigh-

boring shops like Species by the Thousands and Kria Home.

"There's an opportunity to bring visitors to the community and I want them to feel empowered to visit all the stores at the same time. A real outing," Kyle noted.

Totally Good Time is currently a one-person operation, but Kyle hopes to add one or two employees when he expands days of operation.

The business is located at 816 Main Street Margaretville. For information, e-mail hello@totallygoodtime.com, on Instagram @totallygoodtime or on the web at totallygoodtime.com



Owner Kyle Menard always has something fun happening at his new shop, Totally Good Time.

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Letters

Sheriff Condemns Police Conduct

To the editor:

Having reviewed the video regarding Tyre Nichols in Memphis, Tennessee, I feel a personal and professional moral duty to condemn unlawful police conduct. As with the George Floyd case, I am issuing this public statement condemning the actions of the police officers involved. I often spend time defending the vast majority of good, hard working honest officers so, I must condemn the conduct of bad police officers when I see it.

After viewing the videos of the Memphis Police Officers' actions, it is very clear that the Murder Indictments are appropriate.

Their actions tarnish the reputation of the hundreds of thousands of honest, decent police officers in this Country who do an honorable job each and every day. Their outrageous and illegal conduct damages the hard work that has been done to rebuild trust between police and the communities they serve. I, as well as the members of the Sheriff's Office, are outraged and sickened, and understandably share the frustration being felt by the public.

Integrity is a core value of the Delaware County Sheriff's Office.

Our members are professionally trained to treat people with respect, to show compassion and empathy, and to fiercely protect and safeguard their constitutional rights. While sometimes we may encounter dangerous and unpredictable situations, I absolutely have no tolerance for any excessive use of force. Deputies that violate our policies or break the law will always be held fully accountable. The honor of the Sheriff's Office and the trust of the public demand that.

I am blessed by a diligent and professional team that carry this mission out on behalf of the honorable Office of Sheriff and the people of Delaware County. Do not allow the actions of a few to tarnish your thoughts on the selfless service they provide. In my humble opinion, their service is worthy of the public trust they work hard to uphold on a daily basis.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Nichols family, and we remain committed to serving our communities, showing dignity and respect for everyone.

Respectfully,
Craig S. DuMond,
Delaware County
Sheriff

Chamber Hosts Networking Event

DELHI — The Delaware County Chamber of Commerce is bringing its Business and Breakfast networking event to Belleayre Mountain Ski Center on Thursday, February 16, starting at 8:30 am.

This targeted networking and contact-building gathering is designed to give business owners opportunities to meet and share information.

The cost is \$20 per person and includes complementary Catskill Thunder gondola rides following the event. Attendees may also purchase specially-priced lift tickets for use on that day. The event is sponsored by Margaretville Telephone Company.

More information, including to register, is under the events tab at www.delawarecounty.org.

Free Rabies Clinic On March 1

DELHI — The Delaware County Public Health Department will hold a Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic for dogs, cats, and ferrets on Wednesday, March 1 from 5-6:30 p.m., at the Colchester Town Garage, 6292 River Road, Downsville.

- Cats and dogs can get their first rabies vaccine at three months.
- Please bring the previous vaccination

record to verify if your pet is eligible for three-year coverage. Dogs must be on a leash and under proper control. Cats and ferrets should be in a carrying case.

- Dogs must be on a leash and under proper control. Cats and ferrets should be in a carrying case.

For more information call 607-832-5200 or visit: delawarecounty-publichealth.com

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
THRIFT SHOP 11am-4pm	GENTLE YOGA 9am WATERCOLOR 12Pm	PILATES 9am CHAIR 10:30am	POWER YOGA 10am MEDITATION 5pm	PILATES 9am TAIJI 10:15am** WATERCOLOR 12Pm	GENTLE YOGA 9am WATERCOLOR 12Pm CHAIR 10:30am	THRIFT SHOP 11am-4pm
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Here's The Scoop

This Was Your Life

By Brian Sweeney

I recently took a detour into the past. It was eye-opening. But not really.

While looking for an old photo, I came across some paperwork from my days in elementary and high school. Nostalgia at its finest. Or maybe something that should be blocked from memory.

It's been mentioned in this column that I was never a big fan of sitting in a classroom. Some things never change — keeping still for long periods has never been among my favorite activities. Surprisingly, that fact was not mentioned in any of the comments listed on the old Report Cards, which I somehow thought it was a good idea to keep.

As you have likely seen in the news lately, it's not unheard of for political candidates to "embellish" their resumes when it comes to things like work history or academic achievements. As an elected official myself, I guess that gives me liberty to make up wild claims about myself. Instead, I'm going to give it to you straight from my authentically recorded history. Brace yourself.

Now I remember...

I'm just going to pick out some random highlights — and lowlights — to provide an overall picture of how my high school academic career was viewed by the some of the educational staff.

One recurring theme that jumped out at me on several Report Cards under the "Comment" section was a "1." At first, I proudly thought this meant I was Number 1 in my class! It didn't.

Checking the Key to Comments, I discovered that a "1" signaled "Work not up to ability." When you think about it, this was really a compliment — teachers expecting that I could reach a higher level of competence. It's good to have goals. Plus, these Comments came from two different Spanish teachers. I guess that explains why I got a "Si" in these classes!

As I recall, there was also an added level of pressure from one Spanish instructor who proudly told the class that she'd never had a student fail the Regents exam. Fortunately, I pulled off a 70 on the test and it wasn't necessary for the teacher to add a Comment for "First of my students to fail the Regents exam."

What does this mean?

On the other hand, my typing instructor gave me an "A" Comment. This translated into "Working to ability." I have mixed feelings about this Comment. It was a nice compliment, but how do I explain typos? Do they simply go "hand-in-hand" with my level of typing ability?

There was more positive news. During the second marking period of my junior year, four of my five teachers Commented with a "B" — which told the world that I had a Good Attitude. The fifth teacher gave me a smiley face, so I think that looks favorable on my record, too.

Travel bug

In addition to the Report Cards, my searching also turned up an essay I had written in early elementary school. This stunning piece of literature was apparently written to answer the question: What city would you most like to visit? I chose Montreal because, in part, "I could buy firecrackers and a lot of other things."

I earned a "Good" from my teacher for this essay. An understatement, in my opinion. If there had been a Comment section for this piece of literature I'm guessing it would have fallen under the code for: "Sets lofty goals."

Andes Superintendent Situation Unresolved Year After Allegations

continued from E1
decision has been made (regarding his future) there isn't much that can be said at present.

Ms. Bauer added, "We understand that there is significant community interest and want to reassure our constituents that this important matter is being handled by the board in a manner consistent with law. To protect everyone's interests, including those of our employees, we cannot comment further on pending personnel matters."

She indicated that the final report on the matter will be released publicly. Ms. Bauer did not provide any financial figures regarding Dr. Chakar's current compensation while he's on administrative

leave or the amount the ACS District has incurred in legal fees, to date.

Announcing its decision last spring, the MCS Board posted a statement on its website that read, in part, "The MCS District has determined, through its deliberations, that it is in the best interest of the district to employ a full-time, on-site superintendent of school rather than continue with a shared arrangement with the Andes district. These discussions are independent of the allegations against Dr. Robert Chakar that are being investigated by the Andes district. None of the complainants in that investigation are affiliated with the Margaretville district, and MCS placed Dr. Chakar

on administrative leave solely in deference to that pending investigation."

The Albany-based *Times Union* has been covering this story and obtained a copy of the federal complaint that revealed the charges being made against Dr. Chakar.

Allegations

In the complaint it's alleged the superintendent placed his hand on a fifth-grader's shoulder while they were alone in a school foyer and the student considered this to be unwelcome gesture.

Subsequent complaints accused Dr. Chakar of making comments regarding on a young student's "breast buds." Another complainant, a female

staff member, alleged that the superintendent made unwanted comments about sex with his wife.

After the initial story broke with the allegations raised at Andes Central School, investigative reporting discovered that similar complaints had been made against Dr. Chakar in 2000 when he served as assistant vice principal at a school in Connecticut. Published reports indicated that he was accused of sexually harassing staff members and made inappropriate comments to girls at the middle school.

Dr. Chakar eventually resigned as assistant principal at Chippens Hill Middle School following the sexual harassment allegations.

Major Effort Rescues Injured Snowmobiler

continued from E1
on the mountain than they are anywhere else," said Bouton.

Bouton called mutual aid to Grand Gorge to dispatch its ARGO with tracks to help transport the patient, with Roxbury's Ranger out of service due to an issue with its tracks. They were able to get one of the department's rangers with wheels to the patient, but for safety, he wanted a vehicle with tracks.

"It was a long jaunt to get to the patient and by that time we already had things being staged

at the roadway. It turned out to be a lengthy ordeal," said Bouton. "He was in a difficult location in the middle of nowhere."

It required the use of a chainsaw to clear a path large enough for the ARGO to get through. He said snowmobiles and the ranger could get around the tree to get others in to the patient, but he knew they needed a safe way to get the patient back out. Knowing it would take time, they called for a helicopter. The helicopter was unable to fly due to icy con-

ditions elsewhere, so the only choice was to bring the patient out to the staging area.

It took time to get to the patient with EMS personnel and to stabilize him, said Bouton. "It took us an hour just to get him back out."

"It was a good thing it wasn't as cold as this weekend is predicted to be," said Bouton. Otherwise, he said, the outcome might not have been so good. The patient was taken to Albany Medical Center where he underwent surgery. "I don't know if he is back home yet,"

said Bouton.

He gave praise to Delaware County 911 dispatch and his thanks to all of the other agencies that responded, including Grand Gorge, Margaretville Memorial Hospital EMS, state Department of Environmental Conservation Forest Rangers, Delaware County Sheriffs Dept. and state police. Greene County was also notified that the rescue may be located in the Prattsville Fire District.

"I want to thank all of the agencies for their help," said Bouton.

Delaware County Deed Transfers

By or against	Town	In Favor of	Transfer Tax
Date: Jan. 30			
DUTTON HARRY	ROXBURY	ISHIZUKA CHRISTIE ISHIZUKA SEIKAI	1,104.00
CAMAJ PREKA CAMAJ PRENTA	HARBERSFIELD	VIVENZIO PETER	280.00
WHITTAKER ELAINE KAY	DELHI	CLIPPERLY LUCAS R CLIPPERLY AMANDA J	272.00
MCGRAW BARBARA MCGRAW EDWIN R SR	HANCOCK	MCGRAW EDWIN R SR	0.00
GROSS SUSAN L (REF) CLAIR DANIKA (BY REF)	SIDNEY	JP MORGAN MORTGAGE ACQUISITION CORP	470.00
Date: Jan. 31			
WORTMANN VICTOR D JR WORTMANN LESLIE K CURRAN MAURICE J CURRAN SUSAN W	ROXBURY	WORTMANN VICTOR D JR WORTMANN LESLIE K	0.00
WORTMANN VICTOR D JR CURRAN SUSAN W	ROXBURY	CURRAN MAURICE J CURRAN SUSAN	0.00
PELOQUIN NANCY	DAVENPORT	GINDHART ROBERT L	228.00
ROSEKRANS JOHN C (EXR) EDWARDS GEORGE T III (EXR OF) EDWARDS LAURA G (SEE INST)	SIDNEY	ZIEMBA JOHN GRIMES NICOLE	368.00
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Poetry Forms 'Why and How' Online Workshop Feb. 11-12

MARGARETVILLE — Writers in the Mountains (WIM) presents Poetry Forms: Why and How Workshop with William Duke, a weekend intensive class held online Saturday and Sunday, February 11 and 12, 2023 from 2 to 4 p.m. Once you register and pay, you will be given instructions on how to join the class.

This workshop is an opportunity to learn about and review the major forms of poetry and includes a discussion of how forms came into being and why they continue to hold an important place in contemporary poetry. Syllabic forms: haiku, tanka, and cinquains are shown as well as the major metric forms: sonnets, villanelles and sestinas. Concrete poems and free verse are also discussed. The end of the workshop is collaborative writing exercise where the group writes its own villanelle. Day Two (Sunday) is an opportunity to share any individual poems worked on overnight.

William Duke is a poet, painter and yoga instructor, and hosts Spiritual Solutions on WIOX Radio. In the

1990s he was one of the founders of the Saturn Series, the longest running weekly open mic in NYC. He edited an anthology of divorce poems, Split Verse: Poems to Heal the Heart, with Meg Campbell (Midmarch Arts Press 2000). Recent books of poetry include, A Little Blessing, and Alpie the Angel's Little Alphabet Book 2 0 2 0 (Alphietheangel.com). William has been a featured reader at Word Thursdays at the Bright Hill Literary Press and Center of the Catskills as well as at Catskill Caradio at the Pine Hill Community Center and Live on WIOX Radio.

To register for this class, e-mail writersinthemountains@gmail.com. To register online, visit writersinthemountains.org. Class fee is \$45. Registration deadline is February 4.

Writers in the Mountains is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization with a mission to provide a nurturing environment for the practice, appreciation and sharing of creative writing. For more information, visit writersinthemountains.org.

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Tuesday at 12, Wednesday at 9am

SACRED HEART CHURCH
27 Harper Street, Stamford, NY 12167
Phone: 838 910 9889
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Thursday 12:00pm, Friday 9:00am
Reconciliation is offered
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Andes NY 13731
10:30 am Sundays

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Halcott NY 12430
9:00 am Sundays

MARGARETVILLE UMC
55 Church Street,
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10:30 am Sundays

ROXBURY UMC
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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. 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.

Loren Daniels Leads Free Show at PHCC

PINE HILL — The Pine Hill Community Center presents a free concert with Loren Daniels, and Rich Mollin on bass and Joe Damone on drums, on Saturday, Feb. 4 at 7 p.m.

Loren Daniels, Rich Mollin and Joe Damone always give the music they play a unique and grooving energy. At this show, this trio will be energizing music from Loren's new release, "Ticket To Ride," jazzified and rearranged classic tunes, jazz standards and new original compositions.

About Ticket To Ride, the press states, "Keyboardist-singer Loren Daniels creates fresh and innovative interpretations to ten Beatles songs on Ticket To Ride. Utilizing his vocals, piano, organ and Keyboards in a setting with bass, drums and overdubbed background vocals, Daniels performs ten Lennon/McCartney tunes in surprising ways, turning the classics into vehicles for inventive jazz."

Vast experience

Pianist/composer Loren Daniels brings a multiplicity of musical experiences to bear on every project he joins. As a player, he's performed with many notable jazz practitioners including Milt Jackson, Rufus Reid, Makanda (Ken) McIntyre, Warren Smith, Eliot Zigmund and Jon Faddis.

As abandleader/musical director, Loren has nurtured and developed recording and performance projects for the Pittman/Daniels Quartet, vocalist Macy Chen, bassist August Riska and singer/songwriter Deborah Thurlow. Loren's compositions have been performed by large and small jazz ensembles, choral ensembles, in collaboration with choreographers, for theatrical pieces and educational musicals and for television soundtracks.

As an educator, he taught music for many years in Teaneck, NJ public schools and con-

tinues to teach music privately. Loren created Jazz In The Spirit (a jazz worship series) at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Teaneck, NJ and continues as its artist in residence and music coordinator. He studied music at Hofstra University, Berklee College of Music, SUNY at Old Westbury (B.S. in Music/Education) and NYU (M.A. in Music Education). Loren is currently performing with the Reggie Pittman/Loren Daniels Quartet, the Bradford Hayes Quartet, One More Once Big Band, the August Riska Trio and vocalists Macy Chen, Cynthia Soriano and Deborah Thurlow. He has just released a solo CD of vocal jazz reimaginings of Beatle music called Ticket To Ride.

Rich Mollin is a bassist whose impeccable time, extensive experience and prodigious

musical chops enhance many varied music projects, gigs and recording sessions in the greater New York region. Based near Oneonta NY, Rich also heads the Davenport Center for the Arts and teaches in the bass studio at SUNY Oneonta. He performs regularly throughout the region both leading his own jazz groups and as a sideman on other projects. Rich also performs classical music regularly as a member of the Catskill Symphony.

Groovy

A drummer whose playing is seasoned with years of realtime bandstand experience in many music genres, Joe Damone brings an unerring sense of groove, a superb sense of time and exceptional musicality to every music project.

Based in Andes, Joe leads The Rhythm

Dogs, a well known band that has played at many corporate, private and public events throughout the country. Joe also performs regularly in many musical groups both as a leader and as a sideman. Some of the greats Joe has performed with include Stanley Turrentine, Freddie Hubbard, Tom Brown, Phyllis Hyman, Noel Pointer, Chuck Berry, The Eurhythms, Martha Reeves and Joan Rivers. An excellent photographer, Joe's photos have been on magazine covers and have graced both public and private events

Copies of the CD Ticket To Ride will be available for purchase at the show.

Admission is free. Donations appreciated.

The center is located is located at 287 Main Street, Pine Hill. For information, e-mail: info@pinehillcommunitycenter.org



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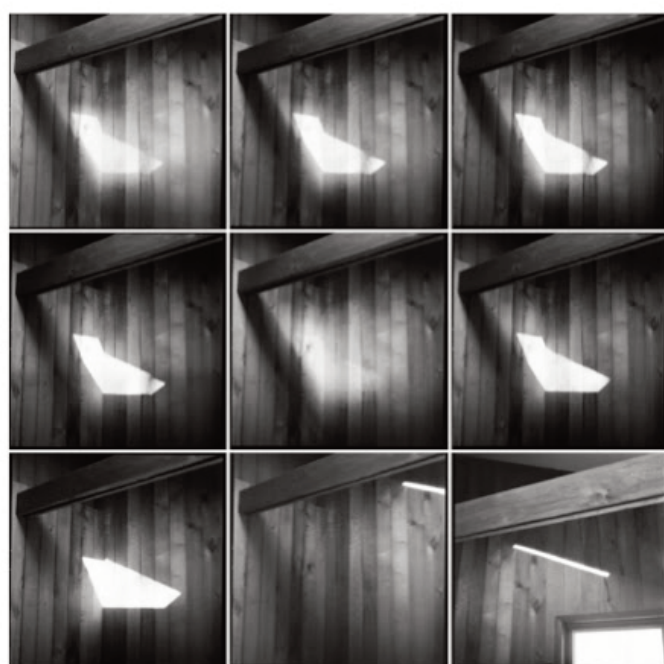
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DEPARTURES

DEPARTURES

JANUARY 28 – MARCH 12, 2023

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- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Sue Bellamy | Amy Masters |
| Arjun Bruggeman | Bea Ortiz |
| Rebecca Chamberlain | Tom Pappas |
| Lindsay Comstock | Corey Presha |
| Eddie Donoghue | Christie Scheele |
| Lisbeth Firmin | Kate Quarfordt |
| Nick Flynn | Marie Vickerilla |
| Tad Flynn | Paul Weil |
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POLICE NEWS

DELHI — Delaware County Sheriff Craig S. DuMond has announced that a Hancock resident has been arrested on a bench warrant out of New York State Police Endwell.

On Saturday afternoon, January 14, Sheriff's Deputies made contact with Preston Walker, age 26 of Hancock, who was known to have an active bench warrant from the NYSP-Endwell barracks for Criminal Trespass. Sheriff's Deputies arrested Walker and turned him over to Troopers from the NYSP Endwell barracks to answer the charges.

Suspended

Sheriff DuMond has announced the arrest of a Bronx resident who was found operating a motor vehicle while the registration was suspended.

On Friday morning, January 20, Sheriff's Deputies noticed a disabled tractor-trailer on State Highway 17 westbound. Upon making contact with the driver, Jeiron Vallejo, age 34, of Bronx was found to be operating the tractor trailer with a suspended registration.

Deputies subsequently arrested and charged Vallejo with Operating a Motor Vehicle while Registration

is Suspended, an unclassified misdemeanor. Vallejo was released on an appearance ticket where he was directed to return to the Colchester Town Court at a later date to answer the charge. He was also issued a traffic summons for Operating a Vehicle without Insurance.

Delaware County Sheriff's Deputies have announced the arrest of 47-year-old Robert Burke of Ogdensburg, NJ.

Surrendered

On the afternoon of January 17, Delaware County Sheriff's Deputies were contacted by Delaware County Communications who stated that Robert Burke was currently at the Delaware County Sheriff's Office to surrender himself for his active Delaware County Court Bench Warrant.

Deputies subsequently arrested Burke on an active Bench Warrant out of Delaware County Court for failure to appear.

Burke was arraigned on the Bench Warrant, in Delaware County Court where he was committed to the Custody of the Delaware County Correctional Facility pending further appearance in court at a later date to answer for said charges.

Sheriff DuMond has announced the arrest of a Bronx resident for driving with a Forged Inspection Sticker.

On Saturday night, January 21, Sheriff's Deputies observed a vehicle traveling on State Highway 206 in the Town of Colchester, crossing over the double yellow line. Upon conducting a traffic stop, Deputies identified the driver of the vehicle as 20-year-old Breawna Mccree of Bronx.

Fake sticker

A check of the vehicle's license plate showed that the vehicle inspection had expired in 2021 but had a yellow 2023 New York State Inspection Sticker on the vehicle. Further investigation revealed that the inspection was a forged and the sticker did not belong on the vehicle.

Deputies subsequently arrested Mccree and issued her uniformed traffic tickets for Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended/Revoked Registration, an unclassified misdemeanor. Burke was released on the uniformed traffic tickets and is scheduled

to appear in the Town of Colchester Court at a later date to answer the charge.

Sheriff DuMond has announced the arrest of a Poughkeepsie resident for driving with a suspended registration.

Lapsed insurance

On Sunday morning, January 22, Sheriff's Deputies were patrolling on State Highway 17 in the Town of Colchester when the Deputy came across a disabled vehicle, further learned that they had struck a deer. Upon stopping, Deputies identified the driver of the vehicle as 25 year-old Janice Burke of Poughkeepsie. A check of Burke's vehicle registration came back suspended due to Insurance Lapse.

Deputies subsequently arrested Burke and issued her uniformed traffic tickets for Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended/Revoked Registration, an unclassified misdemeanor. Burke was released on the uniformed traffic tickets and is scheduled to appear in the Town of Colchester Court at a later date to answer the charge.

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MAIN STREET OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE available. Prime turn key location in the Village of Fleischmanns with 640 sq ft., onsite parking, storage, and creek access. \$900 per month, includes utilities. Please call Village Clerk @ 845-254-5514.

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845 586-6192

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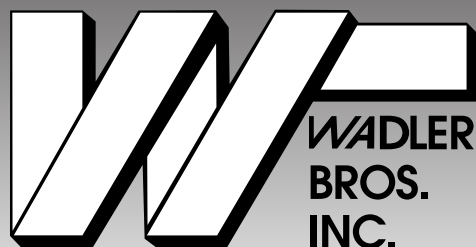
NOTICE TOWN OF ROXBURY

Notice is hereby given that the fiscal affairs of the Town of Roxbury, Delaware County, NY for the period beginning on January 1, 2021 and ending on June 30, 2022 have been examined by the State Comptroller and that the Report of Examination prepared by the Office of the State Comptroller has been filed in my office where it is available as a public record for inspection by all interested persons. Pursuant to Section Thirty-five of the General Municipal Law, the governing Board of the Town of Roxbury may, in its discretion, prepare a written response to the Report of Examination prepared by the Office of the State Comptroller and file any such response in my office as a public record for inspection by all interested persons no later than April 18, 2023.

Diane Pickett
Town Clerk,
Town of Roxbury
Dated: Jan. 30, 2023
F3C

MARGARETVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL NOTICE OF VACANCY SCHOOL TAX COLLECTOR

Margaretville Central School District has an opening for a School Tax Collector to collect taxes during the months of September, October and November. Candidates interested in the position should call the District Office for an application at 845-586-2647, Ext. 103 and speak to Beth E. Teuber, District Secretary.



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BOWLING NEWS

ARK BOWL & BBQ WOMEN'S LEAGUE • Stats for 1/26/23

Team Name	W	L	High Game
Spillian	43	17	Kacie Thomas 159,
ROI	39	21	Birgitta Brophy 155,
JM Lawncare	33	27	Amanda Goodchild 150
JK Tinting	32.5	27.5	
Better Late Than Never	31.5	28.5	High Series
Bye	0	56	Birgitta Brophy 445, Karen Straut 433, Amanda Goodchild 417



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County's Correctional Peer Program Making Impact

continued from E1
 individual and act as a starting point for future conversations and actions, reducing the need for them to repeatedly tell their story. Meeting in a private room, though still separated by glass, individuals open up and relate how to build relationships with others, starting with Jen.

Regarding her peers, Jen states, "The inmates have been amazing. They are my people. I was one of them, and they are very capable of being me. I absolutely love coming in – they are polite, courteous, eager to learn, honest and emotional."

Each case different

The needs of each incarcerated individual vary. Sometimes Jen assists them with tasks such as arranging housing after release, understanding their sentencing and requirements, and facilitating contacts with other agencies such as Social Services and Behavioral Health. They also talk about life and substance use – children, family, goals – which oftentimes leads to tears in the safe, nonjudgmental environment that Jen has built.

Identifying their six goals each week, the incarcerated individuals set their sights on maintaining their sobriety and setting themselves up for success upon release. Coaching them both within the jail and upon release, Jen provides a sober, friendly face which helps to ease the daily struggles and reality of life on both sides of the bars.

Strong plan

Establishing a strong recovery plan and steps to follow through are overarching goals that Jen works on with each individual, building their recovery toolkit with coping strategies, resources both within and outside the jail, building communication and interpersonal skills, and general life skills such as budgeting and self-care. The recovery peer program is holistic, working on the whole person and their greater life situation and addressing more than just their substance use disorder or just overcoming the crime for which they were convicted. Incarcerated individuals know Jen's past, but also see her in the present on the other side of the bars, living her fulfilling life in recovery and inspiring them that the hard work and hard choices are very much worth it.

The program, now in its third month since being restarted after the pandemic pause, has already encouraged positive changes in the incarcerated population suffering from substance use disorders. During his daily interactions with inmates, Sergeant Brkaric recognizes the need for a peer program to complement the other available programs. He states that "the peer program is positive for both inmates and staff. It helps show inmates that there is a chance to

make decisions and break the mold they've lived in until now. It helps to show them that they don't have to be victims, that they are worthy, and that they can do this."

The peer program is making a difference in the lives and mental states of inmates and is critical to helping change behaviors. It provides a safe place to have normal conversations, combat the loneliness experienced during incarceration, and explore needs and goals.

In addition to the peer program, the Delaware County jail also offers a medical assisted treatment (MAT) program through Delaware County Behavioral Health, a religious education program in coordination with area denominations, Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Safe Against Violence through Delaware Opportunities, and a variety of other educational programs.

Provides medications

MAT provides prescribed medications to assist inmates with their substance use disorders. Eligibility for MAT is determined after an initial comprehensive physical and health screening upon admission to the jail is completed, and the jail's physician has coordinated with the incarcerated individual and their primary care provider.

The religious education program is in coordination with area denominations based on the needs of individual inmates. Like the peer program, it provides time for individuals to meet with a pastor, minister, or other religious leader to discuss what is on their minds. Pastor Derrick Johnson of the Delhi Community Church was key to Jen's recovery, and she speaks of him fondly.

She mattered

"He loved me when I couldn't love myself and he showed me I was worthy of a different life. He talked to me like I mattered and made me feel human at a very dark time in my life," she related.

Along with Pastor Johnson, Jen found life-changing advice and guidance from Kayla Weaver, Victim's Counselor for Safe Against Violence at Delaware Opportunities, who also visits incarcerated individuals in the jail.

On top of the programming offered at the jail, the positive impact that the corrections officers and staff have on incarcerated individuals cannot be ignored. While the corrections officers fulfill their duties in a professional and safe manner, they also are the people that interact daily with inmates.

While incarcerated, individuals miss out on life events such as birthdays and holidays that their friends and families continue to share without them. Small conversations and kindnesses shown by corrections officers and fellow inmates can continue to resonate



Delaware County Sheriff Craig DuMond (facing camera), First Sergeant Ivan Brkaric, and

Jen Cutting during an interview. — Photo by Jessica Vecchione of Vecc Videography

with individuals after their release.

Jen remembers a past corrections officer who "had a couple of conversations with me during rounds that I will never forget. When I came home, I saw her and I thanked her for making a difference in my life."

Sheriff DuMond sees success in the programs that are offered at the jail, particularly the peer program which is unique in that the Sheriff's Office has welcomed a former inmate back into the jail as a

resource. He recognizes the difficult and frustrating job that corrections officers and corrections staff have in the jail and sees the peer program and Jen's success as a huge motivation.

Success story

"Jen's the success story, so that gives us motivation to say what we do is good – we do make a difference. It's very powerful that she can come into the jail and speak directly to the inmates. I'm very proud to have her here.

Not only does her work benefit the inmates, which is our goal, but it also benefits the staff and officers," Sheriff DuMond stated.

As the peer program regains momentum, the Sheriff's Office looks forward to expanding the program and inviting more peers into the facility to provide services for incarcerated individuals. Jen sees the positive impact that she has on her peers every time she meets with them and recognizes the impact that the support of others has had

on her own recovery journey.

Her personal goal for the program is "to be a ray of light for somebody and support them while they are going through incarceration, addiction, and release. To be there for them so that they don't overdose and die. That's what we're here for, is to save lives."

For questions about the Delaware County Correctional Facility's programs for incarcerated individuals, please call 607 832-5555 for information.



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

2/3 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 Christine Cardone visits the All American Old Time Circus on its visit to Arkville (Airdate Early 80s). 7:00PM - 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. 8:00PM - "Trees, Trout and the CCC" - Diane Galusha, Director of the Historical Society of Middletown, talks on how the Civilian Conservation Corp boys worked to preserve John Burroughs' Catskills and saved themselves in the process. Recorded at Woodchuck Lodge in Roxbury, NY.
2/4 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 Hikers Trash Husbands - The Hiker Trash Husbands are going west! Join Jeff and Moe in New Mexico with the Oklahoma Hikers as they enjoy a hike in the mountains outside of Taos, New Mexico. 7:00PM - Downstaters - A comedy web series about two New Yorkers who leave big city life for the Catskills. In this episode, Jess & Beth view things a little differently as they adjust to small town living. 7:30PM - Focus on the Arts - Elizabeth Mamitalks with Jennifer Prevatt. Jennifer is a Visual artist, Children's book illustrator and a Scientific illustrator. 8:00PM - CabaRadio - Tune in to see the most recent performance as recorded at the Pine Hill Community Center.
2/5 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 - Coverage of The Catskills Great Outdoor Expo from the Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey Catskills Visitor Center in Mount Tremper, NY. (2022) 7:00PM - WARK Community Television Archives - The Larry Smith Show. Watch as Larry takes to the slopes at Belleayre Mountain. (Airdate Early 80s). 7:30PM - The Sonny Rock Show - Join Sonny as he talks with Timothy Northup, founder of the Northup Drum Museum in Oneonta, NY. 8:00PM - Margaretville Central School Winter Concert- A replay of the annual Winter Concert.
2/6 Mon	6:00PM - Focus on the Arts - Elizabeth Mamitalks with BT Bard who is an illustrator, poet, and artist. She's written and illustrated 4 books, ranging from children's issues to adult, fiction to nonfiction. 6:30PM - Little Red Cottage of Nowhere - In this episode, Andrea takes off for Colorado and to enjoy a "van life" experience and takes time out to practice yoga. 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. 7:30PM - The Historical Society of the Town of Middletown presents Living History Cemetery Tour Margaretville NY. Meet people from the past on a walk through history.
2/7 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: Medicare Savings Program. 7:00PM - The Hikers Trash Husbands - The Hiker Trash Husbands are going west! Join Jeff and Moe in New Mexico with the Oklahoma Hikers as they enjoy a hike in the mountains outside of Taos, New Mexico. 7:30PM - WARK Community Television Archives - WARK's Christine Cardone visits the All American Old Time Circus on its visit to Arkville (Airdate Early 80s). 8:00PM - Margaretville Central School Winter Concert- A replay of the annual Winter Concert.
2/8 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 Chelsea Goodwin, Community activist, performer and DJ on WIOX radio, Roxbury. 7:00PM - Medicare With Robin - Join Julia Marks and Robin Williams. Tonight's episode: Medicare Savings Program. 7:30PM - The Catskill Center - Coverage of The Catskills Great Outdoor Expo from the Catskills Visitor Center in Mount Tremper, NY. (2022) 8:00PM - Citizen News Bureau - The Sonny Rock Show - Sonny talks with Johnny Pisano, who has played bass for many bands over the years including Marky Ramone, The Intruders and Willie Nile. You may also recognize him in scenes from Law and Order and The Sopranos. 8:30PM - Little Red Cottage of Nowhere - Andrea takes off for Colorado and to enjoy a "van life" experience and takes time out to practice yoga.
2/9 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 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. 7:00PM - Downstaters - A comedy web series about two New Yorkers who leave big city life for the Catskills. In this episode, Jess & Beth view things a little differently as they adjust to small town living. 7:30PM - WARK Community Television Archives - WARK's Christine Cardone visits the All American Old Time Circus on its visit to Arkville (Airdate Early 80s). 8:00PM - CabaRadio - Tune in to see the most recent performance as recorded at the Pine Hill Community Center.

CatskillsAir is community-based, grassroots television channel, reflecting the lifestyles, interests and concerns of the Greater Catskills Region.
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FRIDAY, February 3, 2023

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Tague Launching Bid for State GOP Chair

By Matthew Avitabile

SCHOHARIE and ALBANY — New York State Assemblyman and current Schoharie County GOP Chair Chris Tague is launching a campaign to become the head of the party statewide. Results of the effort may be apparent by the end of this month.

We spoke to Assemblyman Tague this week, who said that he considered the position after outgoing Chair Nick Langworthy was elected to Congress in western New York. When he looked at the potential field, he said, he was the “most experienced.”

“Our party is in a position where things can only get better” with the right leadership. He cites his time as Chair of the local GOP.

“Everything with me has been about the party,” he said.

Tague said that the move

would not include any future political campaigns.

“I’m not looking to run for Congress, or Governor, or U.S. Senate. Nothing higher than my Assembly seat.”

For Tague, the priority is for the party to reidentify itself.

He said that Democrats have framed the Republican Party “unfairly” and that the party is not opposed to fixing social problems or is lacking in diversity.

“It’s not true,” he said.

Assemblyman Tague said that the state GOP now includes a coalition of pro-life and pro-choice candidates from all backgrounds. He said that the GOP ties together this group through “core values” of the Constitution, rule of law, safety, security, and ending inflation.

Tague said that there is a real chance to flip seats currently held by Democrats. In 2022, he said, the

GOP lost 23 races in the State Senate and Assembly by 1,700 votes or less. Some of these, the Assemblyman said, were in seats where the GOP has not competed in earnest.

The candidate said that the party needs leadership Upstate, and not just in any part of the state alone.

“We are the NY Republican state committee,” he said. This includes Upstate, Downstate, and Long Island.

For many voters who don’t normally vote or who are unregistered, the GOP should reach out. He said that many of these voters will realize that they’re Republicans.

The election for state chair is set for February 17th, Tague said. That may be switched in the meantime, depending on election rules.

For now, the candidate feels “very strong,” he said. Tague will be unveiling a number of announcements

soon and added that he talked to several county Republican chairs about

the matter. He will work with all Republicans regardless of the outcome,

he said.

“Our best days are ahead,” he said.



Assemblyman Tague announces his candidacy for state GOP chair Saturday at a Republican event in Delaware County. Photo by Matthew Avitabile.

A Valiant Effort



Zowen Collins #23 again at the net in the first period. Zowen would only have 4 points in the whole game. The Indians had a strong defense going. Photo by Bob Duso. More inside.

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.

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.

Richmondville – Town Board Meeting

The Richmondville Town Board will be holding its monthly meeting on Thursday, February 9th at 6:00 PM at the Town Municipal Building (104 Municipal Lane off of Podpadic Road).

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.seecn.org.

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.

OFA and The Gathering Place Offer Grab & Go Meals

Healthy and nutritious meals are now available to anyone aged 60 and above, daily (M-F) at The Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center, 127 Kenyon Rd., Cobleskill. Each person may make a suggested \$4 voluntary contribution for a meal. Individuals must order meals 24 hours in advance by calling the Office for the Aging (OFA) at 518-295-2001. Meals will be available daily beginning at 11 A.M. One can take meals home to eat or stay at the Center and enjoy them with company. Monthly meal menus are available at The Center's front desk or by contacting OFA.



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COFFEE IN COBY

Our Fears Realized

By Timothy Knight
Author's Note: my continued analysis and coverage of the Russo-Ukrainian War will resume in next week's column. Thank you.

As Americans, we have a lot of preconceptions about politicians (specifically) and politics (generally). I personally believe this is a natural response to our political system here in the United States, which has been designed with an inherent distrust of those who have proximity to power; our Founders idealized the representative who saw politics as a duty as opposed to a profession.

Furthermore, we tend to view the career politician suspiciously, and we utter phrases like "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely" in characterization of what a life in power does to its practitioners. Few in politics emulate Cincinnatus, and even fewer know why he meant so much as an idealized figure to men like George Washington.

With all of that said, my opinions on the topic are in a constant state of flux. While I do agree with term limits in the

most abstract sense, and especially for New York's State legislators in Albany, my feelings are more torn when it comes to Congress because of the importance of having steady hands dealing with our country's foreign policy and national defense. My practical side favors experience over turnover.

Especially since turnover can result in pathological liars being elected instead.

Yes, I'm writing about Congressman George Santos.

When Americans advocate for term limits or make derisive remarks about politicians, it's usually in the context of imagining your worst fears in office. For the cynical, this could merely mean anyone who does not belong to your political party, while the more idealistic envision the aforementioned quote of "power corrupts absolutely" to be prophetic for all who aspire to control the levers of power.

However, few would expect such innate corruption to so clearly manifest itself as it has in Mr. Santos, a man who has lied about so much of his personal and/or

family history, that a majority of constituents in his Long Island district not only disapprove of him (83%), but believe he should resign from office (78%) less than one month into his two-year term.

Americans are so gobsmacked by the sheer amount of Santos' fabrications, that members of both parties have called for him to prematurely depart Congress and it has united good government, reform minded folks on either side in agreement of what a terrible elected official truly looks like. Or, in other words, that the embodiment of our fears in government not only exists, but came into power already this way.

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.

SUNY Cobleskill Fighting Tigers Week Recap

The SUNY Cobleskill women's basketball team won on the road on Saturday posting a 70-41 win over North Atlantic Conference (NAC) rival SUNY Delhi on the Broncos home court in Delhi, N.Y. to improve to 12-8 overall including an 8-2 record versus NAC opponents. First-year forward/center Emily Satterday, Latham, N.Y., Shaker High School, posted her 13th double/double in points and rebounds for the Fighting Tigers with 15 points and 15 rebounds on the afternoon.

The Fighting Tigers men's basketball team returned to the road on Saturday afternoon to lose a conference contest to the host Broncos of SUNY Delhi by a 71-56 margin in North Atlantic Conference (NAC) play to drop

their overall overall record to 14-6 on the season including an 6-4 record versus league opponents, Senior Justin Feldman, Chester, N.Y., Chester High School/Orange Community College, was the Fighting Tigers leading scorer in the contest with 14 points to go with seven rebounds on the day.

The men's indoor track & field team posted a score of 21 points to place 10th overall in a field of 21 teams at the 2023 Orange & Blue Invitational hosted by Utica University in Utica, N.Y. on Saturday. Fighting Tiger first-year sprinter Charlie Foote, Cobleskill, N.Y., Cobleskill-Richmondville High School, was the team's top individual finisher placing third in the 200-meter

dash in a time of 23.20.

The Fighting Tiger women's indoor track & field team placed 19th overall in a 22-team field at the 2023 Orange & Blue Invitational hosted by Utica University in Utica, N.Y. on Saturday. First-year jumper Shealinn Stevens, Otego, N.Y., Unatego High School, was the team's top finisher taking seventh place in the high jump clearing a height of 4'7 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

PDQ Quilters Meeting

The Peaceable Day Quilters (PDQ) quilt guild will be gathering for their second monthly meeting of 2023 on Tuesday, February 07, from 10:30 am until noon at the Fusion Church hall, 375 North Grand Street, Cobleskill, NY. The featured program will be a demonstration of the Cathedral Window quilt block by Susan Demick. Members will also be show-casing their recent projects in the Show and Tell section. All are welcome, and a special invitation to join us is always extended to area and visiting quilters from beginner to experienced.

Schoharie County Chamber Of Commerce Hosts Event Collaboration Roundtable

COBLESKILL – CALLING ALL EVENT PLANNERS! The Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce is holding an Event Collaboration Roundtable on Thursday, February 16th from 3 PM to 5 PM at The Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center, 127 Kenyon Road in Cobleskill. All businesses and organizations are welcome to attend. The purpose of this roundtable is to assist in the planning and coordination of area event dates, plus give guidance on how to better promote your events. If you plan events for your business or organization, you are encouraged to participate in this informative roundtable. We request that you come to the event with a list of your upcoming events to share. Attendance is FREE. Registration is preferred.

For more information and to register, please visit the Schoharie County website at <https://schohariechamber.com/eventroundtable23/> or call (518) 295-8824.

CT Woman Arrested for Grand Larceny

On January 26, State Police of Cobleskill arrested Ashley M. Vanbenshoten, 34, of Plainfield, CT, on a warrant for two counts of Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, Two counts of Identity Theft in the First Degree, Two counts of Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree, Two Counts of Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the Fourth Degree and Petit Larceny.

On May 14, 2022, at about 3:18 p.m., Troopers received a complaint that a credit card had

been opened in a victim's name without their knowledge or permission. The investigation determined Vanbenshoten applied for and was granted a credit card in the victim's name, took money out of a bank account belonging to the victim without permission on multiple occasions, and used an additional credit card without authorization from the victim numerous times. The total financial loss was over \$7,500, resulting from more than 200

unauthorized transactions. In addition, the investigation discovered Vanbenshoten opened a utility account using the victim's name and information without permission.

On January 26, 2023, Vanbenshoten surrendered herself to SP Cobleskill for processing. She was arraigned at the Cobleskill Town Court and released under the supervision of the Schoharie County Probation Department.

SUNY Men, Women Fall to Delhi

The SUNY Cobleskill men's basketball team returned to the road on Saturday afternoon to lose the host Broncos of SUNY Delhi by a 71-56 margin in North Atlantic Conference (NAC) play. With the loss the Fighting Tigers are now 14-6 overall including an 6-4 record versus league opponents while the Broncos improve to 13-8 overall with a 7-3 record in NAC action.

The Fighting Tigers got off to a slow start trailing 32-26 at the half to the Broncos before rallying to take a 45-43 lead with 12:01 remaining in regulation. However that would be as close as Cobleskill would come to the road win as Delhi a 12-0 run to take a 55-45 lead with 9:04 remaining to play from which they would never look back.

Senior Justin Feldman, Chester, N.Y., Chester High School/Orange Community College, was the Fighting

Tigers leading scorer in the contest with 14 points to go with seven rebounds while junior guard Andre Starks, Rochester, added 13 points and five rebounds in the contest.

The SUNY Cobleskill women's basketball team returned to the win column on Saturday afternoon defeating the host Broncos of SUNY Delhi by a 70-41 margin in North Atlantic Conference (NAC) action. With the victory the Fighting Tigers move to 12-8 overall including an 8-2 record versus league opponents while the Broncos fall to 2-18 overall with a 0-10 record in league action.

The Fighting Tigers broke the game open in the second quarter outscoring their hosts 18-6 to take a 34-15 lead into halftime from which they never looked back using a 60-to-28 advantage on the backboards to go with 21 forced Bronco

turnovers to secure the victory.

First-year forward/center Emily Satterday, Latham, dominated the inside action for the visitors posting her 13th double/double of the season with game highs of 15 points and 15 rebounds supported by sophomore guard Annie Canales, North Adams, Mass. who tallied 11 points along with eight rebounds.

Cobleskill also received strong efforts off the bench from sophomore forward Hannah Cater, Schoharie, filled her stat line with nine points, eight rebounds, two assists and a blocked shot and from first-year forward Sierra Goodson, Amsterdam, who scored nine points and grabbed six rebounds in a reserve role.

The Orange & Black will next be in action today when they travel to Marcy to face the Wildcats of SUNY Polytechnic Institute.



Sunday, January 22, 2023

At 1:33 AM, Cobleskill Police executed an arrest warrant from Schenectady City Court and arrested Adam Ortiz, 31, of Water-vliet, N.Y. He was turned over to the custody of the City of Schenectady Police Department at 2:20 AM without incident.

Friday, January 27, 2023

Police Blotter

At 2:48 PM, Cobleskill Police executed an arrest warrant from Cobleskill Town Court and arrested Kevin McGinley, 48, of Amsterdam, N.Y. for two counts of possession of a forged instrument in the second degree, a class "D" felony. He was arraigned in Cobleskill Town Court at 4:15 PM and released on his own recognizance to return to Cobleskill Town Court on 02/07/2023 at 2:00 PM.

Monday, January 30, 2023

At 1:26 AM, Cobleskill

Police arrested Brett Oteri, 31, homeless, for burglary in the second degree, a class "C" felony, grand larceny in the fourth degree, a class "E" felony, resisting arrest, and petit larceny. He was arraigned in Carlisle Town Court at 6:00 AM and remanded to the Schoharie County Correctional Facility on \$30,000 cash bail, \$60,000 insurance bail bond, or \$90,000 partially secured surety bond to return to Cobleskill Town Court on 01/31/2023 at 2:00 PM.

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Ravena Downs Bulldogs



The Indians knew who the strong players where, and really worked hard at keeping them from getting points. Ty LaBarge #0 really had his hands full trying to keep the points going for the Bulldogs. They would tie the score up before the end of the second period of the game.

Zowen Collins #23 makes the first two points for the Bulldogs in this fast paced game. Bulldogs started out slow in the first period of play. Photos by Robert Duso.



Zowen Collins #23 with the blocked shot in the fourth period. The game was tied up. The Bulldogs had pulled ahead, but the Indians wound up pulling ahead from Jack Reif #21 being fouled and making all four of the shots. Bring the Indians score to 50. They would manage to get another two points before the buzzer. Great game, well played by both teams.

Jonathan Gray #12 at the net and being heavily defended. Matt would make one three point shot in the game.

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Please call 518-234-2292 or stop by the Highway Bar at 795 Lowe Road to get an application. Please bring your license with you.

Don't Miss Out!
Email us at cobleskillherald@gmail.com!

YOUR LOCAL HAPPENINGS FOR SHARON SPRINGS

Sharon Things

By Alexis Pencar
Hey Neighbors!

It was nice to enjoy a slight warm up before getting hit with the single digits mid-week. With negative temperatures expected on Friday and Saturday evening, take caution while outside since frostbite can occur on exposed skin in less than 30 minutes! By Sunday we should see a return to more average winter temperatures through the following week.

The construction on Historic Main Street continued this past week with teams working near Cornerstone Place. This is in connection to the Water and Sewer project. With a few different pieces of heavy equipment pulling in and out, slowing the pace of busy Main Street, please continue to take caution while heading down the hill.

Hard work continues on the coming restaurant across the street from

Stewart's on Route 10. Look out for an exclusive update soon!

Cherry Valley Market A local favorite, in neighboring Cherry Valley, Cherry Valley Market (8 Main St, Cherry Valley), reopened this past week on Thursday February 2 with updated business hours. The adjusted winter hours of operation are Thursday & Friday 10-5, Saturday 11-6, and Sunday 12-6. Call (607) 264-5334 for more information.

Happy Birthday BIG Happy Belated Birthday to Candance Michelle Conto on February 2nd!

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

In 1925, Carter G. Woodson originated Negro History Week and founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), believing that truth could not be denied and that reason would prevail over prejudice. Fifty years later, the celebration was expanded to a month in 1976, the nation's bicentennial. President Gerald R. Ford urged Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history." The association, now the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), continues to promote the study of Black history all year.

Yesterday, February 2nd was Groundhog Day, a perfect segue into the questions of where do you get your information and how reliable are your sources. If you believe whatever you hear on social media or read on the internet, that is about as reliable as trusting a rodent for your weather forecasts. Know your sources and check more than one.

Saturday, February 4th is "Take Your Child to the Library Day." Our library will have special treats and free books for children brought in that day. Our Saturday hours have not changed for the winter. We are here from 10 - 1.

Friday, February 17th is book discussion night. We will be talking about Liane Moriarty's "Apples Never Fall." We have large type, regular type and

CD versions available.

Rumor has it that the library is planning their Great Book Giveaway for April 1. That is not an April Fool's joke. Those of you that have been calling to see if we take donations of used books in good condition can feel free to bring them in. This is a heads-up. Much more information to come in the weeks ahead.

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) offers 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.

Healthy Meal with Nutrition Coaching Silver & Gold Senior Club at OFA

By Alexis Pencar

The Sharon Silver & Gold Senior Club will hold its next meeting at 12 noon on Friday, February 10th at the Office for the Aging's Meal Site in the Village of Sharon Springs at the Firehouse (137 Beechwood Road).

The Silver & Gold Senior Club meets each month and provides wonderful activities and positively contributes to the lives of so many! Members of this club come from a wide radius of surrounding areas including Sharon, Cherry Valley, Cobleskill, Ames, and beyond.

With Seniors of all ages, this dynamic group is warm and welcoming to all! If you are interested in making new friends or would like to

add a new event to the calendar, this winter, this is worth checking out!

For the Silver & Gold Clubs February luncheon, expect a delicious and nutritious pork roast, warm spiced apples, sweet potatoes, garlic green beans, fruit cocktail, and cream cheese brownie served at noon with a business meeting and chance auction to follow. Register Dietician Nancy Ackerbauer will speak on a special nutrition topic too!

Area Seniors interested in more information about the Club should contact

Anne Lennebacker, President, at 607-547-9055. Those interested in attending the February 10th luncheon meeting must call the Spa Ritz Meal Site

by February 8th at 518-284-2883 on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday between 10 AM and 2 PM.

This same Sharon Springs "Spa Ritz" Meal Site also offers to congregate noon-time meals each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in the month of January (except Jan. 16th). Included with the healthy, well-balanced meal also comes socialization and nutrition coaching, and even tips and tricks for cooking.

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.

DISABLED VET living in Stamford is looking for home health aid. Flexible hours and days. Please call (607) 652-2449.

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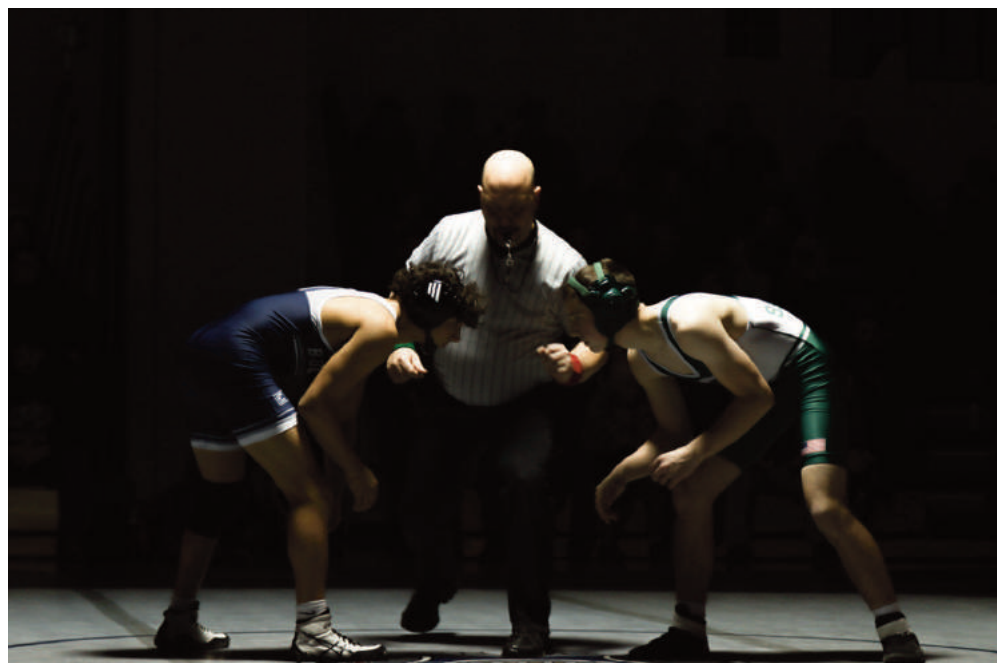
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Bulldogs Champs After Win Over Schalmont



Above: Luke Pryor with the pin during Cobleskill-Richmondville's victory Tuesday.

Below: Kyber Henry wins by decision. The Bulldogs won the match 64-12, making them Colonial Council Champions.



Above and below: Luke Yorke wins with a pin. Photos by Robert Duso.



SCHOHARIE COUNTY EAGLE TRAIL UPDATE Finishing Touches on the Nest

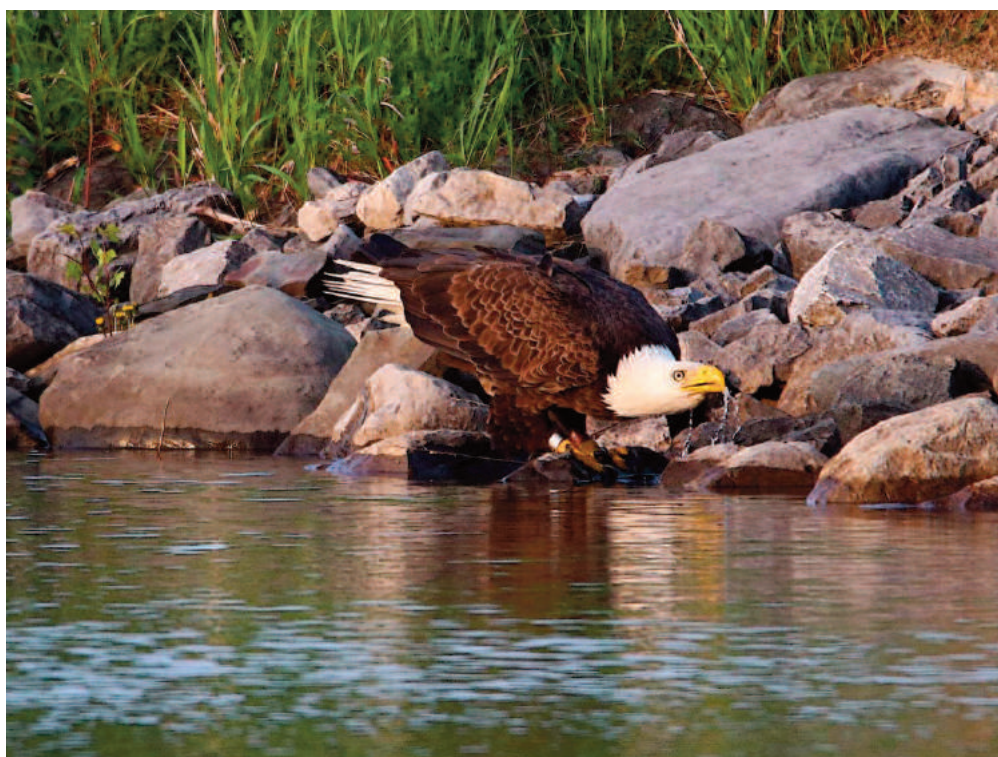


Photo by Bill Combs, Jr.

By **Bill Combs Jr.,
Eagle Trail
Ambassador**

It's January and all the local Eagles are putting the finishing touches on their nest, getting them finished before egg laying time. Most of the Eagles in the county lay their eggs in March.

There is a large amount of overwintering seasonal Eagles from the North hanging out in the south end of Schoharie County. You can look for them along the bends in the creek as this time of year it takes longer for the creek to freeze in those places. Eagles are not always in flight or in the trees, I find them a lot on the ground eating or getting a drink of water on the creek edge. They will also be pulling up

clumps of hay out of the hay fields to line their nest.

Many Friends and supporters of the Trail are fellow photographers, so I want to offer some tips and tricks to help you get the best possible shot when you are out on the Trail photographing Eagles or other wildlife.

Remember when you are photographing wildlife, to think about the angles of the environment around you. You want to keep the sun to your back and avoid focusing on getting close to the animal as it will look like you're under the animal instead of being on the same level with it.

I also recommend that you wait until you are ready to take the shot

before pointing the camera at them. The camera lens looks like an eye and the larger the eye, the bigger the threat. I also like to take photos of the same bird from different angles and locations, sometimes it's what is behind the bird that makes it great photograph.

I am also holding a photo editing meet & greet for the Friends of the Trail. Friends can bring your photos and learn about the latest equipment and photo editing software. I will also be sharing when and where to best view & photograph the Bald Eagles in the county this winter. The event will take place at 287 Main

Continued on Page F6

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Our Senior Fosters for Felines Program will have some special Cats and Kittens at this event looking for their new homes! Be sure to stop by and talk to a representative from the Animal Shelter of Schoharie Valley for more information on this wonderful program!





VALENTINES

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH, 2023

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WITH OUR VERY OWN "RAYS OF SUNSHINE"
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Pancakes at The Sap House Open for the Season this Weekend!

By Alexis Pencar
SHARON SPRINGS - Opening for the season this weekend, pancakes at The Sap House at Stone House Farm in Sharon Springs is BACK!

This tradition, loved by many, serves all-you-can eat pancakes, waffles, sausage, etc. with their fresh maple syrup, and opens for the 2023 season starting Saturday February 4th, and will run 8:00 am - 1:00 pm on weekends until April 23rd.

The wonderful people behind the Sap House, the Everett family, have been at Stone House Farm since 1964. Tim and Patti Everett took

over the farm in 1986, and have been farming ever since!

With a love for maple syrup and the right environment, Tim and Patti have been able to expand their maple syrup production each year.

In 1994 The Everetts started selling maple products on the farm and in 2001, decided to expand further by opening the Sap House for breakfast.

Stone House Farm currently operates a 5,000 tap maple syrup operation with a wood-fired evaporator and you can often see (and smell) the process during breakfast later in the season!

It's a family affair as Tim & Patti's daughters and their families also help with the business. Each time you visit, there are several generations working together!

Tim and Patti are "excited for the 2023 Season" and welcome anyone to taste AND learn about maple syrup production February through April, during the traditional sap season.

The Sap House is located at 305 Link Road, Sharon Springs, NY 13459. Contact (518) 284-2476 for more information or visit their website at www.thesap-houseatstonehousefarm.com.



Breakfast at the Sap House at Stone House with a Maple leaf Waffle, sausage, coffee, and options of Maple Milk, Maple Butter, Maple Sugar, and of course Maple Syrup! Photo courtesy Alexis Pencar of last Season.

Eagle Trail, from F5

Street, Schoharie, on February 18 from 10 am to 12 pm. We will have a large tv screen, high speed internet access, and unlimited coffee, so be sure to let us know you're coming on Facebook! Also, keep an eye out for an email this coming week for a link to the new private Facebook page for Friends of the Eagle Trail members only.

I am also available for private tours of the Eagle Trail for birdwatching or photographing Eagles, birds, and the beautiful landscapes of Schoharie County. I supply the camera equipment and binoculars. Just reach out to me at nywild@gmail.com for more information.

Upcoming Event
Don't miss this exclu-

sive meet & greet with Bill Combs Jr., aka The Eagle Man, on Saturday, February 18 at 287 Main Street in Schoharie!

Bring your photos and learn about the latest equipment and photo editing software. Also learn more tips and tricks about wildlife photography and where to best view & photograph the Bald Eagles in the county this winter.

We will have a large tv screen, high speed internet access, and unlimited coffee, so be sure to let us know you're coming on Facebook. We only have 20 spots for this first-ever photo editing event!

-Bill Combs Jr
Schoharie County Eagle Trail Ambassador



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New York State Embraces 'Digital World' With Online Notary System

By Jennifer Patterson The New York State Department of State recently announced the availability of an online application and registration portal for notaries. Effective Feb. 1, notaries can now register the capability to offer

electronic notary services throughout the state, and existing notaries can choose to keep their traditional license.

"We live in a digital world where many transactions and services are facilitated online," said Secretary of State Robert J. Rodriguez, "in order to have a quick and simple way of processing things in our day-to-day activities."

According to the Department of State, registration of the capability to perform electronic notary services is opt-in. Traditional license notaries will also continue to provide services through in-person interaction with an individual signing a document in ink.

This change will allow licensees who are commissioned as a notary public to continue providing services without making any changes to their license. If licensed notaries do not intend to provide electronic notary services, they do not need to upgrade their commission.

Notaries already licensed and intending to provide electronic notary services need to register with the Department of State.



be launched to facilitate notary transactions with the Department of State, allowing notaries to easily apply for a credential online and will soon allow them to quickly perform many related transactions, like changing a name or address and scheduling an examination. The portal will also allow licensees to check the status of applications. In addition, paper applications will continue to be available for traditional notaries.

"The Department of State is proud to facilitate online notary services to make it easier for New Yorkers to conduct business in a rapid and accessible manner," Rodriguez said. He added that the department will start an education and outreach campaign for licensees to inform them about the new requirements through social media, website postings and general correspondence.

For information, call 518-474-4429 or go to <https://dos.ny.gov/notary-public>.

Surveying the Village



A survey crew was spotted on Main Street in Village of Sharon Springs on Wednesday (2/1) afternoon taking measurements for sidewalks, particularly "ADA Compliance and correcting corners" in relation to the multi-step Water & Sewer Project.

Photo by Alexis Pencar.



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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.

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Ryder Students Do Good for Shelter, Four (and 3) Legged Pals



ABOVE AND BELOW: Kids get to meet and greet "Treasure" owned by Theresa Swenson during a collaboration between Ryder school and the Animal Shelter of Schoharie Valley. She is very sweet and loves everybody. Treasure lost one of her front legs, but this doesn't slow her down any, she seems to be always on the move looking to find someone else to pet her. Treasure was a rescue here in Schoharie County. Photos by Robert Duso.

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Students came together with adults and pets to organize donations for the animal shelter Friday.



Pictured here is a small part of the donations the kids brought in for the shelter. These supplies will be a big help, but the shelter needs a continual supply of goods. Donations are always welcome. I'm sure the shelter can always use a helping hand, so if you have time check in with them, and see what you might be able to help out with.