

The Mountain Eagle

Serving Schoharie, Delaware, Greene and Northern Ulster Counties

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FRIDAY, January 13, 2023

\$1.00

Delhi Resident Speaks Out Against County-Planned Temporary Housing

Delhi Residents Ask Supervisor to Advocate Against County Shelter Buildout
Special Meeting Scheduled for Jan. 18

By Mary A. Crisafulli
DELHI - Residents of Delhi asked Supervisor Mark Tuthill to advocate against county plans to build a temporary housing facility at 161 Main Street at a council meeting on Jan. 9. Residents were collectively in favor of finding another property for the shelter outside of village limits due to the tax-exempt status. Over 30 individuals attended the public comment period. Delaware County Social Services committee, in collaboration with the finance committee, initiated plans for the buildout following a fire of the initial structure in December 2021. The proposed project budget is \$1.2 million for a one-story structure with eight rooms to support ten individuals.

The county received \$600,000 in insurance reimbursement due to the fire. Supervisors have not approved the project budget, according to Tuthill. Maya Boukal of Delhi said while she understands the need for a shelter, the 1.2 million dollar budget is excessive. She asked if the county could explore options outside the village or in Walton and sell the property to be added back to the tax rolls. Boukal, along with other residents, said the village is struggling to remain an entity due to lost funding and tax-exempt properties. Village business owner Ragan Reed said approximately 22% of property owners in the village pay taxes, with over 70% tax-



Maya Boukal during Monday's meeting

exempt properties. "Twenty-two percent of us are covering the cost for all village taxes, that's a lot for them to support," she said. There needs to be a way to

both support the need for temporary housing and village property owners, Reed continued. Several residents asked if the buildout could be relocated, which Tuthill said is difficult due to marked-up prices. Once the county becomes interested in purchasing a property, the sale price typically increases, which is why officials chose to build on a lot already owned by the county, he added.

Another resident offered to purchase a property and sell it to the county at market price in exchange for the proposed lot for the housing facility. A representative from Friends of Recovery of Delaware and Otego Counties (FORDO) said temporary housing located on Main Street is what keeps people in need of support successful. Those in need of housing aid often require other support, including social services and FORDO, or attend probation or court, all located in the village, and transportation is limited, she explained. "This is where it needs to be," she continued, "they need a chance."

and lifeguards. The proposal from Aqua Concepts was accepted for opening the town pool for \$778 and closing for \$842 for the summer 2023 season. Tuthill will schedule a tour of the new county Department of Public Works administrative building on Main Street for Delhi Fire Department staff. Councilmember William Cairns will acquire estimates for resealing and stripping the parking lot at town hall. The code enforcement officer conducted seven inspections, issued two compliance certificates, held five conferences, and drove 74 miles in December. The town justice court took in \$8,438 in December. The town clerk collected \$653 in fees, including marriage licenses, dog licenses, death and birth certificates, and others, during December. The highway department superintendent was authorized to purchase a stainless-steel salt spreader at a cost of \$5,607. A donation from the Helfgott-Renfroe Foundation of \$5,000 will be put toward costs. The 2023 state CHIPS funding for highway maintenance totals \$508,000 and will be used on Federal Hill #1, Federal Hill #2, Tom Hoag, Thompson Cross, Rueben Todd, Falls Mills, Arbor Hill, and Bramley Mountain roads. Councilmembers entered into an executive decision to discuss the employment of a particular individual. No decisions were made. The next Delhi council meeting is scheduled Monday, Feb. 13, at 7 p.m.

Stamford Sets Temp. Lease Agreement with Library, Preschool

By Liz Page
STAMFORD - The village of Stamford recently took stewardship of Churchill Gym, which is home to the Stamford Village Library and Kiddie Corner Preschool. An agreement was made between the Stamford Central School and the village, with some critical repairs needed to the building. The school district must adhere to state Education Department guidelines which requires a facilities condition report every five years. The aging building had a number of items listed for repair, along with items at the school's main campus. Dr. Stephen Churchill donated \$25,000 for the building, constructed in 1917. Over the next seven years the school district raised another \$25,000 and the village donated the property. The building, located at 121 Main Street is home to a gymnasium, Kiddie Corner Preschool and the Stamford Village Library. Mayor Robert Schneider made the offer earlier last year after discussing it with village and school attorneys, as well as the village board. He said they

were in favor of the village taking over stewardship of the building. Schneider told the school board at the time that the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation has supported the village library and was providing a \$2.5 million grant to construct a new swimming pool and facility. He said the gym would work in cooperation with that new facility. The village worked to iron out the wills and the deed. The gymnasium served as the school's main gym for many years and it is still used for sports practices. There have also been discussions with Kiddie Corner Pre-School which uses the gym and with the library board. At the time, Schneider indicated that, "If they stay in the building they would have to pay rent. The only other option would be to moth ball it so we wouldn't have to pay the heat. The village would not want it to fall into private hands due to the substantial investment right next door." Schneider pointed out the village would not be bound by the magnitude of the repairs that are required by SED and he believes the village can find

suitable uses for the building. Because the deal came after the village budget was established, there is nothing in the current budget for the building and the village would like to get an idea of the costs before they begin to crunch the numbers on this year's budget. At a workshop meeting last Tuesday, village trustees approved a 90-day lease agreement for the preschool and the library. If the school continues to use the gym for practices, they will also have to pay a fee, according to Schneider. In the meantime, the heat will be shut off to the gym portion of the building where Schneider said the village is "bleeding money" from the fuel oil bills. He wants to get out from under that cost as soon as possible and to see how much it is actually costing to heat the gym. "We have to start somewhere," Schneider told the board. "We would like to accommodate everyone, but we can't burden the taxpayers. We have to reign this in." Story continues on A3

When asked, Tuthill said the town would acquire any debt and services if the village were to go bankrupt. Council members would then decide what services to uphold. Residents and officials have discussed the advantages and disadvantages of dissolving the village for several years, said Tuthill, which would require a referendum. A special meeting for public comment with county finance committee members

is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 1 p.m. Tuthill encouraged residents to attend the meeting and present written comments. County officials need specific ideas for alternatives to consider relocation of the project, he added. Several residents asked if the county would consider sending towns and villages sales tax revenue. According to Tuthill, if the county distributed sales tax revenue to municipalities, county taxes would have to increase to compensate for the county budget loss. Tuthill will look into the request further. Following the public comment period, Councilmember Matthew Krzyston said he agreed with the concerns and appreciated Tuthill's support in advocating for the residents. In other business: Councilmembers will consider purchase of fireproof file cabinets for the assessor's office and vital records with ARPA funding at an estimated price of \$4,317 each. The clerk was authorized to advertise for the employment of a recreation director

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LOCAL HISTORY WITH KAREN CUCCINELLO

Mt. Utsayantha Farm Inn

Originally built about 1801 for travelers along the Catskill and Susquehanna Turnpike/Rte 23 that ran from Catskill to Wattles Ferry/Unadilla and was known as Dave/David S. Howards Tavern or Hotel. It was a bit past Blackberry Street across from 31360 State Rte. 23, the parking lot is still somewhat visible.

Martin Howard (1783-1835), the father of David (1805-1873), probably built the house on the 250 acre farm. A barn at the farm, with about 100 horses and wagons inside, burned down in 1850. The property was said to be in the Howard family for about 75 years so the next owner, David M. Poppino (1829-1906), bought it about 1875. The property was mentioned as being in Schoharie and or Delaware Counties at different times but it is in Gilboa, Schoharie Co.

Poppino tried selling the property from 1882-1884. His son Willis (1856-1899) ran the farm until he moved into Stamford Village in 1893.

1882 - FARM FOR SALE - Containing 250 acres, about 200 under improvement, well fenced, water in nearly every lot, large house and plenty of outbuildings, wagon house, 100x40 large barn, etc. One and a half miles east of Stamford, in the town of Gilboa, Schoharie Co., known all over the State as where Dave Howard kept a tavern. Stock and tools will be sold with the farm, if desired. Being only 1 1/2 miles from a good creamery, here is a fine chance for the milk traffic. Terms easy. Possession given at anytime. D. M. POPPINO South Gilboa, Jan 20, 1882

Charles O. Champlin (1849-1925), of Roxbury, bought the farm in 1894 for \$5,000 and sold it to Harry/Harold A. (1883-1967) and Caroline (De-Buhr, 1884-1927) Dyer in 1918. Dr and Mrs. George T. Harding, father of Pres-



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Mt. Utsayantha Farm Inn
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All Legal Beverages
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 Watch this paper for other
 Sunday Specials

October 27, 1955 Stamford Mirror-Recorder



Mt Utsayantha Farm Inn

ident Harding, spent several days at Utsayantha Farm Inn in 1921. In 1922 they installed electric lights throughout their buildings and planned extensive improvements in order to engage in more of the summer boarding business. They sold the Inn, to Bruce Haddon of Grand Gorge in 1926 probably because Caroline was sick.

Max and Emily Morgenstern, of NYC, bought

the Inn and operated it as a boarding house, cost \$14 and up for a week, about 1927-28, but Max died in 1928. Emily sold the 7.3 acres to Casper Adolf and Mary Ellen (Commass) Potts of Elmont, Nassau County NY in 1947. Casper (1886-1963) and Mary (1899-1979) were married in Queens September 28, 1918. In a 1949 advertisement Mt. Utsayantha Farm Inn, Route 23, Stamford. Dining room will open to the public on April 2d, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner; sandwiches served at all times. Homemade pastries. Mary Potts. Some

of the locals called it Pottsie's Place.

So most of the original 200 acres was sold off at some point. Louise Fredericka Potts, executor for Mary Potts, sold the property to Prospect Enterprises Inc. in 1979 and they razed what was left the next year.

There was also a Utsayantha Farm House boarding house on Mountain Rd., still standing, which made research tricky to tell them apart.

The full Howard family history is in a binder compiled by Eugene Bouton, originally of Jefferson, in the Stamford Library history room.

Obituaries

Ernst "Ernie" Hofelmann



Ernst "Ernie" Hofelmann went home to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on January 2, 2023.

Born in Poughkeepsie, NY on August 7, 1941, he went on to do many different things throughout his life. First and foremost, he was a born again saved Christian and a Minister. He had his own church at one point and served as a Pastor his entire life.

He is survived by his wife Brenda of Napanoch, NY. He was a proud Father, Father-in-Law and Grandfather. He leaves behind his daughter Jennifer Labinsky, daughter and son-in-law Holly and John Behnke, and son Kevin Hofelmann, as well as his two grandchildren Elizabeth and Zachary. Each one shared special bond with their Dad and Pop-Pop.

Ernie loved the outdoors and instilled this love in his children from the very beginning. He found great joy standing by a babbling brook, fishing, canoeing and camping. He was a skilled backpacker and hunter and

enjoyed teaching his children about survival skills in the outdoors. He also extended help to many people throughout his life and enjoyed giving to others. He will be missed more than words can express.

Ernie proudly served in the US Navy aboard the USS Amphion as a young man and lived in Norfolk, Virginia. He later lived in Gardiner NY where he was a Carpenter, then a Maintenance Supervisor at Wallkill Correctional Facility retiring in 2001. He later moved to Bloomville, NY.

The family would like to extend sincere thanks to the many people that helped him along his journey; thank you for all your kindness and support toward our beloved Dad and Pop-Pop. Ernie leaves behind many dear friends and each one held a special place in his heart. He told his family about each of you and cared very deeply for you.

Friends and relatives are invited to call on the family from 3 to 6 PM on Friday, January 13, 2023 at the MacArthur Funeral Home, 15 Buntline Drive, Stamford, NY 13753. A celebration of life will be held at 3:30PM on Sunday, January 15, 2023 at the Upper Room Christian Church, 83 North Kortright Church Road, Davenport, NY.

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

Margaret A. Titch



Margaret A. Titch, 75, of Hobart, passed away Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at Bassett Medical Center following a heart attack.

Born on December 4, 1947 in Stamford, NY, She was the daughter of the late Howard and Alice (Truax) Cohn.

Margaret was married to Robert Titch, Robert passed away on December 14, 2022.

She worked at Mallinck-

rodt in Hobart for over 23 years until her retirement.

Margaret was a member of the Hobart Emergency Squad, she was a life member of the Hobart Fire Department Auxiliary, she was also involved with the Hobart Senior Club. She enjoyed board and card games, feeding and watching the birds and she also loved to get together with family for gatherings and BBQs.

Besides her parents and her husband, Margaret was predeceased by her son: Matthew Pardy.

She is survived by her children: Michael (Sandra) Pardy of Bainbridge and Terri (Marcia) Pardy of Palenville; grandson: Daniel Koerner of Stamford; sisters: Mary Pause of Hamden and Susan (Michael) Tait of Peckville, PA; brothers: Howard J. "Jimmy" (Dorothy) Cohn, Jr. of Oneonta; along with several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Graveside services and a celebrations of life will be held for both Margaret and Robert in the spring.

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



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Roxbury Fire Department

Chicken BBQ
Saturday, Jan. 14



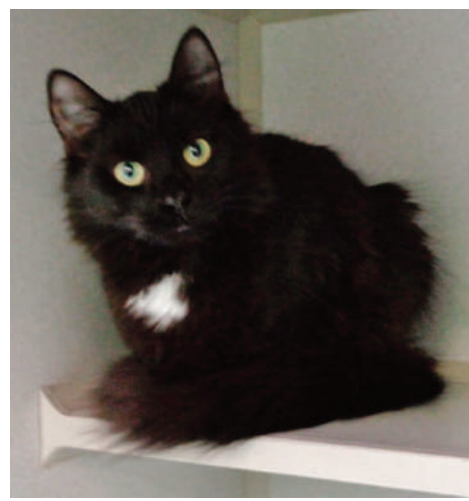
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SILT

SILT entered the shelter on November 19, 2022 when she was about 1 year old. Silt is black with a big fluffy white patch on her neck. She's a sweet little girl.



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Pistol League Scores

Team and High Individual Match Scores
1/6/2023 Match XI:

Walton defeats Sidney: 1102-20X to 1045-6X
Oneonta defeated Rockdale: 1075-13X to 1036-14X

Stamford/ beat Delhi: 1075-15X to 959-6X
Top shooters for Stamford were: Gus Mueller 273-4X; Jim Hitt 271-5X; Steve Baker 266-3X; and Larry VanDeusen 265-3X

Also shooting for Stamford were: John Wyckoff, Brian Righi, Davis Ferris, Ric Cammer, Jan Hornbach, Maynard Vance, Jeff Mattice, and Mark Gifford

Top shooters for Delhi were: Mabel Gutliph 265-2X; Kevin Gutliph 250-2X; Dennis Klimowski 244; and Carmelo Meli 200-2X

Win/Loss Record:

Stamford/	9-0
Walton	7-2
Rockdale:	4-5
Oneonta:	4-5
Sidney:	2-7
Delhi:	1-8

Delaware League Standings

Delaware League Varsity Boys Basketball (8 games)

SKCS	3-0	10-1
Davenport	3-0	10-1
Margaretville	2-0	8-0
Gilboa	1-1	4-3
Downsville	1-1	4-6
Roxbury	0-1	1-7
Jefferson/Stamford	0-1	1-9
HTC	0-2	3-3
Windham	0-4	1-8

Delaware League Varsity Girls Basketball (8 games)

SKCS	3-0	9-3
Davenport	2-0	6-3
Stamford/Jefferson	2-0	6-4
Windham	2-1	4-3
HTC	1-1	4-3
Downsville	0-2	2-9
Roxbury	0-2	1-6
Margaretville	0-2	1-10
Gilboa	0-2	0-6

Delaware League JV Boys Basketball (5 games)

Davenport	2-0	5-4
Margaretville	1-0	4-1
SKCS	0-0	5-3
Jefferson/Stamford	0-1	5-5
Gilboa	0-1	2-2
Downsville	0-1	1-5

Delaware League JV Girls Basketball (4 games)

Davenport	0-0	12-0
Stamford/Jefferson	0-0	3-6
HTC	0-0	1-2

HELP WANTED

Substitutes are needed for the following school districts:

- Charlotte Valley CSD
- Edmeston CSD
- Laurens CSD
- Milford CSD
- Oneonta City SD
- Schenevus
- Stamford

- Windham-Ashland-Jewett CSD
- Worcester CSD
- ONC BOCES (Grand Gorge & Milford)


Substitute positions:

- Teachers
 - LTAs
 - Aides & Monitors
 - Nurses
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 - Clerical & Office Support
 - Food Service Workers
- Please visit www.oncbores.org/subs for application and information. EOE



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Camperships Available for 4-H Camp Shankitunk

4-H Camp Shankitunk in Delhi is now accepting applications for camperships (scholarships to attend camp) this summer. There are several awards that are open to youth with varying eligibility requirements. Campership amounts range from a \$25 discount all the way up to covering the complete cost of camp (\$450). There are campership opportunities for 4-H members, farm families, Day Camp youth, Counselor in Training candidates, and even opportunities for youth who do not reside in Delaware County. Youth must submit their application with a written statement on why they want to attend camp. Campership awards will be determined by the Camp Committee. 4-H

Camp Shankitunk has been providing a summer camp experience for youth in Delaware County since 1927, so we invite you to apply and not let the cost of camp deter your child from joining in that experience, now more than ever. Children ages 8-16 (by January 1, 2023) are eligible to attend overnight camp. Children ages 6-14 are eligible to attend day camp. Apply online at campshankitunk.org/camperships, email crb222@cornell.edu, or call 607-865-6531 for more information or to request a paper application be mailed to you. Donations to our scholarship fund in any amount are welcome!

The deadline to apply for a scholarship is March

31, 2023. Submit applications to Cornell Cooperative Extension

Delaware County, 34570 St Hwy 10, Ste 2, Hamden, NY 13782.

Bushel Presents Its January Community Film Pick: Summer of Soul

DELHI—As part of its Community Film Picks series, Bushel is excited to heat things up with a screening of Summer of Soul (2021), directed by Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson. The film will be shown on Friday, January 20, 7 pm. Doors open at 6:45 pm; screening begins at 7pm, followed by a DJ set 9-10:30 pm with Darwin Marcus Johnson. This program is free to attend. Masks are optional but encouraged; please remain home if you are feeling ill.

Summer of Soul is the acclaimed filmmaking debut of Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson. This powerful and transporting documentary is part music film, part historical record created around an epic event that celebrated Black history, culture, and fashion. Over the course of six weeks in the summer of 1969, just one hundred miles south of Woodstock, The Harlem Cultural Festival was filmed in Mount

Story Continues on D3

Stamford Man Arrested for Alleged Leandra's Law Violation

On December 27, 2022, at approximately 8:21 p.m., New York State Police at Stamford arrested Michael W. Lopez, age 41 of Stamford, NY for the class "E" felony of Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated with a Child as Passenger (or "Leandra's Law"). He was also charged with the misdemeanor of Endangering the Welfare of a Child. Troopers on Main Street in the village of Stamford observed a vehicle speeding and initiated a traffic stop. When speaking with Lopez, a trooper observed an odor of an alcoholic beverage and characteristics associated with impairment. The troopers also observed that there were three children in the vehicle. Lopez was asked to exit the vehicle and perform Standardized Field Sobriety Tests, which confirmed impairment. Lopez was arrested and the children were turned over to a sober third party. He was transported to SP Stamford where his reportable B.A.C was .14%. He was released on appearance tickets to the Stamford Town Court on

January 9, 2023, then turned over to a sober third party.

Library, Preschool Lease Agreements, Continued from A1

Neither the preschool, nor the library had been paying for the use of the building previously.

Currently, the preschool is looking for a heater for the classroom, which is still heated, but is much cooler than in the past.

"The goal is to make the facility self-sustaining," said Schneider. "We need income for this building and to get rental support. This will be active for 90 days and then we can revisit the numbers. We need to stop the bleeding on the oil use of the building. The gymnasium skews the numbers. If we block it off, we will have a better idea of the fuel usage for the library and the preschool."

The preschool uses the gym for recreation for its students. Schneider said they will still be able to use the gym, but will have to bear the cold and students may have to wear their coats while using it. "It will not be heated."

He said he had broken down the space usage for the library and the preschool, with the library at 65 percent and the preschool using 35 percent of the space. The rent will be \$1,354 per month for the library and \$729 per month for the preschool.

"We can use this as a jumping off point. We can isolate the space and figure it out over the next three months."

Although Trustee Daran Hanway questioned that not heating the gym may cause bigger problems, Schneider said that as a real estate agent he has seen buildings sit idle without any harm and does not believe it will hurt for the gym to go unheated for 90 days. "There is no way to know unless we turn it off."

Village crew members were due to go in Monday to block off the space.

Trustees voted 3-0 with newly appointed Trustee Jayden Ramirez and Trustee Robert Orcutt absent from the meeting. Ramirez, a college stu-

dent, will serve the remaining three months of the village's fiscal year with the resignation Katy Graves from the board in October. He was sworn into office in December. No candidates have yet stepped forward to run for the remaining three years of Graves' unexpired term.

As for the barn behind 7-9 Railroad Ave., Schneider said he had contacted three realtors to get an approximate value of the barn, but had only received one return phone call. The village is looking to sell the building and get it back on the tax rolls as it now owns the old garage on Academy Street for storage.

Trustees also discussed offering two trucks for sale and agreed to raise the base salary for a laborer with the village crew from \$15.50 to \$17 per hour.

The next village board meeting is Jan. 17 at 7 p.m..

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Conscientious individual(s) to show proper attention and effort toward assisting the growth & development of the trees in our tree Nursery located in the Andes/Delhi area. \$25.00 per hour.

Call: 845 676-4364 Mon-Fri. 8am-4pm.

HELP WANTED

Roxbury Central School has the following opening:

Network Specialist/IT Coordinator

RCS is seeking a Network Specialist/IT Coordinator. Full-time, 12-month, competitive civil service position. Candidates must meet minimum Civil Service qualifications & successfully complete the exam.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: Maintaining Windows server domain, Google Edu+ domain & Cisco Networking infrastructure; Installation of hardware/software & diagnosing hardware/software issues; Training users on new software/equipment; IT Budget planning & preparation; Upkeep of inventory & management of Windows computers, Chromebooks & state mandates for apps/software; maintaining & updating phone system. Please send a letter of interest and resume by 1/31/23 to:

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

HELP WANTED

Roxbury Central School has the following immediate vacancies:

- Certified School Counselor
- Certified School Psychologist
- Certified School Social Worker

Applications may be submitted online at www.olasjobs.org, or in writing by 1/31/23 to:

Dr. Joanne Shelmidine, Interim Superintendent
ROXBURY CENTRAL SCHOOL
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EOE

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Letters to the Editor

Who Is In Charge?

In order to maintain our rights in a Constitutional Republic, our elected officials must keep their Oath of Office by swearing or affirming to support the Constitution of the US and to faithfully discharge the duties to the best of their ability. Inherent in the Oath is a formal sacred promise to do their jobs with integrity, accountability, transparency, and with impartial and responsive actions to the citizens/public. Elected officials should be removed from office "for neglect of duty, misuse of office, or incompetence in the performance of duties."

It is your right and duty as citizens to know and understand the issues and let elected officials know what the important issues are. We must not relinquish our authority and rights by allowing those who are in office or appointed to take them from us.

This is paramount at all levels of government. Our elected officials and those who are appointed must be held accountable for their actions and inaction, to the people they serve. It matters on a local level because it impacts our daily lives, our schools, businesses, and our neighborhood. If we allow our local elected officials to do whatever they want without the public's knowledge and or our consent, we relinquish our natural/ God given rights that are upheld by our US and NYS Constitutions, we relinquish our rights as citizens and we become nothing but subjects.

The Roxbury Town Board

The Roxbury Town Board has decided issues on their own, taking the authority away from the people they serve. The following is one example: About two years ago the Town of Roxbury had a meeting and received nearly 50 letters and emails, mostly in support of Short Term Rental (STR) regulations. In response, the Town Board Chairman/Town Supervisor appointed three Roxbury taxpayers and two town board members to serve on an STR com-

mittee formed to develop regulations to be presented to the public for approval.

The three appointees included: an STR owner, a manager of several STRs who is also a realtor, and a homeowner. During the September 2022 meeting, the board went into a lengthy closed "Executive" Session, during which the public attendees left. When the board reconvened the meeting, the board announced that they disbanded the STR Committee because "there was no need of regulations at this time." At a subsequent meeting, the Board stated that the STR committee was disbanded because it was a unanimous recommendation by the committee. This is untrue, the vote was not unanimous, and of the three appointed committee members, the two who had a vested economic interest voted against regulations and for disbanding the committee. At the December Town Board meeting, several additional letters of support for STR regulations was given to the board. However, a list of STR regulations for review were never presented to the public as originally promised by the Town Board.

Why is this important? It is important for two reasons. Obviously, the STR issue has been tucked away and has not been resolved. Even more importantly, the Roxbury Town Board members did not appear to have been transparent, impartial, accountable, and responsive representing all the people.

Thinking that no one will listen to what you have to say, or that one person cannot make a difference keeps you from helping to make the kind of community you want. Going to meetings, writing/emailing, contacting your elected officials with perseverance will make a difference! Let your elected officials know that you will not accept the breaking of their Oath of Office, thereby accountable and responsive to you, the public. We must not forget, it's "We The People" Who Are In Charge!

Renee' Barchitta
Roxbury

UNHEALTHY CHOICE BY SUPERVISORS

As reported recently in this paper, the Schoharie County Board of Supervisors, in a direct reversal of the unanimous approval of the County Board of Health, voted to defund the contract renewal of the Director of Public Health, Dr. Amy Gildemeister. This is inexplicable, especially when the only public statements by Board Chair Federice are bombastic blame and shame attacks aimed at Democrats and the press.

A basic tenet of government is protecting the health and safety of its citizens. Clearly, the Board of Health had full confidence in Dr. Gildemeister. If there was hard evidence, they could not have known about it. In defunding her contract, Chairman Federice and county Supervisors have chosen to jeopardize public health services. The health and welfare of county citizens will now be in the hands of an interim replacement with no health credentials or public policy expertise, even as new COVID variants and numbers of hospitalizations rise across the state.

Were all the supervisors informed of these alleged personnel issues? Several supervisors didn't find sufficient grounds for dismissal. The close vote is influenced by member absences, and it is hard to see this controversial decision as conclusive if the supervisors were so divided.

We need clarity and accountability from public officials, not defensiveness and finger-pointing.

The Schoharie County Democratic Committee, of which I am a member, objected to the flawed process in December and asked for a January reconsideration of the decision. The shaming and scapegoating of Democrats and the press by supervisors, Federice and Tavenner specifically, is a deflection of attention, similar to what is happening all across the country, as reported by Times Union reporter Rachel Silberstein. Qualified public health officials have been targeted for carrying out policies protecting vulnerable people.

Here in Schoharie County, with fewer than

30,000 people in 665 square miles, it is no different. Expert medical help for respiratory emergencies are hard to come by. Here, the two Democrats on the board were also removed from their committee assignments, including the Chair of the Public Health Committee; and the unanimous approval of health specialists was ignored. To me it looks obvious who is playing politics with Public Health.

Sarah Meredith
Gilboa

BE THE GLUE

The Delaware County Chamber of Commerce and our family of businesses and organizations continue to bring power to our members and their thousands of employees. This power and confidence in our economic future start new businesses, grow our economy, and advocate for an improved quality of life in Delaware County.

But the real power is how members plug into the Chamber. As we start 2023, we have 359 members, including 45 new investors and a 90% renewal rate, representing over 10,000 employees! Over 760 people attended our 41 events. With nearly 26,000 newsletters opened, a social media reach of over 60,000 views, nearly 100 radio and television programs produced, and 61 videos published, the Chamber is effectively delivering our message of business unity and community prosperity.

The Chamber continues to lead initiatives to build more resilient communities. Understanding that transportation is often a barrier to sustainable employment, we partner with human service agencies, healthcare, transportation providers, government agencies, transportation consultants and others to recommend public transportation options in the county. We also manage the business operations of WIOX Community Radio, supporting the efforts of nearly 80 community volunteers who serve as program hosts and back-office staff to keep this important source of information and entertainment broadcasting. Our nine-month Leaderful Delaware Emerging Leaders program prepares the next generation of civic lead-

ers to drive community change. Much of what we accomplish is through collaboration. Working with Delaware Opportunities and over 30 businesses, government agencies, and organizations, our annual campaign collected and distributed 2200 toys to Delaware County families.

Despite difficulties with County officials, we successfully lobbied the Delaware County Board of Supervisors to reformulate the method to calculate County sales tax on fuel purchases, reducing the cost to business owners and consumers by nearly ten cents per gallon. Our relationships with state officials remain excellent and, working with business advocacy groups across New York State, we successfully lobbied Governor Hochul and the State Legislature to enact a program providing tax credit of 50% of qualifying expenses up to a maximum of \$25,000 in tax credits based on qualifying expenses of \$50,000.

As we look forward to 2023, our priorities for action are centered on three key areas--ADVOCATE, CONNECT, and GROW.

Effective advocacy is founded on accurate and substantiated information. The Chamber remains a locus for facts and primary resources on issues important to business owners. Toward that end, we will continue to engage elected and other public officials at all levels of government to ensure that input from business owners is included in public policy discussions. Also, as a trusted source of reliable information, we will continue to provide resources and contacts to members seeking assistance with municipal officials.

Connecting members to resources needed to expand, business recognition and promotion, and high-engagement networking opportunities are all ways we bring measurable value to Chamber members. We offer many valuable benefits that may be extended to member employees, aiding in staff retention. We will also create an Ambassador group dedicated to welcoming new members, engaging existing members, and making Chamber events more successful and enjoyable for everyone.

Benefits of participation include meeting business and community leaders, chances to promote business and community growth, potential media coverage, as well as personal and professional recognition.

We leverage the knowledge of members, regional government, education, business, and non-profit stakeholders to address critical county needs with an eye toward improving our quality of life and supporting business growth. In addition to continuing our efforts in exploring public transportation options and molding the next generation of civic leaders, the Chamber will actively connect employers with schools and students. We will strengthen business connections with local schools, including mentoring and shadowing experiences, advisory board participation, career day presentations, and promotion of Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential. Also, working with education, human service agencies, and other chambers, we will initiate a public conversation centered on removing barriers to employment for county residents. We will create resources for use by business owners and hiring managers on topics including Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging, Fair Chance Hiring, as well as Employee Mental Health and Well-Being.

Admittedly, this is an ambitious agenda. However, especially over the past two-plus years, our business community has stepped up to meet unexpected challenges. From workforce shortage to supply chain issues to inflation to economic downturns, change increased at an unprecedented rate. We all faced these challenges in big and small ways. The key factor, though, is that we often did it together.

It has become increasingly clear to me how much we need one another. How much we need networks and advocates. How #StongerTogether is so much more than a tagline. It is the relationships, shared visions, and trust among individuals, teams, and organizations that holds us together.

You can choose to be the glue that sustains our communities. Joining

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THE SCHOHARIE NEWS

**SCHO-BURGH PHOTOS
BIG DRUG BUST**

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

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Schoharie Snakes, S's, or Squirrels, It's Your Choice

By David Avitabile
SCHOHARIE - What would you rather hear next basketball season? "Starting tonight for your Schoharie Squirrels, at center..." Or, "Playing forward for your Schoharie Snakes..." Or, "Taking the floor for your Schoharie Patriots..."

Now that the state has demanded that all Native American school mascots be removed by the end of the school year, it is now up to Schoharie school residents to begin the process of choosing a new mascot for the school to replace the Indian mascot.

Schoharie Central School has scheduled a public forum at 6 p.m., Wednesday, January 18, to discuss the New York State Education Department order that calls for schools to end the use of Native American-themed logos and/or mascots or face the loss of state aid. The forum will be held in the junior-senior high school auditorium.

"We will start with the public forum on January 18," Superintendent David Blanchard said. "We will listen to the community and



Non-considered potential mascot logos.

develop a process."

The state deadline is June 2024, Mr. Blanchard noted, but since the district is in the midst of a large building project that will totally renovate most of the athletic fields and the elementary school gym, it is paramount that the new mascot be chosen soon so the mascot can be incorporated into the field and gym designs.

Currently, the district has replaced the Indian image on its webpage with a stylized S. There are rumors that the Squirrel is a top contender to be the new mascot. Other hopefuls are: the Snakes, the Patriots, the Forts, the Stone Forts, the Revolutionaries (or Revolutions). Many others will undoubtedly be discussed at the forum.

As for the current suggestions, the Ss makes little sense. You might aspire to be a Knight, Spartan, or even Bulldog, but who aspires to be an S? The Squirrels (as well as the Snakes) has great alliteration that every headline writer loves, but the Squirrel is a little...small and does not strike fear in an opponent (unless you are Clark Griswold in Christmas Vacation). The Squirrels, though, could make for a cute logo. The Snakes could be more commanding and make for a more menacing logo and could be shaped as an S, The Patriots refers to the role Schoharie played in the American Revolution, but Cherry Valley-Springfield has the same mascot (as does that NFL team from New

England). The Revolutionaries (or Revolutions) also honors Schoharie's role in history but are too long for a uniform or headline and do not lend itself to a shorter nickname (the Revs?) The Forts or Stone Forts also touch on the area's history and could make for an interesting logo.

Though the school's mascot is being removed by the state, it will be up to its students, staff, residents, and school board members to decide on the future mascot that will represent the district for years (unless for some reason the state finds its offensive.)

In mid-November just minutes before the Schoharie monthly school board meeting, SCS officials were notified by the New

York State Education Department that all districts in the state have to retire their Native American mascots by the end of the 2022-23 school year or risk removal of school officials (administrators and board members) and loss of state funding.

Schoharie school is in no position to fight the mandate since the district gets about \$11 million each year in state aid, Superintendent Blanchard has said.

The discussion of a change should be nothing new at SCS as officials and the public have talked about the district mascot for years.

Mr. Blanchard has noted that the district did not expend any funds on images of the Indian mascot in their \$19 million building project that transformed many areas of the high school. Now, the district is ready to embark on a \$24 million project that will renovate and update the athletic fields and include big change in the elementary school.

It would be prudent to decide on a new mascot before plans for the fields and elementary school are fi-

nalized so that the images of a new mascot can be incorporated on the fields and school, Mr. Blanchard said.

School board members have been mum on the issue and board President Terry Burton did not comment on the issue when the Mountain Eagle broke the story locally last year.

The Mountain Eagle ran a story earlier in 2022 calling for the district to put the future of the mascot on the ballot, so the residents of the district decide on the mascot instead of the state. Several residents came to a board meeting, but Mr. Burton said that a board meeting was not the proper forum to discuss the issue and no further discussion was held.

The latest attempt to remove the mascot was part of a bill in the state legislature that was proposed last year by State Senator Alessandra Biaggi, a Democrat who represents parts of the Bronx and Westchester.

State districts using Native American mascots and logos have been on notice from the State Education Department since 2001 that this day may eventually come.

Middleburgh Town Gets Ready for 2023 Hayes Named to Ethics Committee

By David Avitabile
MIDDLEBURGH - Middleburgh town board members got ready for 2023 Thursday evening by making a slate of appointments and designations for the new year.

Town board members Thursday:

* Appointed Town Clerk Renee Schmidt as receiver of taxes.

* Named Mike West as town attorney.

* Named Fred Risee as planning board chairman and Denise Lloyd as vice chairwoman.

* Appointed Joe Durma as dog control officer.

* Named Charley Spickerman as town historian and Steve LaMont as assistant.

* Designated the following official banks for 2023: NBT,

Key Bank, and National Bank of Coxsackie.

* Named the Mountain Eagle as an official newspaper.

* Set the monthly meeting for the second Thursday of the month at 7pm at the community center on Cotton Hill Road. The August meeting will be held at the Hunter-stand firehouse. The joint meeting with the village will be held in June.

* Appointed Supervisor Wes Laraway as administrator of the fire protection districts funds.

* Set the mileage rate for all town business at 65.5 cents per mile.

* Agreed to give the VFW and the American Legion \$300 each towards the maintenance of their rooms and memorial services. The town

will also give the Golden Agers \$600 each year.

* Appointed the zoning enforcement office to do the annual junkyard inspections.

* Named the following people to the board of ethics: Gary Hayes, David Lloyd, and Pastor Jeff Kelley. Mr. Hayes, a former town councilman and mayor, replaces Erin Ansel-McCabe.

* Appointed Councilwoman Carrie Shaul as town representative to the Youth Commission and Supervisor Laraway as alternate. Bill Ansel-McCabe and Mike Wilkens are the citizen representatives. Mr. Ansel-McCabe replaces longtime representative Janet Mayer, former village clerk.

* Agreed that there will be a six-month probation period for new highway employees.

* Approved the following holidays for full-time highway employees: Election Day, Memorial Day, Martin Luther King Jr., Day, July 4th, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Labor Day, President's Day, and Juneteenth.

* Approved the pay schedule for new town employees at the discretion of the highway superintendent: laborer, temporary, \$14.20 to \$15.50 per hour; laborer, full-time, \$14.20 to \$16.50 per hour; equipment operator, temporary, \$15.50 to \$20.25

per hour; and equipment operator, full-time, \$16.50 to \$19.75 per hour.

* Set the salary for the secretary/clerk for the planning board at \$14.20 to \$14.50 an hour.

* Named Supervisor Laraway as town budget officer.

* Appointed Brenda Lawyer as deputy clerk/tax collector and deputy registrar of vital statistics.

* Named Mr. Spickerman as town bookkeeper.

* Agreed to continue the Marjorie and Randall F. Becker Community Service Award given by the Town of Middleburgh. The nominating committee consists of town board members Supervisor Laraway and Councilman Steve Hendrickson, community members David Avitabile and Brenda Lawyer, Mr. Spickerman, and village representative Melanie Laraway.

* Approved the Volunteer Ambulance Workers' Benefits law to members of MEVAC for 2023.

* Appointed Councilman John Youmans as town board representative to the joint town-village planning board.

* Named Thomas Loucks as code enforcement officer, zoning officer, building inspector, and fire inspector.

* Named Joe Nelson as Mr. Loucks' deputy at no salary.

* Authorize the town clerk/tax collector to attach

a \$20 charge for all returned checks if the town is charged for this service.

* Appointed Ms. Lawyer as court clerk.

* Agreed to continue to carry Workers Compensation for MEVAC to be reimbursed to the town by MEVAC.

* Named Mr. Ansel-McCabe, Supervisor Laraway, and Judge Mike Guntert as

town marriage officials.

* Attached the planning board appointment schedule and the building fee schedule on the agenda for the annual re-organizational meeting so changes can be made at that time. Previously, the building fee schedule was a local law and required a public hearing in order to make a change.

SCS Plans Monthly PD Days for Rest of Year

SCHOHARIE - Schoharie Central School, for the remainder of the 2022-23 school year, will be setting a day each month beginning in February where there is a two-hour delay for staff development.

The first date that we will have the 2-hour delay will be Friday, February 3. On that day, buses will pick up students and doors will open two hours later, just as they would for a two-hour delay due to weather. Our staff and faculty will report to school at their normal times to focus on planning and improving how we deliver our academic program and support services. The two-hour delay would not apply

for morning BOCES students, who would be transported to their BOCES facilities according to the normal schedule.

While the district already has designated staff development days at different points during the year, the two-hour periods each month will allow us 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 understanding," officials said.

Valley Briefs

2023 Village Of Middleburgh Meeting Schedule

First Monday Of The Month @7pm
Location: 309 Main Street, Middleburgh, NY 12122
January 9
February 6
March 6
April 3
May 1
June 5
July 10
August 7
September 11
October 2
November 6
December 4



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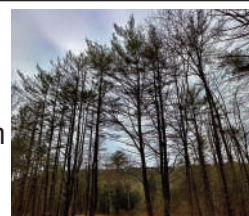
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Obituaries

Kay Stein



Catherine M. "Kay" Stein, of Maple Avenue found eternal peace on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

Kay was born 98 years ago on April 22, 1924, in Cohoes, to Mary C. (Finn) and James Smith.

Kay moved to Middleburgh in the 1940s, raising her family and becoming a fixture around the village. From greeting customers at the A&P with her husband Michael, to volunteering with ARC and the Friendship Club, a long-time member of the Middleburgh Volunteer

Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary and the Cobleskill Lodge #2040 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Ladies Auxiliary, Kay was active throughout her lifetime.

Kay worked at the Everything Shop in Middleburgh and sold AVON for many years, enjoyed visiting with friends, traveling with the Middleburgh Golden Age Club and never missed morning breakfasts at M&J's or the Middleburgh Diner, keeping up with local happenings. Kay was also famous for her signature rice pudding, sharing at every potluck to everyone's enjoyment.

Devout in her faith and a communicant of Our Lady of the Valley Catholic church, she was a member of the Rosary Society and also a Eucharistic Minister.

Kay will be loved forever by her son: Thomas (Terry) Stein of Latham;

daughter-in-law: Linda Stein of Middleburgh; her grandchildren: Christine (Ed) Lounello, Michael (Angel) Stein, Robert (Jamie) Stein, Lauren (Dan) Guasp, Jaime (Gary) Pickering; her great-grandchildren: Hans, George, Thomas, Ethan, Jaydan, Joshua and Eric. She was predeceased by her husband: Michael Stein and her son: James Stein.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10:00AM on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, Main Street Middleburgh. Inurnment will take place in Our Lady of Angels Cemetery, Colonie.

Memorial contributions in Kay's honor are requested to Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, PO Box 311, Middleburgh NY 12122 or the Middleburgh Vol. Fire Dept., PO Box 778, Middleburgh, NY 12122

Bob Staib



Bob Staib passed away on January 3, 2023 at his home in Jefferson, NY

After a mercifully short bout of cancer Bob left this earth with a Rolling Stones song playing in the background with his cigarettes and beer nearby.

Bob's wife Shannon, daughter Cara (Dillon McDonald), son Connor (Olivia Villamagna) will greatly miss his gentle spirit, wit and endless Peanut Gallery comments.

Bob moved to Jefferson in 1988 from Levittown, Long Island and began

the painstaking task of remodeling their family home. After putting his hand to carpentry, plumbing and drywall the "I'll just wing it" method that was Bob's style proved well. Their comfortable home has been enjoyed along with epic decks, outdoor bar and screen house.

He worked at Village, then Vasta's Pizza in Stamford for many years, and also worked for other restaurants in the area. When Shannon got her field tech position at Verizon Bob 'retired' to stay at home to raise the kids. The Staib home became the afterschool place for many of the childrens classmates to enjoy Bob's pizza bagels and play video games; there was always a pile a shoes in the front porch.

Bob will be missed by his wife's family: Heather, Kelly and Denis Mahaffy; his stepfather: Louis Desimone; and his brothers:

Russel, Ricky, Ronald and Raymond; as well as special friends: MA Ricca, Al Cozine and "daughter" Lindsay Gavette, Pat and Jim Dietz and a slew of friends and family from Long Island.

The family will be receiving visitors at MacArthur Funeral Home, 15 Buntine Drive, Stamford on Saturday January 14 from 2-6 pm. At a later date we will be sending Bob off in style when we can have the party that he requested, and we all deserve!!

The Staib family would like to thank Helios Care for their compassionate service and the staff at Fox Care for their help during our difficult time.

"Faith has been broken, Tears have been cried. Let's do some living, after we die" The Rolling Stones.

Please visit www.macarthurfh.com to share a condolence with the Staib family.

James Steven Wehmeyer



James Steven Wehmeyer, 87, of Jefferson, NY passed away at his home on Saturday morning, January 7, 2023.

Born on July 28, 1935 in Montclair, NJ, James was the son of the late Charles and Margaret (Alber) Wehmeyer.

James proudly served

in the US Army from 1958 until his honorable discharge in 1960.

He was a professional butcher, operating his own shop in Jefferson, Wehmeyer Custom Butchers, which he operated with his father-in-law and son. He also was a ceramist and assisted his wife in the operation of Wehmeyer Ceramics.

James enjoyed bowling and was active in several local leagues, he enjoyed camping with his family, and he was an outdoorsman and enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Besides his parents, James was predeceased by his son: James H. Wehmeyer II in 2005.

James is survived by his wife: Rosemarie Wehmeyer of Jefferson; son: Joseph Wehmeyer of Jefferson; grandchildren: Kyra (Matthew) McKissick of Jefferson and Adam (Casey) Wehmeyer of New Jersey; great-grandchildren: David James McKissick and Nora James Wehmeyer; a brother: John Wehmeyer of New Jersey; along with several nieces, nephews and cousins.

In accordance with James's wishes there will be no calling hours or funeral service.

Please visit www.macarthurfh.com to share a condolence with the Wehmeyer family.

Etheridge Goodfellow, Jr.



Etheridge Goodfellow, Jr. (Junior Goodfellow) of Ruskin, FL, formerly a long-time resident of Dover Plains, NY passed away at Lifepath Hospice House in Sun City Center, FL on January 7, 2023 at the age 82. He was born on May 27, 1940 to parents, Etheridge and Luella Goodfellow in Conesville, NY. An avid animal lover,

Junior worked on his family's dairy farm as a child and teenager. Later he worked 34 years at Taconic DDSO, in Wassaic NY as a supervising cook.

Junior loved going to watch stock car racing with his son, Michael, and he also loved to go hiking in the mountains of North West Connecticut and Upstate New York with his son, nieces, and nephews. He loved being outdoors, no matter what the weather. You could always find Junior outside gardening, landscaping, or snow blowing. Junior also enjoyed going to the county and state fairs to see the animals. Junior was also known to be a collector of many things; bird houses, die cast race cars, and

baseball cards. He loved watching sports on TV and going to Yankee Stadium.

Junior is predeceased by his parents and his sister, Mae Dunham, who gained her angel wings in 2022. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Goodfellow of Ruskin, FL; his son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Crystal Goodfellow of Riverview, FL; granddaughter, Julia Andrews of Riverview, FL; and grand pets, Jeter and Charlie; his aunt, Elizabeth Merwin of Weatherford, TX; many special nieces, nephews, and cousins; and several brother and sister in-laws.

A celebration of life will be held by the family at a later date.

Schoharie Promotional Seeking Contractors

By Joshua Walther

SCHOHARIE - Last Tuesday, the Schoharie Village Board convened to hold their first regular meeting of the year. During the privilege of the floor, members heard comments from a representative of the Schoharie Promotional Association, then sought to correct payroll for their employees. They also held their annual reorganization meeting at the same time.

After Mayor Larry Caza urged Diana Bell Jackson, the Vice President of Schoharie Promotional, to speak during public comment, she thanked the Board for their continued support and her excitement for promoting upcoming projects, going so far as to hint at one.

Schoharie Promotional plans to construct a small pavilion at Lily Park, much like the one found at Fox Creek. Mrs. Bell Jackson explained that the Association has already secured the grant and funding, and they're now able to move into contracting.

Mrs. Bell Jackson closed public comment by saying that, if possible, she'd like to gain the support of Amish contractors, believing that the pavilion would be built efficiently and it would help strengthen the bonds of community within Schoharie.

In other news, the members of the Village Board had to correct their 2022 payroll, as there was an error in the Village's system.

According to Mayor Caza, the payroll did not account for raises in 202 and only paid out the rates of 2021, thus requiring members to manually change several figures.

Some amounts were large and were worth looking into, such as a missing \$893 that belonged to Justice Kennedy

and \$112 that belonged to Mayor Caza. However, other amounts were negligible, such as offering some officers one to five dollars.

However, no matter what amount was owed, Mayor Caza was adamant in returning the money to the

rightful people that were affected.

Finally, the Board saved time by holding their 2023 reorganization meeting during the same time slot as their regular meeting, where they were sure to hold fast to old policies and reappointed trustees to be the same committee heads that they were before.

Rare, Bright Green Comet Flies By Earth To Stargazers' Delight

By Jennifer Patterson

It's a big week for stargazers.

For the first time since Neanderthals roamed the Earth, a rare green comet will be visible in the night sky, according to NASA.

Astronomers discovered the new C/2022 E3 (ZTF) comet last year, just in time for its closet approach to Earth. But after this encounter, it won't be passing by for a very long time — some 50,000 years or more.

Currently passing through the inner solar system, the comet was expected to make its closet approach to the sun, or perihelion, on Jan. 12, after which it will be visible to stargazers in the Northern Hemisphere. C/2022 E3 then passes closest to Earth on Feb. 2, when those in the Southern Hemisphere should be able to view it.

"Comets are notoriously unpredictable, but if this one continues its current trend in brightness, it'll be easy to spot with binoculars, and it's just possible it could become visible to the unaided eye under dark skies," NASA astronomers wrote on the "What's Up" blog earlier this month.

Marked by its bright green nucleus and long faint ion tail, observers in New York State will find the comet in



Photo courtesy of Jose Francisco Hernandez

the morning sky, as it shifts swiftly toward the northwest on the horizon throughout January. It will make its closest pass of Earth in early February, and during that time will be 26 million miles away from the planet, according to NASA. It will be close to Mars about a week later.

This flyby will be a rare occurrence when a comet can be seen by the naked eye without a telescope or binoculars.

Comets are basically clumps of frozen gases, rock and dust. When they approach the sun and heat up, they become powerful cosmic objects, spewing

gases and dust in such a way that forms their iconic shape.

Astronomers first spotted C/2022 E3 back in March at the Zwicky Transient Facility on Palomar Mountain in California. At the time, the comet was inside the orbit of Jupiter.

After its brief appearance in the Earth skies, it's unclear where the comet may go. It's possible for it to gain enough energy to fling out of our solar system, or it may remain bound to its elliptical orbit for another trip around the sun.

For information, go to <https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/topics/asteroids>.

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BOCES Construction Programs to Sharpen Knowledge, Skills

ALBANY and SCHOHARIE – A pair of Capital Region BOCES programs are being re-structured to better meet the needs of employers and students alike.

The Residential Construction/Heavy Equipment and the Commercial Construction/Heavy Equipment programs will have new names and refined curricula starting with the 2023-24 school year. The programs will now be known as Building Trades and Heavy Equipment Operation, Maintenance & Repair.

Both programs are located on the Career & Technical Education Center – Schoharie Campus.

Career & Technical Education Director Jeff Palmer said the changes allow BOCES to better reflect the needs of employers and allow students to get a more in-depth look into their chosen fields.

For example, Teacher Matt Millard said students in the re-branded Heavy Equipment Operation, Maintenance & Repair program will now learn how to operate drones.



Drones can not only help plan construction sites with their cameras, but using scanning technology, such as infrared, geo-locating and thermal sensors to assist in mapping construction sites and modeling construction projects.

“Drones are being used in many facets of construction and site work; Being able to operate a drone and know its use is a major bonus for students getting into this field,”

said Millard.

The Building Trades program on the Schoharie Campus will be a version of the same program offered on the Albany Campus and allow students to focus more on the physical side of construction, from building frames, floors and roofs to reading and understanding blueprints.

Students will even test their skills by constructing a tiny house.

“Our construction and

heavy equipment students are in high demand. Employers are constantly reaching out to us looking for new workers. We believe these changes will increase that demand and give our students even more resources to tap into as they build their futures,” said Palmer.

For more information on our programs, go to <https://www.capitalregion-boces.org/career-technical-education/courses-programs/>

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Library News

Middleburgh Library

Drop-in Storytime - There is no Storytime in January. 1/16 - President's Day - The library is closed to observe the holiday.

1/16 - 6:00 PM - Board of Trustees Meeting - Public is invited.

1/17 - 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.

1/17 - 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.

1/17 - 1:00-4:00 - Mahjong - Come join the ladies in a fun afternoon of Mahjong. If you don't know how to play, they will teach you. 1/19 - 11:00-12:00 - Home-school Science Club - We will meet every other Thursday and go over our science

fair projects, research, help each other and of course, do a cool experiment! This program is for home-schooled students ages 6 and up. Registration is required for each week, so we have enough materials.

1/20 - 5:30 PM - Dinner & A Movie - "Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris" (PG). Join us for dinner and a showing of the award winning film Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris. The library will supply pizza and drinks and you bring a dessert or snack to share.

In partnership with the House of Dior, "Mrs. Harris Goes To Paris" tells the story of a widowed cleaning lady in 1950s London who falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress and

decides that she must have one of her own. After she works, starves, and gambles to raise the funds to pursue her dream, she embarks on an adventure to Paris which will change not only her own outlook, but the very future of the House of Dior.

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

Please check our calendar on our website at www.middleburghlibrary.info for future programs. Also, don't forget our Facebook page.

Cobleskill Library
Thursday, January 12 at 1pm Library Board of Trustees monthly meeting. The Trustees meet upstairs in the Community Room and meetings are open to the public.

Thursday, January 12 All Ages Craft Buffet 4-5:30pm. All ages are invited to join us for open craft time at The Community Library. We'll have tables full of craft supplies available for participants to use, along with plenty of snacks and beverages. 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!

Saturday, January 14 the Library will be closed in honor of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Tuesday, January 17, 12:30-4:30 Tabling Tuesday: The Cancer Services Program

of the Central Region provides no-cost breast, cervical and colon cancer screening to qualifying individuals. January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month and CSP is spreading the word! Screening can prevent cervical cancer and CSP is here to make sure everyone with a cervix gets screened. The Public Education and Community Outreach Specialist will be at the Library to answer your questions and help determine if you qualify for no-cost screening.

Tuesday, January 17 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, January 19 at 5:30 pm Teen Advisory Board Help us make the Community Library a better place for teens! Join our new Teen Advisory Board and help the library choose new teen books, plan programs, and make our teen zone a fun space for teen patrons. Snacks provided. Open to 8th-12th graders (ages 13-18). For more information, email clittle@mvlis.info.

Thursday, January 19 at 6:00pm 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, January 20 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, January 24 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.

The Award-Winning Trivia Night@ the Library! returns January 26 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.

Saturday, January 28 at 10am Build and Play Saturday Stop by the library anytime between 10:00 and 1:00 for some free build time! We will have lots of different building sets, from simple wood blocks to LEGO, Magnatiles, and Goldie Blox. There's something for every age and skill level.

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.

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/ib/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 neigh-

bors 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.

Do you have used Inkjet or LaserJet toner you want to recycle? Please bring them to the Library. We recycle at Staples and use the rewards to supplement our office supply budget. The recycle box is under the card catalog by the water fountain.

The Library continues to offer curbside pickup.

A reminder that our weather closures will be posted on TV and our facebook and webpage. 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://communitylibrary.mvlis.info/>

Schoharie Library
518-295-7127
www.schoharielibrary.org

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

Virtual UFO Club: Thursday, January 12, 10am. Work on projects and chat on Zoom.

Signup: <https://bit.ly/SchoharieLibraryPrograms>

Teen Thursday: Every Thursday 5-7pm. Come hang

out in our Teen Room - socialize, create in our Maker-space, play board games, code with our Dash Robot, share book recommendations, and much more!! Ages 13 - Young Adult Welcome! No registration required.

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

Story Celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: Monday, January 16, 3pm. Read-aloud picture books to celebrate MLK's life and legacy. Includes a mindful writing prompt and craft.

Open Craft Buffet: Monday, January 16, 3:30-5:30pm. Stop by and use our materials to create something fun!

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

Middle Grade Book Group: Monday, January 23, 4:15-5pm: Children grades 3rd - 6th are welcome to join us. Refreshments, track reading to earn prizes. Sign up today at <https://bit.ly/MGBookGroupSHO>.

Knitcetera at the Library: Tuesday, January 24, 10:30am-noon. Embroider, sew, knit, anything goes!


Learn to Crochet: Tuesday, January 24, 4:15pm. <https://bit.ly/Crochet1-24-23>

Make a Macrame Plant Hanger: Tuesday, January 31, 4:15pm Register at: <https://bit.ly/Macrame1-31-23>

Rensselaerville Library

Rensselaerville Library is changing its hours of operation to add evening hours on Tues, Weds, and Thurs. The new hours are: Tues and Thurs from 10-1 and 3-7, Weds from 10-1 and 3-6pm, Fri and Sat from 10-2, Sun and Mon: closed.

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M'burgh Resident Retracts Information Request After Hearing Angry Speakers

By David Avitabile

MIDDLEBURGH - A River Street resident Monday night retracted his Freedom of Information request for all building permits, documents, and inspections, in the Village of Middleburgh from 2019 to 2022 after hearing speaker talk against the release of construction information and plans.

David Jeremenko, who has heavily criticized the village codes department in the past, filed a FOIL for all building permits, documents, inspections, etc. from 2019-22 at the village's year-end meeting. According to law, each document would cost Mr. Jeremenko 25-cents apiece.

On Monday night, several village residents and business people spoke against the request saying they spent a lot of money for plans for their new homes and construction and now the FOIL petitioner, who was not identified at the beginning of the discussion, would have access to all that information.

Village officials said they have to, by law, comply with the FOIL request and can only redact (omit) cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses. Building plans and other information would be public.

"People have the right to FOIL information," Mayor Trish Bergan said, but the village "does not

usually get requests for private property information, but it's in that request and we have to comply...It's a blanket FOIL, we have to comply with the law."

Village officials said they checked with the state NYCOM office about the request and were told they have to comply.

When village officials and residents were done, Mr. Jeremenko retracted his FOIL request, saying that he is sure the village will keep a closer eye on the issues he has raised.

Before Mr. Jeremenko retracted the request, residents said they were against their personal building being released.

"You're going to have a hard time with people

who spent thousands of dollars for their plans," said resident Rusty Wissert.

"That's wrong," said real estate agent Lisa Tenneson. "It's no longer a free country."

Mr. Wissert added, "I gave you those in confidence. It seems like a breach of contract between me and the village. We should protest, it's just ridiculous."

Resident Joan Wissert said, "It seems like there's an agenda." She said they will look into the legality of the request.

"We totally understand," said village Trustee Sheryl Adams.

"It's not our law," Mayor Bergan said. "It's the Freedom of Information

Act."

Ms. Wissert scoffed at the cost of 25-cents each for documents. That does not even cover labor and printing.

Resident John Wingfield said if the request requires a lot of effort to assemble, the village may be able to be reimbursed for the time, after the first two hours.

Ms. Tenneson said she would consult with her attorney. "It's very dishonest that someone would do that. It's just wrong...I will fight that. It's a very personal matter...It really feels like a slap in the face." A lot of people have put a lot of money into improving buildings in the village. Mayor Bergan replied,

"Let's find out what we can and cannot do."

Before the request went further, Mr. Jeremenko spoke and retracted his FOIL request.

"I've been asking for that information for years," he said.

He announced he is retracting his request, noting that he believes "things have to go by the books."

He added, "I pushed because I was pushed back."

Mr. Jeremenko addressed Mayor Bergan and said, "I give you my word, it's retracted. All I ask is that the village pay closer attention to that problem."

He also professed his love for the village.

MCS Officially Hikes Sub Pay

By David Avitabile

MIDDLEBURGH - After months of discussion, Middleburgh school board members officially increased substitute rates last month in order to meet the new minimum wage requirements and also to attract more subs.

The new rates are:

* Certified teachers from \$105 per day to \$125 a day.

* Non-certified teachers: \$90 per day to \$110 a day.

* Licensed teaching assistant: \$14 per hour to \$15 an hour.

* Certified registered nurse: \$105 a day to \$125

per day.

* Teacher aide/ bus aide/ monitor/cleaner from \$13.25 an hour to \$15 an hour.

* Bus driver: \$20 to \$25 per hour.

* Cleaner: \$13.50 per hour to \$15 an hour.

* Licensed practical nurse: \$115 per day.

Superintendent Mark Place recommended the pay increases last fall. He

noted that the state Department of Labor announced in September that the minimum wage for upstate New York would increase to \$14.20 an hour effective January 1, 2023. The legislature

has tasked the DOL with increasing the rate each year until it reaches \$15 per hour which will most likely occur by December 2023.

In the fall, Mr. Place noted that in comparison to other school districts in Schoharie County, MCS currently pays the lowest rates for certified/non-certified teachers.

At October's board meeting, he said, "As all school districts are competing for the same, limited pool of substitutes, we need to make sure that our rates are competitive in our own industry. Additionally, with fast food

workers across the state already making \$15 an hour, we need to be thinking about our substitute rates for all other non-teaching positions as well so that we can remain competitive in this tight labor market."

Mr. Place has presented a list of the current sub rates paid by MCS and a recommendation for new rates for January.

* * *

In other action, board members:

* Added Kayleigh Brodie as a certified RN substitute.

* Added the following support staff substitutes:

Taylor Olsen, Blakely Brown, and Madison Crandall..

* Approved a leave of absence for Candace Wood related to child birth starting around November 29, 2022 to January 24.

* Accepted the resignation of McKenzie Rivenburgh, effective December 9.

* Rescinded the appointment of Nicole Buccino originally approved at the November 26 meeting.

* Appointed Kayleigh Brodie as registered nurse.

* Approved the following updated policies after second readings: school safety plans, sexual harassment in the workplace, probation and tenure, corporal punishment, emergency intervention, concussion management, and child abuse and maltreatment.

* Heard business manager Robyn Bhend say an update on the district's payment in lieu of taxes projects, such as the Middleburgh Meadows condos, will be give at the board's January meeting.

M'burgh School Seeking Another Administrator

By David Avitabile

MIDDLEBURGH - For the second time in four months, Middleburgh Central School is seeking another administrator who came to MCS less than a year ago.

Sandra Pepicelli resigned as director of pupil personnel services at the December 21 board meeting. Her last day is January 13.

Ms. Pepicelli has been with the district since July 1st. "She is returning to the private sector. We will begin the process immediately to find an interim while we search for a permanent replacement," explained Superintendent Mark Place, who started during the summer.

The board accepted her resignation with regrets and best wishes.

"We're sorry to see you go," board President Pam Standhart told Ms. Pepicelli.

The departure follows the sudden resignation of school business administrator Francis Rielly, who resigned in the fall after just eight months in the district.

He was replaced by Robyn Bhend a month later.

Mr. Rielly, who was named to replace long-time business official Terry Gillooley in December 2021 and took office in January 2022, left less than six weeks since the district named Mr. Place as the new district superintendent.

School board members gave no reason for the sudden departure and Mr. Rielly did not address his leaving. His resignation took effect on November 5.

After several staff members including teachers, business office personnel, and other staff members spoke highly of Mr. Rielly and asked board members not to accept his resignation, the board went into executive session.

Board members then approved a slate of personnel moves including Mr. Rielly's resignation. There was no discussion on the moves and no explanation. Ms. Standhart did say that Mr. Rielly's resignation was accepted with regret. The resignation was also accepted with best wishes.

Mr. Rielly did not speak about his departure and showed no emotion, nor did board members.

M'burgh School Set to Start Work on 2023-24 Budget

By David Avitabile

MIDDLEBURGH - Now that the calendar has changed to 2023, Middleburgh school officials will begin work on the 2023-24 school budget in earnest.

School business manager Robyn Bhend outlined the 2023-24 budget calendar at the December 21 school board meeting.

Monthly budget work includes:

* December: Discuss and distribute budget guidelines to administrators/departments.

* January: Meet with budget builders throughout the month. On January 5, roll out individual education data and Excel spreadsheets to instructional staff. January 18, Board of Education meeting public session 6pm Budget Committee Workshop. Budget Information, 2023-2024 rollover budget and assumptions.

* February: Budgets (buildings, PPS, technology, athletics, buildings and grounds, transportation) due/reviewed. February 1, Budget Commit-

tee Workshop #2 Public Session 6pm, Preliminary Budget updates, review state aid estimates and tax levy limit. February 15, Board of Education Meeting Public Session 6pm Budget Committee Workshop #3, Preliminary Budget updates and estimated revenues. February 28, individual educational data and Excel spreadsheets submission and review.

* March: Preliminary Tax Levy Limit submitted to the New York State Office of the State Comptroller statutory Deadline is March 1 to submit the preliminary tax cap calculation. March 15, Board of Education Meeting Public Session 6pm Budget Committee Workshop #4, review of buildings and grounds/transportation/general support/debt service, Budget Review 2023-24 Preliminary Budget and Fund Balance projection.

March 29, Budget Committee Workshop #5 Public Session 6pm, review instructional (buildings, PPS, technology, athletics) and employee

benefits budget, Review 2023-24 Preliminary Budget and discussion. March 30, Legal Notice of School Budget Hearing and Annual Budget Vote 6pm.

* April: Prepare absentee ballot applications, absentee ballot, related envelopes, and directions Obtain & use locked ballot box for absentee ballots. Property Tax Report Card submitted to local newspaper Budget Committee Workshop #6 Public Session 6pm, review final Tentative Budget and estimated revenues. April 6, Legal Notice of School Budget Hearing and Annual Budget Vote 6pm. April 17, Deadline for filing Board of Education petitions and propositions for vote Must be submitted to the District Clerk by 5pm. April 18, Date of drawing by District Clerk for determination of order for listing Board of Education candidates on ballot Inform candidates of legal requirement for all candidates for election to BOE to file sworn statements of

campaign contributions and distribute informational material. April 19, Board of Education Meeting Public Session 6pm BOCES Budget Vote Adopt Tentative 2023-24 Budget for Voter Approval Appoint clerks and inspectors of elections for budget vote. April 20, Submit the Property Tax Report Card to NYS and distribute military ballots (no later than 25 days before vote). April 17-24, prepare Budget Workbook/Newsletter (finalize by April 25).

* May: May 3, Annual Budget Hearing/Board of Education Meeting Public Session 6pm. May 4, Annual Budget Hearing Presentation posted to the district's website Budget Newsletter/Notice mailed to eligible voters after budget hearing. May 16, annual Budget Vote/Proposition Vote/Board of Education Election noon-9pm, junior-senior High School gymnasium lobby, absentee ballots must be submitted to the District Clerk by 5pm on May 16.

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.

January 14

Roxbury FD BBQing Chicken

ROXBURY - Members of the Roxbury Fire Department will be firing up the pits for chicken barbecue on Saturday, Jan. 14 from 11 a.m. until sold out. Halves only, \$8/half.

July 15-23, 2023

Tour of Sicily. Through July 25 with Rome extension. Small group with 20 available spaces. grouptoursite.com/rosemariakeller 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/rosemariakeller

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



Lindsey Giagni
518-827-8888

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State Farm

M'burgh's MABA to Welcome Community Members

By David Avitabile
MIDDLEBURGH - In order to stay alive, the Middleburgh Area Business Association will be accepting community members next month. An informational meeting will be held on February 6 and the group's name will be changed to the Middleburgh Area Betterment Association. Several important members of MABA have decided to "step back" from their duties and not enough people are needed to help man the several projects that MABA oversees, such as the monthly Fourth Fridays during the summer, and the Miracle on Main Street in December.

Mayor Trish Bergan addressed the need for community help at Monday's village board meeting. "We need to get the community more involved," she said. "It has to be a community effort. It has to be more than five people. These events have grown in Middleburgh, thanks to MABA." Thousands of people attend the events in Middleburgh, she added. "We can't let it go away," Trustee Bob Tinker said. "We are known for our events," Mayor Bergan added. "It really does take a village. Without a lot of people to share the work, 'people burn out,' the Mayor said.

MABA's Joan Wissert said that during the summer it took her between 40 and 60 hours to organize the monthly Fourth Friday events. "It's a monumental effort," Mayor Bergan added. "We need help." The businesses are still needed, but the village needs a community committee, Trustee Tinker said. Ms. Wissert suggested changing the name to the Middleburgh Area Betterment Association, which allow the group to keep the MABA acronym. The group has leftover funds which will remain in the village's revitalization fund. It was agreed to form a new committee and Ms.

Wissert agreed to help organize it and will turn over the group's information. Resident Sean Lawton the group is very important to the village and is willing to take a leadership role. "If you need help, I'm here," Mr. Lawton said. "I want to keep it moving forward." It has been a difficult run, Ms. Wissert said. When it was announced that help was needed,

people showed up, for one meeting. She has an e-mail list of 72 people, but there are just not enough people who have time to help out. "We need people to step up and, 'It's crickets.'" Mayor Bergan added, "The call needs to go out now." MABA member Lisa Tenneson, who is also stepping back, said planning needs to start now for events.

The village will put a call for help for MABA in the newsletter. "The village will get the word out," Mayor Bergan added. The Wisserts said they will help out in the transition. "We're not walking away, we're stepping back," Rusty Wissert said. Trustee Tim Knight suggested having a recruitment meeting before next month's village board meeting.

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Kiwanis Spreads the Meaning of Christmas

Pictured above are members of the Schoharie Kiwanis Club and the Schoharie Fire Department delivering Holiday meals to the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Schoharie. This is the final event in a partnership developed between the two organizations which brings Christmas Time in Schoharie annually. The event starts with the erection of the town Christmas Tree and includes many children's activities, the Fire Department Parade, Kiwanis Tree lighting at the DAR and local businesses participation as well. This month Kiwanis and the Fire Department will commit to the continuation of this event for years to come. Other organizations who participate in Christmas time in Schoharie are, but not limited to The DAR, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Old Stone Fort, Schoharie Promotional Assn. and Scho-Wright Ambulance. Christmas Time in Schoharie is chaired by Amanda Stinson and Martin Ewald representing the fire Dept and Kiwanis.

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Town of Conesville Motor Equipment Operator Position

Full-time with Benefits

The Town of Conesville has an opening for a Motor Equipment Operator. Major functions of the position will include recurring manual work involving responsibility for the safe and efficient operation of various types of motor equipment and associated mechanical attachments. General instructions are received regarding routine work and detailed instructions are received regarding new or unusual assignments. Does related work as required.

Typical work included but not limited to operations of a dump truck, flatbed truck or similar type truck or single axis motor vehicle in connection with the removal of snow and transportation of various materials, tools, equipment, and supplies; Operates a loader or other general road construction equipment; Operates related minor equipment as workload demands; Performs preventive maintenance and general cleaning on assigned automotive equipment; Performs manual labor, such as loading trucks, digging ditches, flushing and cleaning culverts, shoveling snow, and road maintenance work.

Full performance knowledge, skills, abilities and personal characteristics: Good knowledge of the operation and maintenance of dump trucks, snow removal equipment, routine road construction equipment, and various other types of motor equipment and related attachment; good knowledge of traffic and other regulations governing the use of motor equipment and of the hazards and safety precautions involved in its operation; ability to perform routine maintenance, make emergency repairs and assist in general repair of the equipment; ability to understand and follow simple oral and written directions; willingness to respond to emergencies; dependability; good physical condition.

Minimum Qualification: Possession of a clean valid New York State CDL license (class B or higher). Must be able to pass a Town contracted physical exam and drug testing before starting work.

Starting Compensation: \$22.00 per hour, 75% town contribution to health insurance, 3% Town matching contribution to the New York State Retirement Plan. Full-time employees will receive a retention bonus of an additional \$4000 if continuously employed from December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2023 or a pro-rated amount if employed after December 1, 2022 continuously to November 30, 2023.

Interested candidates may request an application for employment from the Conesville Town Clerk at Conesville Town Hall, 1306 State Route 990V, Gilboa, NY 12076 during regular business hours or from:
https://www4.schohariecounty-ny.gov/PdfFiles/Personnel/Applicat_679.pdf

Schoharie Moving Forward with Highbridge Grant

By Joshua Walther
 SCHOHARIE - Members of the Schoharie Town Board met last Wednesday evening to discuss a new NY "FAST" grant application for the Highbridge site, along with a resolution to the

Norfolk Railway recycling bins and a list of potential candidates for the comprehensive plan committee.

With the help of Julie Pacatte from SEEC, the Town is planning on drafting an application for an infrastructure

grant for the Highbridge site.

The project would cover improvements to the water and wastewater systems, electrical system and transportation system upgrades, pedestrian sidewalks, and a fire tank storage and pump house.

In total, the project would cost approximately seven and a half million dollars, but if the Town is able to secure the grant, it would fund \$6.4 million dollars. From there, the Highbridge developer would pledge \$550,000 and county APRA funds would match the same number, leaving the Town having to pay only \$50,000 in the end.

Member Ben Oevering also went on to explain that even if the grant was approved but the Highbridge project fell through, they could still renovate the site for future development.

However, member Marion Jaqueway held a few concerns with the grant application. She expressed that she didn't want to feel as if they were pressuring the Planning and Zoning Boards to make a decision on the Highbridge project, and wanted to give the respective Boards time

to do their job.

Yet member Matt Brisley sought to put her fears to rest, saying "Approving the grant isn't the same as approving the project itself."

Mr. Oevering agreed with Mr. Brisley, but went on to speak about the potential development that comes with the Highbridge project. "We need to be supportive of economic development on this Board. Let the other Boards take their time, but we need to bring jobs and commerce to this area."

After a few more moments of deliberation, the Board unanimously agreed to follow through with the grant application, and they will seek to take the next steps necessary to secure the funding.

In other news, after the "insulting" letter that was sent to the Board by Norfolk Railway last

month, the members have agreed to move the recycling bins away from the leased land and down the street to the nearby fire department.

Though there were some concerns about people continuing to dump trash around the recycling bins, Highway Superintendent Les Foland believes that it will be less problematic than before due to the new area being under lights.

Finally, every member of the Board has nominated someone from the community to be a candidate for the comprehensive plan. After every nomination was in place, there were nine names listed, including Mrs. Jaqueway and Mr. Oevering. Supervisor Alan Tavenner will take the next steps to get into contact with every person and begin the appointment process.

Schoharie's VanBuren Earns Honors at SUNY Potsdam

POTSDAM, NY (01/11/2023)-- Isaiah-Eli Van Buren of Schoharie, NY was recently named to the President's List at The State University of New York at Potsdam.

Van Buren, whose major is Music Education,

was among 809 SUNY Potsdam students who were honored for academic excellence in the Fall 2022 semester. Officer-in-Charge Dr. Philip T. Neisser '79 recognized the students for earning top marks.

To achieve the honor of being on the President's List, each student must have satisfactorily completed 12 numerically-graded semester hours, with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

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All About Racing

By Ed & Betty Biittig
 News from NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series driver Stewart Friesen of Sprakers came in an announcement by the Halmar Friesen Racing (HFR) team that the No. 52 truck that Stewart drives will be sponsored by Ferris Mowers during six events on the NASCAR truck schedule in 2023. The announcement came out of the Briggs and Stratton facility in Sherrill, NY where Ferris mowers are engineered and manufactured. Ferris was founded in central New York.

The links between Ferris and racing run deep. The company's patented suspension system is inspired by stock-car racing. That suspension system is unlike any other in the outdoor power equipment industry and is prized by lawn contractors for its comfort, traction and mowing efficiency.

In addition to carrying the Ferris name for six events, the HFR No. 52 truck will also carry a memorial to Bill Shea, former Utica-Rome owner/promoter and a long time Ferris executive and strongly involved in racing throughout New York. Shea passed away this past fall.

Ferris will be featured as the main sponsor of Friesen's trucks at Texas Motor Speedway, Bristol Motor Speedway Dirt,

North Wilkesboro Speedway, World Wide Technology Raceway at Gateway, Nashville Super Speedway and the Milwaukee Mile.

Along with the sponsorship on the No. 52 truck, Ferris will also be an associate sponsor on one of Stewart's No. 44 dirt Modifieds for the season.

Other news from social media: Lebanon Valley regular, Brian Berger is preparing a car to run at the DIRTcar Nationals at Volusia in February for the Super DIRTcar Series.

Being in Daytona Beach we are anticipating the race teams coming in for the Rolex 24 Hours at Daytona at the end of the month.

According to a story in the Daytona News Journal, news out of Daytona for the Rolex, a team based out of Italy, Iron Lynx, a sports car team, announced that one of its Lamborghini entries will be piloted by an all-female team of drivers. Sara Body (Belgium), Rachel Frey (Switzerland), Michelle Gatting (Denmark) and Doriane Pin (France) will co-drive the No. 83 Lamborghini Huracan GT# EV02 in the GTD Class. This year's Rolex 24 is scheduled for January 27-28 at Daytona International Speedway.

On New's Day, Airborne Park Speedway in Plattsburgh had \$5000

to win, 100-lap Enduro and Richie Turner of Hightgate, Vt. went home with the big prize. Placing second was Rick Stiles of Dekalb Jct., NY and in third was Shawn Fountain of Plattsburgh, NY. Second and third paid, \$1000 and \$500 respectively.

Our next in person racing will be at Volusia for the Sunshine Nationals, January 18-21 when we will follow one of our Modified stars from the Northeast, Demetrios Drellos, of Queensbury, as he takes a second shot at a Late Model at Volusia Speedway. Drellos participated in the Battle of Barberville in December, his first time in a 602 Late Model and was fastest in opening night practice. He did not qualify as well but was able to finish seventh in the 30-lap feature.

Drellos said that with the experience he and his team should be able to come back with a more aggressive approach to race with the DIRTcar Pro Late Models. The Sunshine Nationals will bring many more cars and Drellos said there will be many heavy hitters in action and he thinks if they can just make the shows that will be good for his team.

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

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

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St. Mark's Lutheran Church
 Sunday 10:30 AM, 326 Main St., Middleburgh Middleburgh

Reformed Church
 178 River St. Middleburgh www.middleburghreformed.org
 Worship 11 a.m.
 Food Pantry open Saturdays, 9-11 a.m.

Sharon Reformed Church
 Sundays 10:30 AM
 5868 State Route 10 Sharon Springs, NY

The Warnerville United Methodist Church
 1615 NY7, Richmondville, NY 12149 Holds services every Sunday at 9 a.m.

(Children's Sunday School also at 9 a.m.)

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

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Evangelical Lutheran Church - Gallupville
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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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 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
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Schoharie Boys, Girls Sweep MCS for Scho-Burgh Wins

Photos by
Scott Keidong
Story by **David Avitabile**

COBLESKILL - The Schoharie boys shutout the Knights in the second quarter on the way to a 53-37 win Friday to capture the 2023 Scho-Burgh Cup at SUNY Cobleskill.

The Schoharie girls also won at the college, downing Middleburgh 40-25 for a sweep of the two varsity games.

In the boys game, the In-

dians led 9-7 at the end of the first eight minutes, but then totally shut down the Knights in the second quarter outscoring Middleburgh 15-0 to lead 24-7 at the half.

Middleburgh actually outscored SCS 30-29 in the second half but could never get close to the Indians after Schoharie's hot first half.

Preston DiGiovanni led Schoharie with 17 points while Nathan Burke added 15. Jesse Gell and Cody Hellstrom each scored seven

points. DiGiovanni hit two three-pointers and Gell had one three.

Eric Pickering led MCS with 10 points while Troy Cammer added nine points. Lucas Shaw scored eight points. Shaw hit two three-pointers and Pickering and Tristan Staccio had one each.

It was the sixth straight Scho-Burgh victory for the Indians, who will have a new nickname the next time the two teams meet at SUNY Cobleskill.

A PIECE OF LOCAL HISTORY AND FUTURE

Movies in Middleburgh

By **Bradley Towle**
MIDDLEBURGH

When Middleburgh's Valley Theater permanently closed its doors in the late 1970s (most evidence indicates 1976), the village lost its lone option for a local night out at the movies. Cobleskill's Park Theater has remained the sole survivor in the area, offering families an affordable night at the movies for over a century. However, with its one screen, the options have remained limited, an unfortunate circumstance for a county with such a rich film history.

When the village of Schoharie launched its Free Street Movie series on June 7th, 1917, it earned its place in history as the location of the first-ever free outdoor motion picture screening. As the silent era ended, Schoharie again solidified its place in history with the first-ever outdoor screening of a talkie on June 11th, 1931. A memorable centennial celebration in 2017 brought to life those early days and reminded the region of its unique connection to film history.

To bring back movies to Middleburgh and re-



connect Schoharie County to its relationship with film history, The Green Wolf Brewing Company, and Public House will begin screening films on Saturday, January 14th. Martin Scorsese's "The Last Waltz" will kick off the six-film series, which will run through March. "The Last Waltz" captures The Band's final concert on Thanksgiving night, 1976. In addition to The Band, guest performances from Dr. John, Muddy Waters, Joni Mitchell, and Bob Dylan enliven the performance, turning the concert into a celebration of The Band and its contribution to music. The Band composed and recorded some of their

best-known songs not far away in Woodstock, where drummer Levon Helm and bassist Rank Dank called home until their deaths, and organist Garth Hudson still resides.

The Green Wolf Film Series will take place on alternating Thursdays beginning on January 26th with 2018's "Thunder Road." The series aims to bring unique, offbeat, and engaging films to the community, offering old and new movies in a public setting as an alternative to streaming at home and expensive theater options. Suggested donations of \$5 will go toward funding the programming and equipment.



Jesse Gell outjumps Middleburgh defenders and tries to tip a rebounded Schoharie shot back into the basket.



Middleburgh's Emma Lacko attempts to block the shot by Schoharie's Emily Lehoe.



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Gilboa Changes Meeting Night for 2023

By Liz Page

GILBOA – Members of the Gilboa Town Board got organized for the new year with few changes, except their meeting night. Monthly meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Gilboa Town Hall. They also passed a motion not to allow all terrain or utility terrain vehicles to utilize town roadways.

The reasoning behind not allowing ATVs and UTVs to use town roadways is there are no established trail systems to access at this time. Supervisor Alicia Terry said there is a lot of concern over opening public highways to unregistered vehicles. She said they did review the town of Lexington's adopted law. She also cited the lack of options for enforcement.

The new digital sign at the town hall is up and running with new software and Town Clerk Linda Wyckoff said it is much clearer.

The town board also moved to install a fire

alarm system in the town hall, post office and highway garage at an annual cost of \$585 with installation and programming for the system quoted at \$2,700.

Under the highway report, Highway Superintendent John Wyckoff said he had received complaints from homeowners where the town plows dug up lawns at some locations, due to the lack of frost in the ground. While the town is not obligated to make those repairs, he said the highway department would do it as a courtesy.

He and Supervisor Terry also reported they had met with the city Department of Environmental Protection regarding the resurfacing of Road 7, which runs from state Route 30 to state Route 23 along the Gilboa Reservoir. Resurfacing is considered an impervious surface which requires their approval. "We would like to chip-seal another section of the road. There

are no pot holes in the section we did two years ago. Where it isn't surfaced it turns into pot holes," said Wyckoff. Both were optimistic the project may be approved.

As part of the organization for 2023, members of the planning board were reaffirmed and include: Mark Powell, James Moore, Cindy Buel, Patricia Coleman and Daniel Wright, with Christopher Albano serving a three-year term as alternate.

The land survey of town property is underway, which includes the Gilboa Museum and Juried History Center. It is expected to go before the town planning board next month. The town and the Gilboa Historical Society have been negotiating the sale of a portion of town property to the GHS where museum and center are located. There are plans to construct an addition to the building once the sale has been completed.

Council members also approved a number of facility use forms for a number of events scheduled by the GHS over the coming year.

Gerry Stoner, president, was also present to ask about construction of a ramp to mitigate the collection of snow and ice near the steps in the winter and provide a safer entrance. He was asked to present a drawing of those plans.

Routine appointments and designations included, the following: Mountain Eagle and Times Journal, legal newspapers; Wayne Bank and NBT, official depositories; mileage reimbursement 65.5 cents per mile; submission of monthly reports by the highway superintendent, code enforcement officer, planning board, town supervisor and deputy code enforcement officer. They reinstated the town's hiring procedure, approved the salaries and hourly rates of employees and

appointees; purchasing, investment and procurement policies.

They also established the policy for controlled substances and alcohol and testing of employees.

Appointments included: Joseph Moore Jr., dog control officer; Linda Wyckoff, registrar of vital statistics; Mary Wyckoff, deputy town clerk; Matthew Cammer, deputy highway superintendent; Janette Reynolds, town

historian; George Wilson, assessor chairman; James Moore, planning board chairman; Elsa Gonzales, planning board secretary; Joann Darcy Crum, town attorney; Brian Caron as CEO, floodplain administrator and fire inspector; Ron Barry as the deputy CEO, floodplain administrator and fire inspector.

The next meeting of the town board will be held Feb. 9 at 6:30 p.m..



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Windham Receives \$72K Grant

By Michael Ryan

WINDHAM - The town of Windham continues to be a money magnet with the awarding of a \$72,000 grant from the NY Department of State.

Those dollars will be used to help create an historic zoning law which is in the very early formative stages following the updating of the local Comprehensive Plan, last spring.

"This shows someone has their eye on Windham and what we're trying to do here," town supervisor Thomas Hoyt said, noting the matching grant requires a local contribution of approximately \$35,000.

Windham also recently received a \$300,000 grant via the office of NY State Senator Michelle Hinchey that is being invested in the construction of a \$3.5 million headquarters for the town ambulance squad.

That project is slated to be completed this coming spring, also serving as a new home base for mountaintop senior citizen meetings and activi-

ties.

"Not bad for a little town in the Catskill Mountains," said Hoyt, crediting the work of Delaware Engineering consultants Helen Budrock and Lindsay Allen for securing the latest funding.

"We applied for this last summer. It's a very competitive process," Hoyt said, pointing out the town board previously set aside the local share toward the matching grant, tapping dollars reimbursed as part of the Comprehensive Plan rewrite.

The welcome support arrives through the State's "Smart Growth Community Planning and Zoning Grant program."

Their announcement states, "the town of Windham will adopt new zoning regulations that implement a key recommendation of their 2022 Comprehensive Plan.

"The zoning will achieve Smart Growth by concentrating new development in hamlet areas, encourage compact and walkable communities

and protecting valuable scenic vistas and natural resources."

Hoyt explained that the zoning legislation is one element of the revamped Comprehensive Plan which identified a handful of priorities, leading to the formation of a citizens Implementation Committee.

That committee includes residents from various walks of life and has been very active over the past few months, carrying out the wishes of the community in the present and for the future.

"The first thing we got done was a Noise Law," Hoyt said of fresh rules approved last fall. "People in town supported it one-hundred percent.

"Next on our plate is updating our Site Plan Review, cleaning up some gray areas that exist such as the Sunset Clause," Hoyt said.

In the past, once a building project was okayed by the planning board, no timetables were established for getting started and completing the job.

Government leaders were faced with that situation related to a housing development along South Street that was authorized a decade ago.

Henceforth, startup deadlines will be incorporated into the law, mandating that a developer revisit the planning board if they exceed those parameters.

"The old law was good in its time but the world changes," Hoyt says. "We are nearly ready to introduce the revisions for public hearings."

When that task is finished, zoning takes center stage, potentially enacting rules that, in the past, would have been unthinkable in Windham.

"It is going to take some time to develop this. We don't want to rush through it. We will take the same approach as we took with the Comprehensive Plan, listening to feedback from the community," Hoyt says.

"We're one of the last ones up here to consider zoning," Hoyt says, noting the existence of guidelines in neighboring

mountaintop towns.

"Zoning has gotten a bad rap. People will still be able to do most anything but we don't want it to be a downfall for the community.

"I'm all for home rule and doing what you want to do on your property but at the same time, common sense tells you one person can't just do something that impacts thirty other people around them," Hoyt says.

"If someone does something in the middle of nowhere it doesn't bother a soul. But what if they want to do the same thing in a residential area?"

"The Comprehensive Plan spells out loud and clear that this is something the community wants to pursue in reasonable, common sense fashion so that's what we're working toward," Hoyt says.

Governor Kathy Hochul, announcing the grant for Windham and other municipalities, stated, "these programs are the cornerstone for revitalization projects aimed at fostering innovative

growth throughout the State.

"The fiscal year 2023 enacted state budget includes substantial funding for programs such as Smart Growth Planning and Zoning Programs, the Brownfield Opportunity Area, and the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program," Hochul stated.

"Sustainable and equitable community-driven programs are key to New York's economic comeback," Hochul said.

"As we work to recover from the pandemic, it is critical that we work with individual communities to turn their liabilities into unique assets. These development programs will put us on a path to creating a greener, more business-friendly New York," Hochul stated.

The Smart Growth Planning and Zoning Grant Program offers \$2 million for communities to develop comprehensive, municipal-wide plans and zoning ordinances, as well as targeted area plans and zoning.

Catskill Mountain Foundation's 25th Anniversary Kicks Off With The Missing Element

Fusing The Music Making Of Beatboxing With Street Dance Forms Breaking, Flexn, And Krumping

Hunter - January 10, 2023 - Catskill Mountain Foundation begins its 25th Anniversary year with an energizing music and dance collaboration with Works & Process at the Guggenheim. The Missing Element will perform at the Orpheum Performing Arts Center in Tannersville, NY on Saturday, January 21 at 7:30 PM.

Fusing the music making of beatbox with street dance, The Missing Element was commissioned by Works & Process to marry the cypher, widely found in rap, beatbox, and break dance, with the circular architecture of the Guggenheim.

Through a pandemic induced detour, a new collaboration took inspiration from the heart of Lincoln Center, the Reson Fountain. The Missing Element collaborators made up of members of The Beatbox House including Amit Bhowmick, Chris Celiz, Neil Meadows (NaPoM), Gene Shinozaki, and Kenny Urban, and



dancers including flexer Joseph Carella (Klassic), Krumper Brian (Hallow Dreamz) Henry, and breakers Graham Reese and Anthony Rodriguez (Invertebrate) created a

site-specific work, embodying wind, fire, water and earth to push the boundaries of creativity to inspire the spirit and recovery of New York. Now this mesmerizing

performance comes to the Orpheum Performing Arts Center in Tannersville through a collaboration between Catskill Mountain Foun-

ation and Works & Process at the Guggenheim. The Missing Element will perform at the Guggenheim on January 13, and will be in residence with Catskill Mountain Foundation from January 14-22.

The Missing Element will perform on January 21, 2023 at 7:30 PM at the Orpheum Performing Arts Center, 6050 Main Street, Tannersville, NY. Tickets can be purchased online at www.catskillmtn.org or by contacting the box of-

rice via email at boxoffice@catskillmtn.org or by phone at 518 263 2063. Note that online ticket sales close 5 hours prior to performance time. Tickets purchased ahead are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$7 for students. Tickets purchased at the door are \$30 for adults, \$25 for seniors and \$7 for students. For information about upcoming programs at Catskill Mountain Foundation, please visit www.catskillmtn.org.



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“Nature Calls: Conversations from the Hudson Valley” Celebrates One Year Anniversary



the team, gearing up to record another podcast (L to R: Linda Aydllett, Theresa Golden, Tim Kennelty, Annie Scibienski, and Jean Thomas)

By K. Fleig

For many people, podcasts have become part of life. Their popularity has grown year after year and, by some estimates, there are between three and four million of them, in over 100 languages.

What is the big attraction? For one thing, they are portable. You can press “play” and listen from almost anywhere. The variety of podcasts is seemingly endless too. Whether it’s one strident person yammering or a sweet story time for children, there is a podcast to suit everyone.

Podcasts can be fun, informative, entertaining, and they may open a whole new world for the listener. The locally produced “Nature Calls: Conversations from the Hudson Valley” is an example of such a podcast. It is also the rare podcast that focuses on our immediate area of New York State, though the information it offers is applicable to anywhere within USDA Hardiness Zones 4 through 6.

A team of five volunteers who graduated from the Master Gardener program at Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Columbia and Greene Counties share their love and knowledge of all things “nature” on the podcast they began streaming one year ago this month.

Jean Thomas and Tim Kennelty host the podcasts, while Theresa Golden, Linda Aydllett, and relative newcomer Annie Scibienski provide

technical support. Collectively, the five podcasters have an astonishing 250 years of gardening experience, and are passionate about sharing their knowledge while they, themselves, learn from their guest interviewees. Twelve additional Master Gardeners contribute to the show occasionally as well.

The team of five meet a few times a month to brainstorm ideas for upcoming shows. The team’s working relationship is “synergistic,” as Tim termed it, “And we have complementary skill sets.” Tim and Jean book people to interview, while Linda and Theresa edit the programs. “We just take out the ‘ums’ and ‘uhs’ to smooth it out,” Theresa explained. “It’s [like having] more power than skill,” Linda joked.

During a recent recording session at CCE’s Acra location, Jean and Tim interviewed a doctoral candidate, Luke Vitagliano, whose work is centered around nature and its affects on mental health. Watching everyone work together, it was apparent how much the members of the team genuinely like each other, and bring their own personalities to the program.

“We have a lot of fun while presenting something valuable,” Tim remarked. Throughout the interview, Jean and Tim both asked their guest questions and bantered with each other. It’s obvious they don’t take

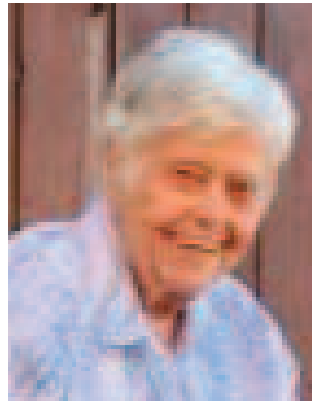
themselves overly seriously, yet they take the topics covered very seriously. “All the shows are grounded in science,” Jean stated. “I like to think that the show is like an educational version of “Car Talk.”

Every member of the team has their own area of interest and expertise. In addition to guest interviews, episodes may include a team member’s own segment. Past segments include: “Good Plant/Bad Plant;” “Hum of the Hive;” “The Veggie Patch;” and “Patch to Plate.”

Fifty-two shows have been recorded so far, with interviews that cover topics ranging from groundhogs to container gardening, maple sugaring to phenology (the study of cyclic and seasonal phenomena.) There have also been aural “trail walks.” We want listeners to become acquainted with all the many treasures available in the Hudson Valley,” Jean remarked. On a recent podcast Kathryn Schneider, author of *Birding the Hudson Valley*, was a repeat guest. She spoke about birds of prey in the area. Each episode is approximately one half hour long. “Nature Calls: Conversations from the Hudson Valley” can be found on CCE’s website: <http://ccecolumbia-greene.org/gardening/nature-calls-conversations-from-the-hudson-valley> and also on major podcast platforms such as Spotify and Podbean.

Obituaries

Mary Ruth Foglino



1934 - 2022

Our wonderful mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend, Mary Ruth Foglino of Hunter, New York (formerly of Smithtown) passed away peacefully on Monday, December 5, 2022 in New York City. Mary Ruth was 88 years old, born November 8, 1934 in Brooklyn, daughter of the late Angela (McCabe) and Edward G. Willmann. Her husband, Hank Foglino died in 2014. Her brother, James Willmann, died in 1992.

Mary Ruth grew up in Brooklyn and spent summers in Haines Falls at

her family’s cottage. She graduated from Bishop O’Donnell High School and from the College of New Rochelle, and received her Master’s Degree from Hunter College. She spent most of her career as an Itinerant Teacher of the Blind with BOCES in Suffolk County, New York. After her retirement, she focused on her grandchildren, her volunteer work with St. Vincent DePaul food pantry at St. Joseph’s Parish in Kings Park, and more recently, with Mountaintop Historical Society in Haines Falls. She enjoyed spending time with her family, reading everything, decorating her lovely home, traveling, and the New York Times crossword puzzle. Over the years, she amassed a truly amazing collection of seashells from all over the world. Relaxing wasn’t Mary Ruth’s style - she was happiest when she was busy helping others.

Left to miss her earthly

presence are her children: Jeanne Young of Glenford, Gregory (MaryKate) Kroyer of Jewett, Mark Kroyer of Saugerties, Paul (Tammy) Kroyer of Lebanon, Tennessee; stepchildren: Annette Foglino of NYC and Paul (Libby) Foglino of Brooklyn; grandchildren: Awa Kroyer (Andy Sold), Mato Kroyer (Naomi Iguchi), Cody Kroyer, Kaylee (Patrick) Davis, Mondo Young, Francesca Foglino, Sundee Kroyer, Lucia Foglino, and Kelsee Kroyer; and her first great-grandchild, Arlo Sold. First cousins Mary Beth (the late Jack) Ward of Forest Hills and Nancy (Ed) Bodmer of Braddock Heights, Maryland. And countless friends, old and new.

Mary Ruth will be remembered with a Requiem Mass at 11:00am on January 28, 2023 at the Immaculate Conception Church in Haines Falls with a gathering for family and friends to follow.

Ann H. Robison



Ann H. Robison, age 83, passed away on January 8, 2023, with her children by her side.

She was born on May 29, 1939, to Laura and Tunis Rappleyea in Lexington NY.

Ann loved crafts, flowers and spending time with her family. She was a homemaker most of her life, but also worked at Mallinckrodt for a short time. She volunteered at Core Values in Stamford, where she made many friends. She was very loved by all who knew her, and especially by her family.

She is predeceased by her husband, Charles Robison, two sisters, brother, and her parents.

She is survived by her children, Nancy (Bob) Sakowski of North Carolina, Sue (Frank) McMa-

hon of Stamford, James (Deborah) of Prattsville, Stacy Robison (Austin Wart) of Cooperstown and Robert (April) Robison of Gilboa; her sister Betty Potter of Lexington NY; nine grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be private. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to your local fire department in Ann’s memory.

Please visit www.macarthurfh.com to share a condolence with the Robison family.

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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 Wind-

ham, 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
54 Route 56, Maplecrest, NY
518-734-4275
Sundays at 10:30 am
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Jewett Presbyterian Church
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518-424-2919
Sundays 10:00 AM
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Mitchell Hollow Mission Church
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Sundays at 11:15 AM
www.Mitchellhollow.org

Windham-Hensonville United Methodist Church
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Find us on Facebook

St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church
5188 Route 23, Windham
518-734-3352
www.Sainttheresas.weebly.com

Lexington / West Kill United Methodist Church
54 Greene County Route 13A
Lexington NY 12452
AM Church Service 9:00
Sunday morning

Discover Life Church
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Prattsville, NY 12468
518-299-3321
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Out Lexington Way

By Christine Dwon
Van Dusen's in Lexington has expanded the store hours. They will be open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Be sure to stop in! What a great performance by the HTC School Chorus at the RPI arena in Troy on Jan. 7. They sang "The Star Spangled Banner" and "O Canada" at the ice hockey game RPI versus Cornell. They were allowed to go "back stage" and watch the RPI players come out of the locker room door to go onto the ice for introduction and the chorus sang from the home bench.

If you would like to provide humanitarian aid for Ukrainian children, women, men and soldiers, there is a collection box in the vestibule of Van Dusen's in Lexington. Items needed are thermal underwear, thermal socks, sleeping bags, hand, foot and body warmers, night lights, flashlights, warm clothing and letters with words of support.

Happy birthday to Mary Palazzolo on Thursday, Jan. 12.

Jan. 12 is also Diane Cross's birthday.

Roseann West celebrates her birthday on Friday, Jan. 13.

Happy birthday on Saturday, Jan. 14 to Maurice Nelson.

Mike Ryan's birthday is Sunday, Jan. 15.

Monday, Jan. 16 we wish Jannel Mellott a happy birthday.

Bridget (Osborn) Watson's birthday is Tuesday, Jan. 17. Thank you for your service, Bridget.

Best wishes to everyone.

The Town of Lexington Fire/Rescue Company Ladies Auxiliary will not meet during the months of January, February and March.

Friday, Jan. 13, at 5 p.m., is the next covered dish Dinner Church to be held in the Lexington/West Kill UMC in Lexington. This is a celebration of Three Kings Day. We will read scripture, sing hymns, enjoy Rosca de Reyes - Three Kings Bread decorated with dried fruit "jewels"

and take a swing at the pinata. Please join us, families are welcome. Any questions please contact Pastor Amy Royal at 845-706-2296.

There will be a Brooks Chicken BBQ on Friday, Jan. 20 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., take out only, at the Kaaterskill UMC in Tannersville. Dinners are \$15. You may pre-order by calling Kelly at 518-956-3551 and leave a message.

The Greene County Department of Human Services Senior Nutrition Program menu for the week of Jan. 16 - Jan. 20 is as follows: Monday—Closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—no meals; Tuesday—BBQ chicken thighs, baked beans, collard greens, cornbread, peaches; Wednesday—Hungarian goulash, spinach, red cabbage, egg noodles, birthday cake; Thursday—Roast beef with gravy, California mixed vegetables, mashed potatoes, Pineapple Delight; Friday—Chicken Divan, Monaco vegetable mix, white rice, fresh fruit. The menu 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 Advisory Council to the Greene County Department for the Aging (Human Services), announces that nominations are being accepted for the annual Greene County Senior Citizen Awards. The two awards, presented annually, are Senior Citizen of the Year and Outstanding Contribution by a Senior Citizen. The purpose of the awards is to recognize the outstanding contributions and achievements of senior citizens who have volunteered their time and energy to help other people, their communities, and/or

special projects. The dedication of these volunteers help to make Greene County a better place for all of us. The individuals chosen on the county level will then represent Greene County for recognition for New York State awards.

Any Greene County resident, age 60 or older, can be nominated for these awards. Achievements must be voluntary in nature, performed in Greene County and not part of paid employment. Past award winners may be nominated only if seven or more years have passed since last recognized.

If you know someone who deserves this recognition, contact the Greene County Department of Human Services at 518-719-3555 for an official nomination form. Incomplete forms will not be considered as eligible. Any inquiries for further information may also be directed to the department. Deadline for entries is Jan. 27, 2023.

There will be a combined worship service of the Mountain Top Parish churches—Kaaterskill UMC, East Jewett, Windham-Hensonville UMC, Ashland UMC, Lexington/West Kill UMC and Lanesville UMC, on Sunday, Jan. 29 at 10 a.m. in the Kaaterskill UMC in Tannersville. All welcome.

The Lexington/West Kill UMC Trustees will hold the annual TGIF (Thank Goodness It's Friday) Brooks Chicken BBQ on Friday, Feb. 10 at the Lexington church, 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., take out only.

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.

Ashland Speaks

By Lula Anderson
What have I been doing the past week? I have been spending time with my plants, watering them. Talking to them, dusting the leaves. Trying to make them bloom. One of my orchids has a lot of buds, trying to get the others to take notice. You should see Vicky's unusual orchid. It looks like a spider orchid. Beautiful blooms, light scent. All that an orchid should be. My amaryllis has leaves. For the past 3 years, that's all I have gotten out of it. I remember going to Alvena Hitchcock's house and looking at her beautiful flowers in January. So jealous.

Haven't heard of too much happening. Dinner Church is Friday, January 13 at 5PM at Lexington UMC. An exciting program is planned. A celebration of Three Kings Day: Scripture will be read, hymns sung, Bat the Piñata, and enjoy Rosca de Reyes, Three Kings Bread decorated with dried fruit jewels. All are welcome.

The January "Fifth Sunday", the combined service of the Mt Top UMC parishes will be held in Tannersville (Kaaterskill) on January 29th at 10 AM.

The Drama Club of WAJ is working diligently on the production of AN-NIE. Dress Rehearsal for district Senior Citizens will be on March 15 at 5 PM with the show starting at 6. Come and support our kids.

February will be here before we know it. Let me know what YOU and your organization has planned.

Cares and Concerns: Prayers and get well wishes for Louise McRoberts, Mike Laterza Jr, Leona Knox, Opal DeLong, Jon Todd, and Jack Rappleeya.

AS I REMEMBER IT
As most of you know, I was a friend, Rose Hudecek. I spend at least one day a week with her, after hairdresser, I stop by and eat lunch with her. It's been something that we both look forward to. Rose turned 102 and I thought I would tell you

about her. Rose was born in Czechoslovakia, the Moravian section, not far from Austria. When she was 3 months old, her mother and father bundled her up and booked passage to NY Harbor and Ellis Island. As it was normal at that time, they settled in the Czech section of NYC, near the Fulton Fish Market. Rose's mother, Anna, hated the smell of fish, so they kept moving, block by block, until they wound up on Staten Island. Anna joined with a group of women who cleaned offices and businesses at night. Her husband, Tony, worked at many odd jobs and wound up as a cook in many establishments. When Rose was 5, her brother John Rehaneck was born. After graduating from New Dorp High School on Staten Island, Rose attended beauty school in Manhattan and got a job near Broadway as a hair dresser. Broadway stars would drop in between shows to have their nails tipped (polished applied just on the tips to extend a manicure). Patrons would stop in before a show to know they always looked their best. It was a hard life, but helped pay the bills.

The Czech people have a gymnastics club called Sokol which was also a social club. Dances were held on Saturday nights and it was THE place to be. It was there that she met Marty Hudecek who was a trumpet player in the band. Rose loved music and to dance, Marty loved music, but not dancing. You'd think that would not be conducive to dating, but they worked it out just fine. She danced all night with their friends, then let Marty take her home. On May 30th, 1941, they were married. Their oldest son, Marty Jr was born in Flushing.

Anna still hated city life, her and Tony came from a very small village and was always looking for someplace quiet to move to. On weekends the five of them would jump in the car and travel to different country lo-

cations. One weekend they traveled to Ashland and before long, Anna and Tony bought the old Telemark boarding house Marty loved being in Ashland, and before long they rented a house on Sutton Hollow Rd owned by Claude Christian. Kenny was born during this time. They soon met Sherman Munger who convinced Marty to start raising chickens as there was a chicken barn on Rehaneck's property. They moved back in there, and Janet was soon born. Always looking for work, Marty became a handyman and became acquainted with Fred Weber who knew of a perfect house for them in Jewett. In 1950, they bought the house and in 1951, Judy was born.

While Marty worked as an accomplished builder, Rose took care of the chickens that they raised on their own farm. Needing freezer space, they wound up putting in a walk-in freezer and cooler, then buying Knoth's lockers which they rented out. Farmers soon asked them if they would cut up their cows and pigs, and with the help of Tony and many charts, they learned how to butcher meat.

Rose always helped out at school events, was a girl scout leader, worked the jewelry table at St Theresa's bazaars, baked for bake sales and enjoyed being prompter for plays which my mom acted in. She was active in the WAJPL Golden Age club and Good Sam RV Club.

A funny story, when they lived in Flushing, her brother, John, was supposed to babysit little Marty. He wanted to hang with his friends, so he would take Marty with him to Georgie Wiegand's house where mom, Ginny would watch him, unbeknown to Rose. One day the Wiegands came to stay at the Telemark. Marty ran up to Aunt Ginny with hugs and kisses. What a shock for Uncle John to be caught after all that time.

Yes, at 102, Rose is starting to lose a little, jump in the car and travel to different country lo-

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The Prattsville Scoop

By Abby and Gabby
 PRATTSVILLE – Time to again thank our health-care workers for their unflagging dedication to keeping us healthy and safe. Thank you. And thank you also to those who support our health-care system and all essential workers. We send you the best for a happy and healthy 2023.

Who can deny that our football community is setting the example of how people should act towards one another. When one is in danger, the others circled around him with love and prayers. Wish more of us would follow their example. Not a derogatory word, quite the opposite, only respect and encouragement. Are you listening? **GO BILLS.** Blessings for Damar Hamlin 3. The USA is cheering for you. Heard from acquaintances in Missouri and Athens, NY, one time resident of the Rochester area, who are “die hard” Bills fans

Everyone is doing pretty much what we all are doing -staying pretty close to home with holiday fatigue, virus fears or just enjoying our snug homes. When we are not doing that, we are keeping medical appointments and catching up on unfinished projects or just lazing about.

Mary and Ron Cline received the wonderful news that their eldest granddaughter, Isabelle, has been accepted at nursing school and will be attending college to begin her professional training. We need more entering this profession so we wish her good luck and ask for blessings upon her. Our best to you Isabella.

The Prattsville Fire Company had its first meeting of the year with dinner and annual elections. 41 members at-

tended for roll call! Election results were: Jim Dymond, Chief; Dave Rikard, President; Tom Olson 1st Assistant; Eric Dymond, Vice President; Ted Weigates, 2nd Assistant; Deb Dymond, Treasurer; Cole Weingates 3rd Assistant, Ray Bracaliello, Secretary, Randy Brainerd, Sr. accepted appointment as Safety Officer and Elliot and Mary Jo Oakes continue as our Chaplains. The construction of the new fire truck, which may be viewed on Facebook, continues on schedule for April, 2023. Congratulations to all for your accomplishments. Thanks to Dave Rikard for this information.

Pat and Schuyler Minew were in Kingston on Thursday, a day early to celebrate Schuyler’s birthday on Friday, the 6th. Schuyler gets to share his birthday with his cousin Jimmy Delmar (Shelly Brainerd’s brother) and his late Aunt Martha Delmar Marsh. Many Happy Birthday wishes Schuyler.

Had a most enlightening conversation with fellow columnist Chris Down. The enlightenment lasted 1 hour but came with an oath of secrecy so there you are – nothing to follow.

Can tell you that Arnold and Diana Jaeger are putting the finishing touches on their updated enclosed front porch. It is now a matter of choosing the interior paint colors. Diana and Arnold are both avid readers so it will bring joy to sit there in the warm sun enjoying their latest novels.

Hey you history aficionados in Schoharie County did you ever hear of Deyo’s Photograph Gallery, Schoharie, N.Y., circa late 1800s or early 1900s? Have a sepia tone photograph of a gentleman from that era taken at the Deyo’s Photograph Gallery. Have no idea the identity of the gentleman but he is quite handsome and not to be ashamed of. This picture was among those pictures that had the photo of Lydia Briggs with them. Any ideas?

Just lately realized that many of those who lost their possessions in the flood of 2011 among those treasures would be their family and friends photographs. Most of us have duplicates or even triplicates of pictures, some with slight variations, that can be given to your friends and neighbors who lost so

much. Have started sharing with family and friends and this little gesture is truly appreciated. And your heirs will appreciate this – it is one less chore they will eventually have to do. So during the long winter days, get out those pictures and start giving them away. To share, I

have family pictures of the Deyo sisters (Martha (Howard), Mary (Clinton?), Mabel (Smith) and Emma (Drum) and their extended families. Do you hear that Barbara Drum Dodge? It also includes members of the Rappleyea family – Paul Mead’s mother Bertha Rappleyea and his Haner

grandmother. Think his grandfather’s name is Vernon Rappleyea. The Deyo sisters’ mother was Rosalie Haner (Mrs. Erastus) of Hensonville but not sure what the names of her parents are. Pat Morrow?

Happy Birthday to Michael O’Hara Sr. on January 17. Derek Brig-

gs is wished Happy Birthday on January 18. Phyllis Raeder and Benny Benjamin are wished Happy Birthday on January 19. Happy Birthday to Marianne Krauss and Theresa Speenburgh on January 20. On January 21 it is Happy Birthday to Freda Fancher and Doug Slater.

LOCAL HISTORY BY DEDE TERNS-THORPE

Travel to the Mountain Top



Oliver and Delaware R. R. Station, at Haines Falls, Catskill Mountains, N. Y.

By the time you read this, Christmas, and the New Year, will be behind us, and hopefully, they were pleasant holidays. By now, most of us have made healthy New Year’s resolutions and will begin to adhere to them (at least for a while)!

Today’s information came from a small pamphlet written by Victor A. Lemaitre back in 1971 (it’s hard to believe that was 51 years ago), titled “When I First Came to Twilight Park.”

(Note: He described the arduous trip to the Mountain Top in a slightly more descriptive and humorous manner than we usually find.)

Lemaitre said an informed traveler would have known to travel to the Catskills by the Hudson River Day Line. The boat would leave West 42nd Street at 9:00 a.m. and 125th Street at 9:30. A private stateroom and deck, along with spectacular views of the Hudson River, would make for an enjoyable six-hour trip. He noted that the Hudson River was “Still unpolluted and undefiled” at that time.

Lemaitre said that when he first came to Twilight in 1926, he came by train. You took a 9:30 ferry from West 42nd Street to Weehawken, N.J., then boarded a West Shore Railroad train to Kingston. At noon you

transferred to an Ulster & Delaware train, which he said: “would meander, puffing, panting, and laboring through the mountains, stopping at Phoenicia, Lanesville, Chichester, Stony Clove, Hunter, Tannersville, Haines Falls, and the Mountain House.”

Lemaitre said, “Neither the West Shore nor the Ulster & Delaware were roads of anthracite (hard coal). They burned bituminous or soft coal. Nor was air-conditioning even in the dream state at that time.” He said his coach was sweltering, and bits of coal particles blackened his face and clothes. Perspiring, with his collar wilted and his face dirty, he finally arrived in Haines Falls around 4:00 p.m. (Exhausted)!

Lemaitre said another option was to take the New York Central to Greenport,

across from Catskill. From there, you took a “rickety little ferryboat, ambitiously named Queen Mary, that would take you across to Catskill to meet your driver and take you to your hotel.” (The 1935 opening of the Rip Van Winkle Bridge eventually ended the Queen Mary).

Lemaitre’s little pamphlet also gave us insight into the 1926 day-to-day living on the Mountain Top. He said, “Very few people had cars or telephones. If you kept house, you relied on Mr. O’Brien’s grocery store (Twilight Groceries), which made deliveries and, at the same time, took orders for the next day. Legg’s Dairy brought your milk and cream in a bottle to your door. Butch Haines delivered your meats. You used a coal stove to cook (in Twilight) and to heat your

water, and your coal was from a wonderful Irishman, Mike Leach, father of the present owners of Colonial Coal Yard. Electric refrigerators were only then beginning to be popular. Ice boxes were in common use, and three times a week, the Park truck delivered ice harvested from the reservoirs during the winter.”

Haines Falls had a drugstore where sodas and malted milk were available. At the intersection of 23A and county route 18 stood Renner’s Mountain Inn. “A roadhouse, a wicked place during the Prohibition era, where excellent applejack and very passable beer were obtainable.”

Thanks to Victor Lemaitre for an inside look into life on the Mountain Top one hundred years ago.

Have a good week and a Happy and Safe 2023.

Stephen McCormick Joins National Bank Of Coxsackie As VP/Commercial Loan Officer



Coxsackie – The National Bank of Coxsackie announced today that Stephen McCormick has joined National Bank of Coxsackie as its newest Vice President/Commercial Loan Officer.

McCormick comes to National Bank of Coxsackie with over 10 years of experience in the Banking Industry. He joins NBC from Sunmark Credit Union, where he was a Business Loan Officer in the Albany area. His experience focuses on developing relationships with Commercial Clients and servicing those relationships.

“I am excited to join the NBC team.” McCormick said “I am also

looking forward to being a part of the growth strategy they have for the Capital Region”.

National Bank of Coxsackie CEO John A. Balli is excited to continue adding more talent to the team as well, saying:

“Stephen brings significant experience in commercial lending to NBC, and we are excited to grow in the Capital District with our premier business banking solutions.”

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Casa Valentina Coming to Hunter

By Michael Ryan

HUNTER - Gender boundaries are being pushed - whether they ought to attract special attention or not - with the upcoming production of "Casa Valentina" at the Doctorow Center for the Arts in Hunter.

"Casa Valentina" has a fabulously flamboyant and largely unknown - or more accurately, readily shared - mountaintop history.

This hidden-in-the-hills story will be one of three staged readings, joined by the blushingly-titled "Vagina Chronicles" and the cremation chuckler "Exit Laughing," happening over four nights and afternoons in February.

"Casa Valentina" was written by Harvey Fierstein and is directed locally by Timothy Dunn, having a solo debut on Tuesday, February 14 - Valentines Day, of course - at 7 p.m.

"The Vagina Monologues" are originally authored by Eve Easter and locally directed by Patricia Charbonneau, also opening by themselves on Friday, February 17 at 7 p.m.

"Exit Laughing," written by Paul Elliott and locally directed by Linda Nichols, starts an anything-but-funereal weekend, staging 2 p.m. matinees on Saturday, February 18 and Sunday, February 19.

Those who don't die giggling, and anyone else, can then attend returns of "The Vagina Monologues" on Saturday night at 7 p.m., and "Casa Valentina" on Sunday night, also at 7 p.m.

Auditions for the three- some of plays took place, last weekend, calling upon the talents of actors and directors from near and far, hosted by the local Maude Adams Theater Hub, produced by Amy Schibe.

"Casa Valentina" flashes an impressive legacy, premiering on Broadway in

Maude Adams Theater Hub presents



Directed by Patricia Charbonneau
February 17th & 18th @ 7:00

Doctorow Center for the Performing Arts
7971 NY-23A, Hunter, NY 12442

Self-explanatory perhaps best describes "The Vagina Monologues."

Maude Adams Theater Hub presents

Exit Laughing



by Paul Elliott



Directed by Linda Nicholls
February 18th & 19th, 2:00pm

Doctorow Center for the Performing Arts

Death can be sort of funny in "Exit Laughing."

2014, weaving a tale of the real life Casa Susanna, a well-veiled and discreetly popular weekend getaway in the town of Jewett.

Its guests were not the usual immigrant folks and families seeking respite from the hustle and bustle of New York City - or

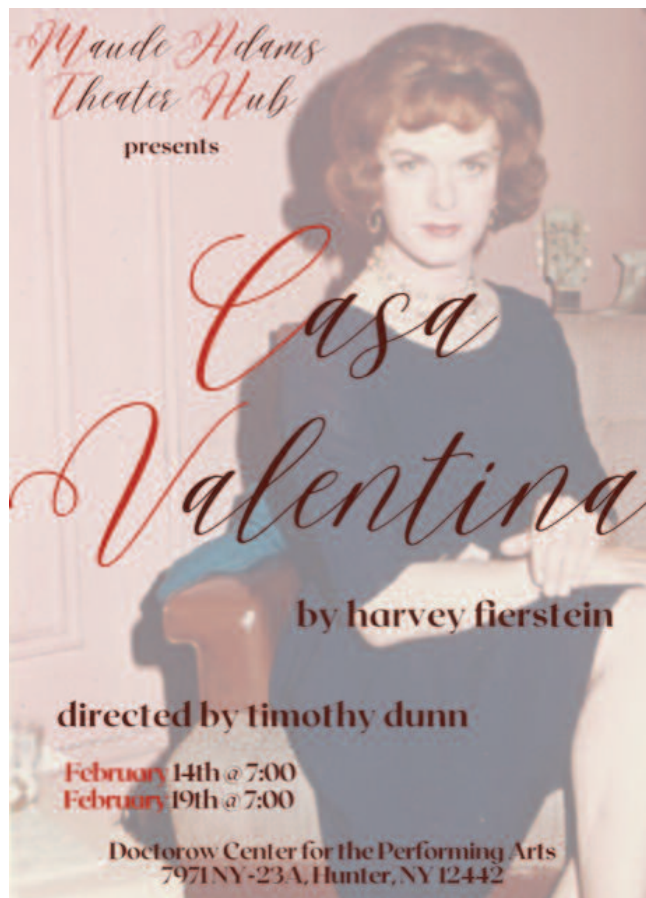
were they?

Who they were, were mostly heterosexual men who, in the early 1960's, journeyed to a bungalow camp along Route 23C where they freely and unashamedly dressed and behaved in unfettered feminine fashion.

The play is inspired by



Maude Adams Theater Hub is hosting 3 performances during Valentines Day week, produced by Amy Schibe (far left) and directed by (2nd left to right) Linda Nicholls, Patricia Charbonneau and Timothy Dunn.



Interesting local history is revealed within the play "Casa Valentina."

the book "Casa Susanna," written by Michel Hurst and Robert Swope, which collected photographs from a cross-dressing resort of the same name, a whisper away from the current Jewett town hall.

Fierstein, the playwright, thanked Katherine Cummings "who not only lived it but was willing to tell me about it. She can attest that none of this is true but all of it is accurate."

"The Vagina Monologues," a popular national show, was staged locally 20 years ago by the Greene Room Players, drawing packed houses at the Red Barn theater in Hunter, similarly directed by Charbonneau.

"Each of the monologues deals with an aspect of the feminine experience, touching on matters such as sex, sex work, body image, love, rape, menstruation, female genital mutilation, masturbation, birth, orgasm, the various common names for the vagina or simply as a physical aspect of the body," a

Wikipedia plot summary states.

Various emotional and cultural themes are touched upon such as, "I Was There in the Room," a monologue in which Eve Ensler describes the birth of her granddaughter in graphic detail and positive wonder."

While the original purpose of the Monologues was a celebration of vaginas and femininity, it changed to a movement to stop violence against women.

This was the start of the V-Day movement which has continued strong every year since, has turned into a worldwide phenomenon and a very successful non-profit organization," Wikipedia states.

"Exit Laughing," according to a synopsis by Dramatic Publishing, asks and answers the question, "when the biggest highlight in your life for the past 30 years has been your weekly bridge night out with the "girls," what do you do when one of your foursome inconveniently dies?"

"If you're Connie, Leona and Millie, three southern ladies from Birmingham, you do the most daring thing you've ever done.

"You "borrow" the ashes from the funeral home for one last card game, and the wildest, most exciting night of your lives involves a police raid, a stripper and a whole new way of looking at all the fun you can have when you're truly living," the Dramatic Publishing synopsis states.

"Exit Laughing," says Schibe, embraces "the love of friendship and not being able to let go, then letting go to embolden you to live better."

None of the three stagings is "Death of a Salesman" tame by comparison, but equally if not more important and relevant for Schibe.

"I chose "Casa Valentina" because of its local relevance and because it's really an exploration of oddity and love which doesn't have to mean romantic, flowery love," Schibe says.

The director, Timothy Dunn says, "everyone shouldn't be clutching their pearls. The Casa Valentina was actually here. It's always been here.

"This is also about inclusion of all kinds of people," Dunn says. "It's about your body and who you love and how you love."

"The Vagina Monologues" and "Exit Laughing" speak to February being this weirdly short month of weirdness," Schibe says, noting there will be audience talk-backs following each performance.

"When the audience engages with the performers, it doesn't end with the end of the play. They don't just get up and leave and think, 'I hated it or I loved it.' There is a dialogue that continues," Schibe says.

Sgt. James F. Carty, D.S.C. VFW Post 1545 – Windham, NY

This is the 50th anniversary of the Paris Peace Accords signing which formally ended the Vietnam war for America.

Vietnam veterans represent the largest segment of VFW's membership. Vietnam veterans deserve the same admiration and respect of past generations of veterans.

Vietnam veterans were treated with disregard and even contempt by the media and culture at that time. Coming home was very uncomfortable for us.

Vietnam veterans now have made it a point that "never again will one generation of veterans forget another"

We served with pride and courage for our country. A total of 58,281 total deaths are named on the wall at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC.

Over 75,000 were severely disabled which is more than 300% higher than in WWII. As a Vietnam veteran myself, I served with pride for my country as a draftee which was 25% of the total forces in-country (648,500).

66% of U.S. armed forces in WWII were drafted. Many statistics regarding serving of our country are somewhat forgotten.

We have three WWII veterans still with us in our VFW Post and they are special. Louise McRoberts, Tom Bristol, and Peter O'Brien.

Pete served in the U.S. Navy where his ship was sunk in the Pacific... fortunately, he survived and then was transferred to another ship until the completion of the war.

Pete is a lifelong resident of Windham. He became an electrician upon his return from the war where it is possible, he wired many houses and businesses in our town.

Pete was also a past commander of our post and continues to be a life member. As a member of our great organization, you become a factor in making laws to help veterans.

Members also receive news and a great deal of information in the VFW magazine sent every month. Being a member of the VFW is so rewarding, knowing that our mission is to help veterans.

Our voices are very important in passing compensation benefits for veterans of all conflicts. Our membership numbers bring strength when dealing with politicians when bills are proposed.

Today's veterans are the greatest of their generation serving with honor. God Bless America and the service men and women who serve our nation today.

Should you have an interest in joining the VFW, please email me at VFW-Post1545@gmail.com, we welcome new members into our organization to help continue the work the VFW has been performing for over 100 years.

For more information check out vfw.org and see more of what we are about. In closing, I want to thank all who attended our VFW breakfast.

A special "thank you" to the members of Windham Hose Co. #1 for all your support. We salute you.

Marc Farmilette – Quartermaster VFW Post 1545

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TRADITIONALLY SPEAKING BY PAT LARSEN

Best Eating Habits in 2023 for Women and Men Over 50

The aging process and slowing metabolisms and changes in hormones along with any stubborn body fat you've added along the way, there's the issues laid out for us to see in print. Aren't you glad you started reading this column? Just keep going, trust me.

Why would we be motivated to find a solution to all of the above and is there really any real science behind the possibilities of better healthy practices even being worth the try? WELL, yes there is. Read on...

I recently stumbled upon a new article that even drew in my skeptical mind.

This article highlighted some really good habits to



consider that can help with shedding some unwanted extra weight. Curious? Oh just read through and humor me. Remember, I'm one of you.

#1 Eat smaller meals on smaller plates. Instead of eating three meals in a day (who decided that any-

way?) Eat smaller meals throughout the day. You won't get those insistent hunger pains that have a loud speaker tempting you to finish the pie when you really don't want to.

This one simple practice will help keep your portions and caloric intake in check.

#2 Eat more fruits and vegetables. Let's start with the health benefits of these darling foods. Protection from diseases like heart disease, and obesity are a plus and you'll fill up sooner.

#3 Eat less Sugar...period. Just try your tea without sugar. Look at labels and determine how much sugar there is in a serving of mostly everything.

That adds up as do the

calories and then comes the stagnation on the bathroom scale. Be accountable here and you'll be delighted with the results almost immediately.

#4 Learn more about saturated fats...and believe me, you'll naturally reduce this not so nice addition to your daily calorie intake.

High cholesterol is one of the major causes of heart disease. It is within your control to reduce these numbers even without taking a pill.

#5 Eat Fewer Processed foods. Here's the thing...take more time to shop in the produce aisle than you spend trying to find the onion rings or french fries in the frozen food section. Pre-packaged quick meals are processed. Want to reduce your grocery bill? Think before adding these foods to your cart.

#6 Avoid eating at night. Just don't.

#7 Eat Slower.start by

taking stock of when you sit down (that's another big issue) and how long it takes you to eat and thoroughly enjoy your meal. I bet you can improve here considerably. By the way...no devices next to the fork and knife on the dinner table. I know...it's going to be hard but sit and eat and stop the incessant compulsive device scrolling.

#8 Drink more water. I'm not suggesting that at 5pm you realize you haven't had much in the way of water and your gulp 25 ounces down. That is NOT beneficial and washes out the minerals from your meal.

Identify an 8 to 12 oz cup of your choice. If you're home for the day, set it next to the sink or to the water jug you access drinking water from and sip it and refill all day times 6. You can figure out how to keep track on your own.

I think these 8 sugges-

tions are enough for now. Start here and check each one off as you begin to incorporate them into your life in this new year of 2023.

Give me a call or send me an email if you are looking for more suggestions or would like some help with shifting those "stuck" mind sets. I do face to face sessions by appointment to help you get out of those ruts.

Pat Larsen, licensed fitness instructor @ The Shamrock House in East Durham, NY. Ladies and GENTS welcome. Morning classes.

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You can reach Pat at 518-275-8686 or email pelarsen5@aol.com

Lexington Gets Reorganized

By Michael Ryan

LEXINGTON - It isn't that it was at all disorganized but the town of Lexington has had to get reorganized, as it must do every year.

Local officials, at a recent meeting, attended to the annual appointments and designations required to keep government's wheels smoothly and efficiently clickety-clacking.

One of the more notable renamings came on the planning board where Taris Charysyn will add to an impressive longevity.

Charysyn has dedicatedly served over 40 years and has re-upped for another five years, definitely not doing it for the mon-

ey.

Planners, who must attend numerous meetings and handle increasingly complex issues, are paid \$590 per annum.

"Taris is a great resource," town supervisor JoEllen Schermerhorn said, expressing sentiments echoed by planning board chairwoman Jennifer Cawein who says Charysyn, "has an eye on things and he really cares about the community."

When a thing isn't broken you don't fix it so familiar names and entities continue to represent and be utilized by the town, as follows:

—Tal Rappleyea (town attorney), Paul Down (disaster coordinator), Carl

Giangrande (code/zoning officer), Nichole Pursell (short term rental/enforcement clerk);

Councilman Michael Barcone (deputy town supervisor), Mary Palazzolo (town historian), Michelle Brainard (town bookkeeper), Christine Down (deputy historian and deputy town clerk);

Bruce Feml (dog control officer), Liza Down (health officer), Elizabeth Martin (planning board secretary), Kim McGalliard (zoning board secretary), Andrea Searcy (inventory clerk).

One of the busiest people in Lexington is town clerk/tax collector Charlotte Jaeger who will also continue serving as sec-

retary to the town supervisor, records management office, webmaster and Registrar of Vital Statistics Committees have been and will be set up as follows:

—Highway (highway superintendent Kevin Simmons, Mike Petosa, Charles VanEtten and councilman Bradley Jenkins);

Building (councilman William Pushman, William Decker, town code/zoning officer Carl Giangrande and John Berger);

Monthly Audit (councilman Bennett Wine and councilman Jenkins); Clerk Audit (supervisor Schermerhorn and councilman Jenkins);

Comprehensive Plan (planning board chairwoman Cawein, zoning board secretary McGalliard and Lynn Byrne);

Ethics (town clerk/collector Jaeger Jaeger, Rose Petrella Wilson and John Berger), Memorial Bricks (town historian Palazzolo);

Planning Board (chairwoman Cawein, Charysyn, Beverly Resnik-Dezan, Nancy Orr and Casey Scieszka);

Patriots Day (town historian Palazzolo and deputy town clerk Christine Dwon), Schoharie Watershed/GCSW Recreation (Beverly Resnik-Dezan and Lynn Byrne);

Negotiations (councilmen Jenkins and Barcone), Emergency (supervisor Schermerhorn, disaster coordinator Paul Dwon and roads chief Kevin Simmons);

Board of Assessment Review (Ron Lipton, Susan Falke and Schuyler Minew), Policy Review (supervisor Schermerhorn and councilman Barcone);

Zoning Board (Sarah Pellizzari, Ron Lipton and Nancy Wyncoop Bower). WRIP (97.9 FM) in Windham is the official radio station. The official newspaper is the Mountain Eagle.

In other matters;

—Council members accepted a bid for the construction of a helicopter landing zone and gravel walking path with paved parking area.

Three estimates were received. The low bid was offered by KCK Paving, based in Windham, totaling \$102,260, with two other bids coming in at \$106,000 and \$106,588, respectively.

Most of the cost will be covered by \$100,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funds given to the town by the Greene County Legislature, last year.

The rest will come from ARPA dollars distributed directly from the State and federal government to Lexington to help spur

the economy in the wake of the worldwide pandemic.

"During the pandemic, people were cooped up in their houses. We found out it was dangerous for them to walk along Route 23A," supervisor Schermerhorn said, explaining the walking path/parking area.

"People started to walk around the perimeter of the wastewater treatment district," Schermerhorn said, located along Route 42 just off Route 23A, next to the local post office where the path is going to be created.

The emergency rescue helicopter pad will be built along Route 42, near the wastewater facility. "We've had some helicopter calls. A young girl was injured in a sledding accident and flown out," Schermerhorn said.

"And there have been auto accidents," Schermerhorn said. "We are one of the furthest towns from a hospital. We have to think about our people and how remote we are in that way."

—Council members held a respectful Moment of Silence for three people with community connections who recently passed away including Lois Jenkins, Stephen Senigo and Elaine Soule Mann Grange.

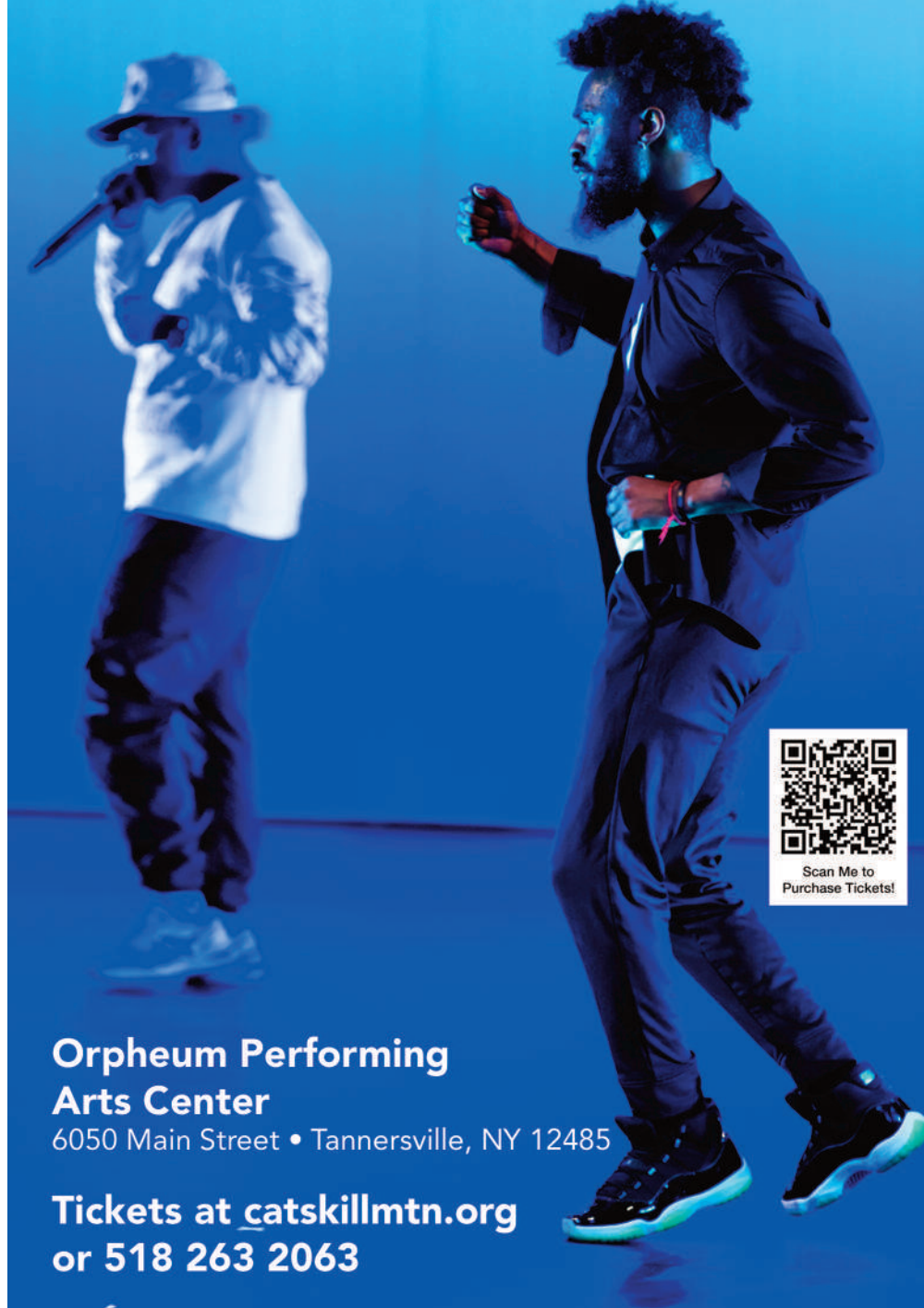
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LEGISLATURE STUFF

Not Literally Reorganizing

By Michael Ryan

CATSKILL - Strictly speaking, members of the Greene County Legislature did not reorganize when they held their annual reorganization meeting.

Lawmakers, at a meeting last week, organized themselves anew, as they must do every year, but didn't really change the way they are organized which, technically, is the definition of reorganizing.

So what they actually did was make pretty much the same appointments and designations they made a year ago, needing to keep the wheels of government from going nowhere fast.

At the top of the list, from a journalistic self-praise-stinks standpoint, was choosing official newspapers to disseminate information.

One resolution was passed stating, "that pursuant to provision of the county law and applicable statutes, the Greene County Legislature does hereby designate the Times Union, a newspaper serving Greene County, as the official newspaper of Greene County for the publication of local laws, notices and other matters required by law to be published by this Legislature for the year 2023."

"And be it further resolved that pursuant to provision of the county law and applicable statutes," the resolution stated, "the Greene County Legislature does hereby designate the Mountain Eagle, a newspaper serving Greene County, as another official newspaper of Greene County."

Individual political parties also select official publications with the twelve Republicans in the legislature deciding as follows:

"We, the undersigned Republican members and thus constituting a majority of the Republican members of the Greene County Legislature, do hereby designate The Mountain Eagle, a newspaper serving Greene County and fairly representing the principles of the party to which we belong, as the official Republican newspaper to

publish the Election Notices and the Official Canvass for the 2023 year."

Further, the Republican lawmakers did, "hereby designate The Mountain Eagle, a newspaper serving Greene County, and fairly representing the principles of the party to which we belong, as the Republican newspaper to publish Concurrent Resolutions and Laws for the year 2023."

There are two Democratic Party members in the 14-member legislature, stating, "We, the undersigned Democratic members, and thus constituting a majority of the Democratic members of the Greene County Legislature, do hereby designate The Daily Freeman, a newspaper serving Greene County, and fairly representing the principles of the party to which we belong, as the official Democratic paper to publish the Election Notices and the Official Canvass for the 2023 year."

Further, the Democrats did, "hereby designate The Mountain Eagle, a newspaper serving Greene County, and fairly representing the principles of the party to which we belong, as the Democratic paper to publish Concurrent Resolutions and Laws for the year 2023."

Legislature chairman Patrick Linger, by the authority vested in his position, made a handful of annual appointments and reappointments including:

—Lawmaker Linda Overbaugh (District 1, Catskill) to the board of directors for the Greene County Economic Development Corporation;

—Lawmaker Greg Davis (District 4, Greenville) as Parliamentarian for the legislature, providing nonpartisan guidance on parliamentary rules and procedures,

—Lawmaker Michael Bulich (District 1, Catskill) as an Associate Director of the Altamont Fair Board of Directors.

—Lawmaker Sherry True (District 8, Cairo) to the Board of Directors of Cornell Cooperative Extension Of Columbia And Greene Counties and [Majority Leader] Matthew Luvera (District

1, Catskill) as alternate representative.

The legislature, as a full body, reappointed Jonathan Palmer as Greene County historian for a 3-year term, ending on December 31, 2025.

Lawmakers, upon the recommendation of Greene County Treasurer Peter Markou, designated official bank depositories (with their maximum deposit amounts) as follows:

National Bank of Cox-sackie (\$20 million), Greene County Commercial Bank (Catskill, \$60 million), JP Morgan Chase (Saugerties, \$1 million), NBT Bank (Windham, \$1 million), Key Bank (Catskill, \$15 million).

Lastly, at the risk of being bureaucratically redundant, in-house legislature committees will be unchanged for 2023 (except for the addition of new member Jay Lucas (District 1, Catskill) as follows (with the chairperson of each committee listed first):

COUNTY RESOURCES (Bulich, Overbaugh, True, Lucas and James Thorington (District 6, Ashland, Jewett, Prattsville and Windham);

COUNTY SERVICES (Ed Bloomer (District 3, Athens), Overbaugh, Lucas, True, Patty Handel (District 9, Durham) and Daryl Legg (District 7, Halcott, Hunter and Lexington).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM (Overbaugh, Bulich, Handel, Bloomer, Thorington, True).

FINANCE (Charles Martinez (District 2, Cox-sackie), Thomas Hobart (District 2, Coxsackie), Overbaugh, Bulich, Davis, Legg).

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (Davis, Martinez, Overbaugh, Hobart, Lucas, Legg).

HEALTH SERVICES (Handel, Davis, Hobart, Bloomer, Lucas, True).

PUBLIC SAFETY (Hobart, Martinez, Bloomer, Handel, Thorington, Davis).

PUBLIC WORKS (Thorington, Martinez, Hobart, Bulich, Handel, Legg).

By virtue of their titles, Majority Leader Luvera and Minority Leader Harry Lennon, (Democrat, District 8, Cairo), are part of all committees.

BETTER THAN HEARSAY

The Ag District's New Clothes

By Michael Ryan

WINDHAM - It got ugly at the most recent Greene County Soil and Water Conservation agency meeting when the subject again turned to the agency's application to join the county's Agricultural District.

A saga worthy of Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing" has been dramatically unfolding over the past several months related to the application which has been put on hold by the county legislature.

The gist of the story is GCSW executive director Joel DuBois applied for the Ag District after encountering stiff resistance to a plan to construct a new building in the rural Maplecrest Valley in the town of Windham.

Several local residents voiced opposition to the project and compromises were being sought, a regular occurrence in small and big towns.

Rather than continue with the normal planning board process, DuBois took what one board of directors member later labeled an "adversarial" approach to the situation.

DuBois made Freedom of Information (FOIL) requests to the town, claiming his rights as a landowner had been denied by the planning board, an allegation that has yet to be backed up with any substantiation.

The board of directors, learning of the FOIL requests after the fact, pulled the plug on the project, all of this unfolding last spring and summer.

DuBois, since then, has alleged he had been "coerced" by the directors into withdrawing the plan, even though the project was not his to withdraw, and has also claimed he was "threatened" by at least one board member, offering no proof of being either strong-armed or browbeaten.

Things grew quiet around the project until DuBois suddenly asked to apply for the Ag District inclusion in what has ultimately been revealed as a not-well-dis-

guised effort to bypass Windham planning board oversight.

His request was initially rejected by the GCSW board of directors but later approved after a weirdly conducted revote, eventually leading to required public hearings before the legislature.

Public hearings are held annually for all Ag District applications, usually okayed without incident and followed by routine rubber-stampings.

But several Maplecrest Valley residents spoke at these public hearings, prompting lawmakers to take the unusual step of placing the GCSW application in temporary limbo. Now here's the rub.

All applications must first pass muster with a local Farmland Protection Board and while the legislature ponders its next move, questions have arisen about what constitutes a legitimate agricultural operation and whether the GCSW application even measures up.

Lawmakers must make a decision on the GCSW application by February and the issue is expected to come up again at a legislative Government Operations committee gathering, next Monday night (January 16).

A followup vote would then likely occur at the legislature's regular monthly session on January 18 and meanwhile, a Shakespearean "Tempest" swirled through the GCSW meeting, last Thursday night.

Windham town supervisor Thomas Hoyt also sits on the GCSW board of directors. Hoyt recommended the Ag District application be squashed.

Hoyt's recommendation was denied in a 4 to 1 vote but not before intense accusations were hurled back and forth between DuBois and Hoyt (none that can be proved or disproved in this short space, so not specified).

It definitely wasn't pretty, though, and showed that nobody, including the GCSW board of directors and Farmland Protection Board, really

has a handle on what the AG District is and who should be allowed in it.

Meanwhile, the original source of contention, the new GCSW building, has basically faded from the picture and could be a dead deal for the foreseeable future because GCSW had no money to do it.

The heat is now on the legislature and the Farmland Protection Board to sort through several serious doubts about the GCSW application and another application likewise emanating from the Maplecrest Valley.

That application, from a group calling themselves BM 181825 Holdings Inc., involves the former MacGlashan Farm, a mile or so up Big Hollow Road from the GCSW property.

A resolution is apparently being drawn up by the legislature connected to both applications. The scuttlebutt is lawmaker's could vote to dump the whole mess back in the lap of the town of Windham, declaring all concerned parties should work it out through normal channels.

Lawsuits could emerge from such a determination which might not be bad, given the current criteria, or lack thereof, for Ag District admittance.

One observer of the situation, perusing all of the applications, opined that a person growing petunias in their home garden could submit a request and be waved through just on their word with no meaningful review.

What difference does it make? A couple of hundred years after "The Bard" wrote his last soliloquy, Hans Christian Andersen penned a folk-tale about an emperor picking peasants pockets to dress himself in pretty clothes.

One day a couple of slicksters strode into the kingdom, sewing the emperor some seemingly invisible new threads, saying only dimwits would see him and think he was simply strutting around buck naked.

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Filling a Need Through Ministry

By K. Fleig

GREENVILLE / GREENE COUNTY- In May of 2019, Joyce Pizzigati, Candace Ruland, and Cindy Young, along with several volunteers, held a successful spaghetti dinner in the Parish House of Christ Episcopal Church in Greenville. It was open to the public, and its purpose was to raise funds to send kids from the Church to summer camp. Unbeknownst to everyone, the dinner would prove to be a test run for what would later become The Stone Soup Kitchen (SSK.)

in January of 2020, the three women came together again to do what seemed only natural to them. They were passionate about bringing hot, nutritious, well-made meals - this time for free - to those in need.

"It's God's work," Pizzagati said, deflecting any praise. "We just want to bring the Church out into the community," Ru-

land added.

The name of their then fledgling ministry is a purposeful nod to the old story Stone Soup. Pizzigati credits Young for the name. In the story, townspeople contribute what food they can to the stranger's cauldron, and transform boiling water and an ordinary stone to a delicious meal that is shared by all. Similarly, the idea for the SSK was to collect donated food from the community and prepare it for many. The idea worked.

People from both Christ Church and the Greenville community brought in bags of potatoes, carrots, beans, and more. The woman created delicious soup from whatever was donated. Cash contributions also appeared, which allowed them to buy meat that was on sale and that they could stretch a long way.

"At times it looked as if we would not have enough, but everything

shows up and it comes together," Pizzagati said.

"Sometimes money runs low, but we don't worry because we're frugal and God always provides," remarked Ruland.

When the pandemic hit in March of 2020, the world changed. People lost income, had to stay at home, and the need for food assistance increased. The women of the SSK knew they needed to continue to fill an even greater need, and they continued to cook.

Word spread and they delivered meals to people, many elderly, who were unable or unwilling to leave during the lockdown. For those who receive Meals on Wheels, it was often a Godsend when winter and the pandemic made deliveries non-existent at times.

During the height of the pandemic, the SSK also distributed meals to those who came for food at the local public school. They distributed food at the Greenville Food Pantry on their giveaway days, and continue still to do so. Though there are only four days a month that the SSK distributes food, it's an important stopgap that many count on.

"We put a smile on their face," Ruland beamed. Then, acknowledging what the women receive for their efforts, she added, "We have met such beautiful people."

Three years later, though the price of food has nearly skyrocketed, the SSK continues to operate, feeding over two hundred people on the second and fourth Tuesday and Wednesday of each month. Young no longer works with the Soup Kitchen, but newcomer Linda Burke is an important part of the ef-

fort. Others sometimes volunteer and the woman always appreciates help.

Recently, a donor bought the SSK a professional mixer, and someone else gave them their second refrigerator. The Rotary Club, the American Legion, several grocery stores, and other community organizations also provide critical resources.

"We're a community," Pizzagati simply affirmed.

*For those unfamiliar with the term "ministry," it simply means "giving, in service of others"

To make a donation, of if you are in the Greenville area, and would like the Stone Soup Kitchen to include you in their delivery schedule, contact Christ Episcopal Church at: 518-966-5713.



Joyce Pizzigati ladles black bean soup.

MESSAGE OF HOPE BY SISTER CHIRYA

Be Worry Free



"No, no, that's not a sin, either. My goodness, you must have worried yourself to death."

It may seem impossible sometimes to live and not worry. Actually 85 % of what we worry about never happens! Never allow your life force to be depleted in fear or doubt. Instead, calm down, and at times throughout the day, stop and observe myself. Calm energy enables me to notice what I'm saying, thinking and doing and to rearrange my emotions and thoughts and find positive solutions. When we practice self-observation, we see other paths and ideas and recognize we have choices. We then have the power to create healthy situations and relationships that support loving kindness, clarity, respect and responsibility. Most of us come into relationships to receive love, respect and acceptance, without realizing our role is to give, not get. 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 worry and move away from us!

To become worry free stop looking at others and focus on yourself. When we notice what we are saying, doing and thinking, we become self-aware. Self awareness

is a shift in consciousness where one realizes his true self. To do this go beyond awareness of the body, your roles and possessions and connect to the eternal part of yourself, the soul, and to the soul of others. This pure love frees and empowers.

*TIME magazine has a good start for understanding self awareness. - "In 2023 aim to practice body neutrality. This means accepting our bodies as vessels that allow us to go for a run or walk to the mailbox, instead of attaching positive or negative feelings to them. Rather than say, "I love my body", shift to "I accept my body as it is." "I appreciate what it does for me." Wonderful thoughts, right? Yes indeed . . . but who is 'I' 'my' and 'me'? Is the body saying, 'I accept and appreciate what my body does for me?' No! So who is appreciating the body? It is I the soul who thinks 'I accept my body as it is'. The body merely puts this thought into sound. Me, myself and I all refer to the soul, the imperishable invisible being of spiritual light that gives life to the body. I, the soul thinks, feels, speaks and performs actions through the physi-

cal body. Practice this change in identity by saying 'I, the soul.' With this new identity, I approve of myself knowing who I am. When I forget to say, 'I the soul', the habitual habit of 'I the body' - of identifying myself as a body remains, along with the worries and tensions. Check every day what you have filled in the container of your mind? Does anything need changing? Meditate and fill yourself with peace and spiritual power being received from God. I, the soul, choose my thoughts wisely and reclaim a calm and peaceful mind in order to grow spiritually and help others grow. I, the soul, make a promise from my heart to let go of the habits that hinder my happiness and reclaim my peace of mind. Keep practicing and you will forget all about worry!!

* TIME magazine page 8 - '5 wellness trends to ditch in 2023' January 16/23, 2023

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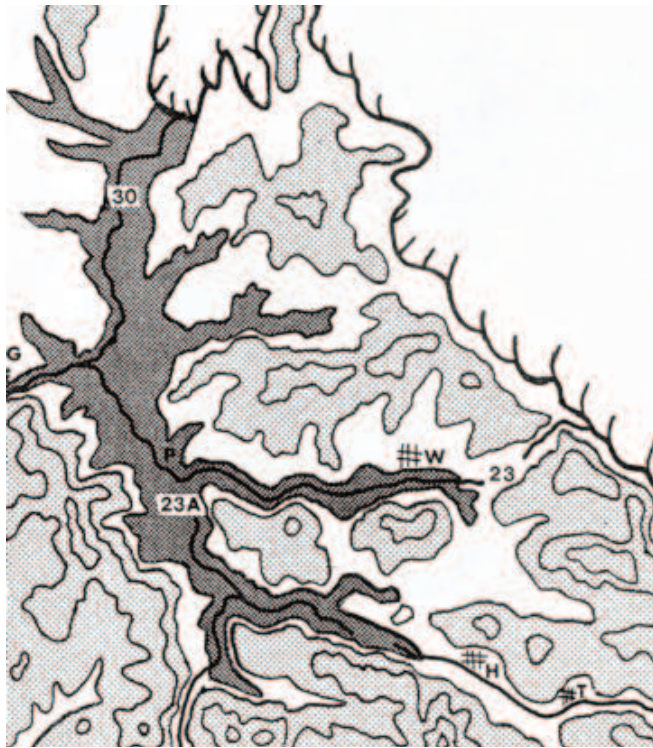
Candace Ruland and Linda Burke pack up soup for delivery

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THE CATSKILL GEOLOGISTS BY PROFESSORS ROBERT AND JOHANNA TITUS

Dendritic Drainage

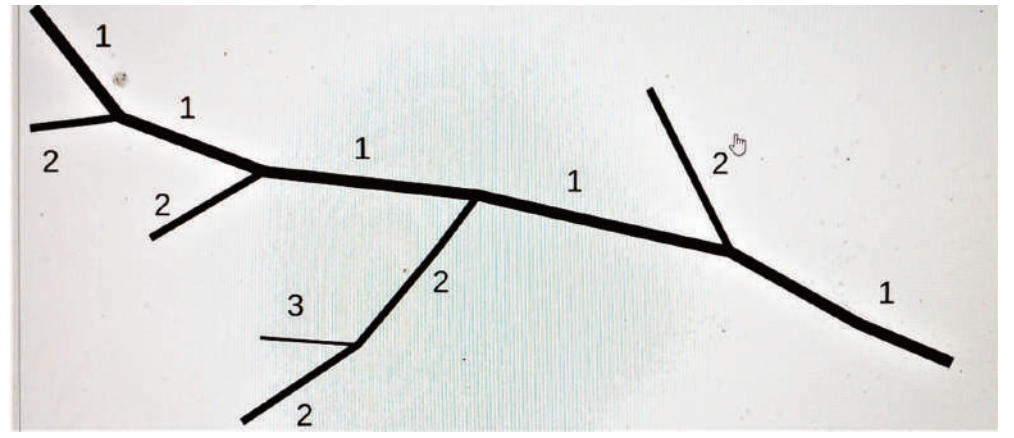
Recently we learned about something called headward erosion. That's the pattern of erosion that is typical of most streams. The upstream ends of streams are steep and very erosive. We cited Schoharie Creek as a good example of this. This week let's continue on that theme and learn what more Schoharie Creek can teach us about streams. Take a look at our illustration. It's a map of Schoharie Creek at a very specific moment in its ice age history. At the top of the map is the retreating Schoharie Creek glacier. South, which is behind the retreating ice, is the shaded realm of a remarkable ice age body of water, Glacial Lake Grand Gorge. The lake waters had, back then, submerged much of the Schoharie drainage system. That shaded territory shows a branching pattern. Those branches are nowadays occupied



by tributary streams: East Kill, West Kill, Batavia Kill and others, none of them labeled. Back then these were extensions or embayments of the lake

This branching pattern has a name which is familiar to most geologists.

That term is dendritic drainage. Each modern tributary branches off from the trunk stream. Typically, each tributary has its own set of tributaries and these, in turn, have still more tributaries. And so on. As we said,



this is a branching pattern. If you are an adventurous hiker, then you can follow a stream in its uphill direction. You turn left at each confluence and eventually you will see smaller and smaller tributaries. At long last you will ascend a very small tributary and witness it disappear into the ground. That's the head of the stream – at least it is the head of that tributary. Each other stream system has its own head. Does that sound like fun? Well, it isn't; we have tried it and it is mostly

hard work!

There is a system to all this. The trunk stream is called a first order stream. It is joined by second order tributaries and then there are third and fourth order ones - and so on. See our second illustration, courtesy of Wikimedia Commons. We recall that the Mississippi is a 17th order stream. We don't happen to know exactly what stream order the Schoharie is. Not all stream systems are dendritic, but it is perhaps the most common. It is

typical of landscapes where the stratified bedrock is flat or nearly flat. That's the case in the Catskills.

If you have ever taken a good earth science course, then you may well have already known all this. But, if not, then this is the sort of elementary geology that most people should know.

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

Letters to the Editor, Continued from A4

the Chamber in its mission is a great first step.

Ray Pucci
President, Delaware County Chamber of Commerce.

An Open Letter Re: Dr. Amy

The Schoharie County Board of Supervisors (BOS) voted not to renew the employment contract of the Schoharie County Health Director at the December 21 meeting. At the January 3 meeting a motion was made to reconsider the vote. It failed. The Schoharie County Democratic Committee (SCDC) earlier wrote a letter on December 23 supporting the contract renewal. SCDC's letter was denounced by multiple Supervisors.

Chairman Bill Federice and County Attorney Mike West were adamant during the meeting that the Health Director was let go, against her unanimous approval by the Schoharie County Board of Health, because of nonpolitical questions about her management style. With personnel confidentiality it is nearly impossible for the public to verify that politics and pandemics had nothing to do with the vote.

A general breakdown between the BOS and the public has been brewing for 30 years. The BOS does not allow a public comment section of meetings nor does the local media report the glaring absence of public comment in the past 30 years. This communicative breakdown is a direct factor in the nonrenewal controversy.

Board of Supervisors rules allow privilege of the floor, but the Board has implied potential speakers must give notice to the BOS Clerk ahead of time to be placed on the agenda, and they appreciate the submitting of memoranda or outline notes. BOS rules do not require any of this, only that the speaker's topic is recorded in the minutes during the meeting. Abundant talk time is given to respected local persons (imagine a bonus draper appearing every so often with Rembrandt's Syndics) and to local business organizations and voluntary agencies.

The public in Schoharie County often prides itself as a patriotic community advocating civil rights and civil liberties, but we are always seen and not heard with the Schoharie County BOS, and we never challenge that iniquity.

Local media has not questioned this glaring lack of open public comment in recent memory. There is no press day or press room in Schoharie County Government. Reporters throw up their hands in exasperation at criticisms offered them by the BOS, but reporters are not allowed to ask questions during the public meetings of BOS, you have no periodic press access or facility or conference day in a County Government Building now open for 35 years, and you never demand said access.

Members of the public are left to assume reasons for the BOS' displeasure. The SCDC ties it to the Health Director's vehement protection of the public's health inter-

est during the pandemic.

We fail as citizens because we do not know why our County's highly qualified and diligent health director was let go. The press fails because it has not facilitated access to report inside government. The Board of Supervisors fails because it does not thoroughly explain its displeasure with an employee having unanimous approval from the hiring authority Schoharie County Board of Health.

I argue that the Board of Supervisors' hypothetical displeasure with any public employee would be predictable to all, written about in the press, and remarked and deliberated by an informed public if sufficient public and press access conditions--solving the inadequacies stated above--are brought to existence, without impeaching the confidentiality of executive personnel deliberations nor the good name of any employee.

Sufficient conditions of public and press access would provide common knowledge of what the Supervisors demand in managers and what the public expects in managers. Sufficient conditions would provide managers with common knowledge of the rubric for success joined with official fulfillment. Communication would be open and healthy.

Robert Kerley
Fulton

THE TAPESTRY BY DR. DEBORAH HERODES

Women Behind Bars Lives Forgotten

There are many things, in our country, needing to be fixed, for the sake of the people, who are suffering because of a society that has forgotten about them. Women's prisons are perhaps the least discussed atrocity, and the most needful of reform and care.

Most women are incarcerated due to "on the street" behaviors that were committed to help keep their families fed and alive. Prostitution, theft, and drug sales represent most of their sentences, along with DWI offenders. There are also some who are held in maximum lock-ups, due to violent behaviors. These violent behaviors are usually done in tandem, with a male partner, who is also incarcerated, but nonetheless, if the woman is involved, she should be punished and rehabilitated.

Incarceration becomes a problem, when the female offenders are not given the same opportunities, as their male counterparts, to improve themselves, as people, to educate themselves and to make amends for bad behaviors. Many young women are jailed, due to careless behavior, with no intent to harm, and it is perhaps these women, who suffer the most.

Personalities developed "on the outside," accompany these young women to prison, and coupled with the fear of being taken from their children, their parents and their major support system, often affect the "would be" success stories, who made bad decisions, as youths. Many enter prison as shy, quiet, teenagers, who are haphazardly thrown into a pen of rough, aggressive types that seek out the weak to feel powerful, behind bars.

The will to serve their time for the crime they have committed is often tested by continual harassment by male correction officers and by other inmates, who believe all convicted women are the same and all deserve the same treatment. Sexual harassment, including rape, is endured by nearly 1/2 of female inmates, by their custodial watchkeepers, and sadly, very few officers are ever charged with these crimes. To try to be an exemplary pris-

oner is nearly impossible, because the need to survive one's surroundings, both physically and emotionally begins to take over the once reserved inmate.

The unbearable sadness of only seeing one's children once a month, or not being allowed mail because of possible contraband usage of an envelope's contents, or only being allowed a small amount of money to buy necessities, in the prison store, especially feminine products, are all unbearable enough, without the continual heckling, fighting, lying, abuse and downright meanness of guards and fellow inmates.

In order to rehabilitate prisoners and ready them for life outside the prison walls, women's prisons have abysmal opportunities. Vocational courses and a few college courses are offered, but in order to qualify for these classes, one's behavior must be above board. With little hope of having a perfect record, while in prison, due to the offenses done to a woman, because of her placement on the pecking order, is nearly impossible. Trying to defend oneself against other assertive inmates, also becomes a hopeless situation, as many of the perpetrators are ignored, due to their abilities to lie well, while the meek, who all of a sudden stand up for themselves, are considered new upstarts, and, henceforth, put in solitary confinement to break this new found will.

Hope of early parole for good behavior, while in prison is also a difficult road, because many in the prison and outside of the prison, launch campaigns to keep the convicted behind bars for the entire length of their sentences. Hope of a letter in one's mailbox, from an old friend, is also gone, because once incarcerated, friends fall away.

In looking at the prison system, especially the women's prisons, I would like to see some attention paid to the non-violent offenders. If teaching them anger in mistreatment and teaching them to become convincing liars, in order to keep them out of the segregation cells, and teaching them that fists are better than fear, are examples of rehabilitation,

they will be released with distrust issues, along with the tendency to fight to protect themselves. Women reunited with their children (if they are allowed to be,) need to learn how to fit into their lives again, their roles again; children must be counseled, as well, in order to accept their mothers back into their lives. Teenagers, who have grown up in prison, and been away from the normal existence of their free friends, will also have a difficult time fitting into society again. Despite their reputations, before they were incarcerated, many will look at the newly released, as criminals, even though they have done their time.

For those who believe they will never have to deal with this situation in their lives, consider this. One's time, as a free person, can be changed in a heartbeat, due to bad decision-making; in many cases, the bad decisions were not intentional but became a sentence to a penitentiary. The hurt and heartache caused by bad decision-making, although ever present in the mind of the injured and the families of the victims, must be recognized and understood, but life must go on for those who remain punished and broken by the prison system. Living with guilt, living with daily anguish and re-entering the world of the free, needs to be dealt with, while these women are in prison, so they are able to re-enter the world with a new found purpose. Berating people, no matter the crime, never works, and violence teaches violence.

One only needs to take a look at the statistics of women now incarcerated to see the inequity of services offered to them, physically, psychologically and educationally, in comparison to the men's prisons. Women need to be outraged that women behind bars are a forgotten lot, because they are women, and after all, because they are women, they should know better than to commit any crime! The double standard exists, even in prison, and we all need to involve ourselves in the rehabilitation, safety and mental health of these female prisoners.



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LEGAL ADVERTISING

to pay prevailing wage rates on this contract.

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All work of the contract will be substantially completed 155 calendar days from Notice to Proceed and ready for final payment on November 30, 2023.

The New York State Department of Transportation, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation and Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200, Title VI Program and Related Statutes, as amended, issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all who respond to the related solicitation, request for proposal or invitation to bid that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability/handicap and income status in consideration for an award.

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Public Notice - Jefferson

I, The Undersigned, Hereby Give Notice That I Have Received The Tax Roll And Warrant For The Collection Of Taxes In And For The Town Of Jefferson

New York, For The Year 2023 At Jefferson Town Hall

Schoharie County, And That I Will Receive Taxes

In Said Town On Monday 3-7pm, Tues-Thurs. 9:30-2:00pm. In Person, Or Put In Drop Box. By Mail To Po Box 34, Jefferson, Ny, 12093

Taxes May Be Received Without Interest By The Collecting Officer On Or Before The Thirty-First Day Of January Or Thirty Days Following The Collecting Officer's Receipt Of The Tax Roll And Warrant, Whichever Is Later. On All Taxes Received After Such Day, There Shall Be Added Interest Of 1.00 Per Centum For The Month Of February Or Fraction Thereof And An Additional 1.00 Per Centum For Each Additional Month Or Fraction Thereof Until Such Taxes Are Paid Or Until The Return Of Unpaid Taxes To The County Treasurer On June 1st After Which A Fee Of 5% Is Added Plus 12.00 Per Centum Per Annum From February 3rd Pursuant To Law.

Tax Rates Per \$1,000 Of Assessed Valuation Are As Follows:

County Tax 16.271849

Gen. Town Wide 3.746255

Highway Town Wide 7.303610

Fd134 Stamford Fire Dist. 1.744518

Fd B6 Jefferson Fire Dist. 2.795841

Ld 136 Jefferson Light Dist. 0.629434

Public Notice - Delaware County

The Delaware County Board of Supervisors will be holding a special meeting of the Finance Committee January 18, 2023 at 11:30 AM in the Delaware County Boardroom, 111 Main Street, Delhi, NY 13753.

Public Notice - Lexington

Take notice that I, the undersigned, Collector of Taxes of the Town of Lexington, Greene County, New York, have duly received the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes for the year 2023, and that I will receive taxes as follows:

Mon-Thurs 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

For appointments, call 518-989-6476 x101

Take further notice, that taxes may be paid on or before January 31, 2023 without charge or interest. On taxes remaining unpaid after January 31, 2023, there shall be added one percent for February, or the remainder thereof; two percent for March; three percent for April, four percent for May, five percent for June; six percent for

July, and seven percent for August, at which time, the return of unpaid taxes is made by the collector to the Green County Treasurer Pursuan to Law.

Charlotte Jaeger, Collector of Taxes, Town of Lexington

LEGAL NOTICE JEFFERSON FIRE DISTRICT

207 CREAMERY STREET JEFFERSON, NY

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 174, sub-paragraph 2 of the Town Law the Jef-

erson Fire District will hold an Annual Organizational Meeting. The meeting will be held on January 10th 2023, but due to unforeseen circumstances the date was changed to that of the 17th of January. The meeting will take place at the Firehouse location, 207 Creamery Street, Jefferson NY 12093. Please forgive any inconvenience this may cause. If you have any questions, please contact District Secretary, J. Dmytriv 607-652-3617

Growing Our Team!



The Mountain Eagle is proud to announce a major addition to our Delaware and Watershed coverage with our hiring of Mary Crisafulli.

Mary A. Crisafulli has a passion for learning and conducting research. Her background is in history and education, which became a great fit when she shifted to writing history in the present, as a reporter. Mary moved to the foothills of the Catskills from Schenectady. Her and her partner Michael fell in love with the rolling hills and moved to Kortright to start a small farm and have space for their dogs to explore. More info on next page.

Scott Jensen Receives National Cartooning Award

The National Cartoonists Society hosted their annual awards show this weekend in Kansas City, Missouri, and local cartoonist Scott Jensen won the award for best greeting cards this year. He received his award from presenter Hilary Price, the cartoonist behind Rhymes With Orange

Scott Jensen • Jensen has drawn a line of humorous greeting cards for Oatmeal Studios for over 35 years

• he has been a member of the National Cartoonists Society for about 15 years, and is a past chairman of the Upstate New York regional chapter of the NCS

• he was a finalist for the award last year

• He also draws and writes "Digby's Hardware," a comic strip in The Hardware Connection, a trade magazine for hardware retailers

• he is a Professor and Program Director of Visual Communications at Cazenovia College, in Cazenovia, NY. He has been on the faculty there since 2008

• He lives in Hobart, NY The Reubens

• Each year, during the NCS Annual Reuben Awards Weekend, the Society honors outstanding achievements in all walks of the profession. The recipient of the profession's highest honor, the Reuben Award for Outstanding Cartoonist of the Year is chosen by a secret ballot of the members. The Reuben was introduced in 1954 and is named after longtime Honorary President Rube Goldberg. The statue is based on one of Goldberg's irreverent pieces of sculpture

• The Silver Reuben Award is given each year to cartoonists in different categories of cartooning, as judged by their peers in a secret ballot

• This year's Reuben Award Weekend was held in Kansas City, Missouri

• The Reuben Award for Outstanding Cartoonist of the Year was given to Edward Sorel

• Special awards were also given this year to Jeanne Schulz, widow of Charles Schulz; Mort Gerberg (magazine cartoonist), Gary Trudeau (Doonesbury), and Patrick McDonnell (Mutts)



Hobart cartoonist Scott Jensen (shown with his wife, Eleanor) received the Silver Reuben Award for Greeting Cards at the National Cartoonists Society's Annual Awards in Kansas City, Missouri.

The West Kortright Centre to Receive \$10,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts

East Meredith, New York — The West Kortright Centre is pleased to announce it has been approved by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to receive a Challenge America award of \$10,000. This grant will support the project Waking Song led by local artist Jesse Wilson. Waking Song will be a collaboration involving area students with the aim to create a sonic and visual transformation of a section of the Catskill Scenic trail between Stamford and Hobart in the fall of 2023. This grant is one of 262 Challenge America awards totaling \$2.62 million that were announced by the NEA as part of its first round of fiscal year 2023 grants.

"The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support arts projects in communities nationwide," said NEA Chair Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD. "Projects such as this one with the West Kortright Centre and artist Jesse Wilson strengthen arts and cultural ecosystems, provide equitable opportunities for arts participation and practice, and contribute to the health of our communities and our economy."

For more information on other projects included in the NEA's grant announcement, visit arts.gov/news.

For more information about The West Kortright Centre visit <http://www.westkcc.org>, The West Kortright Centre's Facebook page, @westkortrightcentre on Instagram.

Bushel Film Review, Continued from A3

Morris Park (now Marcus Garvey Park). The footage was largely forgotten, until now. Summer of Soul shines a light on the importance of history to our spiritual well-being and stands as a testament to the healing power of music during times of unrest, both past and present. The feature includes concert performances by Stevie Wonder, Nina Simone, Sly & the Family Stone, Gladys Knight & the Pips, Mahalia Jackson, B.B. King, The 5th Dimension, and more. Summer of Soul premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, where it won both the Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award.

Bushel thanks Christina Hunt

Wood for her film pick! Wood is a visual artist and Bushel collective member. She describes herself as a "local gal and opinionated sugar plum" who loves to hike, bike, and run.

Community Film Picks is a once-a-month film night at Bushel taking place on third Fridays at 7 pm. Bushel invites the community to propose films for future screenings. For information please email: info@bushelcollective.org. Upcoming: Latcho Drom on February 17, 2023, picked by Jonathan Kane.

ACROSS

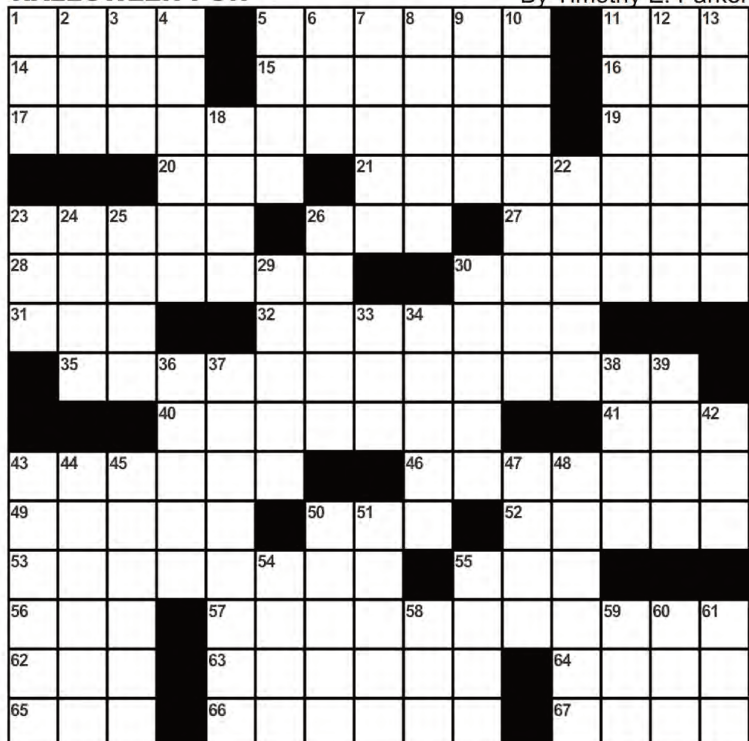
- 1) One of three fairy-tale bears
- 5) Harass
- 11) Many college degs.
- 14) Voting nay
- 15) Fainting
- 16) Little amphibian
- 17) Frighten one's Halloween staff?
- 19) Anger
- 20) Kind of station
- 21) Lawyer's objection
- 23) Happen
- 26) Wanna-___ (copycats)
- 27) Inebriate
- 28) Remote access?
- 30) Fatalities
- 31) Reward for waiting?
- 32) TV watchers
- 35) What caused Dracula to go the doctor?
- 40) Those preparing for a break
- 41) ___ Perignon
- 43) Put forward as truth
- 46) Get involved in a different sort?
- 49) Gather some wool
- 50) Bawl
- 52) Conquers
- 53) Crested parrot
- 55) Came in first
- 56) "To ___ is human ..."
- 57) Like a calm spirit?
- 62) "Born as"
- 63) Scotland's ___ Islands
- 64) Visitors to baby Jesus
- 65) It causes you to lose one hr. of sleep
- 66) Napped leathers
- 67) Black, poetically

DOWN

- 1) Mas' mates
- 2) Anti-apartheid party, for short
- 3) After-school bake sale org.
- 4) Nonlethal weapon
- 5) They've got your parts covered
- 6) Cigar residue
- 7) Stockholm citizen
- 8) Saddle afflictions
- 9) Weaver's equipment
- 10) Consumers of products
- 11) Lebanese capital
- 12) Way to begin
- 13) Cordwood units
- 18) Make, as money
- 22) Cook in an oven
- 23) When Sept. ends?
- 24) Elegantly and stylishly fashionable
- 25) Mafia chief
- 26) Lose a staring contest
- 29) Banish from an apartment
- 30) Hard to see through, as fog
- 33) Compass heading, sometimes
- 34) Fret
- 36) Word with "neat" or "control"
- 37) Confused mixtures
- 38) Betting numbers
- 39) Bard
- 42) New bride's title
- 43) Climb upward
- 44) Ocean stopping points
- 45) Confidential matter
- 47) Wind instrument
- 48) Give a new title to
- 50) "You Send Me" singer Sam
- 51) Expensive pub order
- 54) Drive-___ restaurant
- 55) Explanations
- 58) Director Spike
- 59) Bit of ointment
- 60) Psyche component
- 61) Confused noise

HALLOWEEN PUN

By Timothy E. Parker



EDITORIAL

First Expansion of 2023

We held off any announcement in this week's paper, but today's edition represents the first in three major expansions planned for the Mountain Eagle this year. The other two are under wraps for now, but hopefully they'll be ones that can improve our newspaper and make it a more enjoyable read!

The Mountain Eagle has hired Mary Crisafulli, an experienced local reporter for a number of topics across Delaware County. Her background and knowledge of local politics and government ensure another layer beyond our great already-assembled team. This will allow most of our future editions to be four pages longer than usual, and may mean that we change up some elements within the paper (such as possibly moving Letters to the Editor to the D, Tri-County section). This also allows us a better footprint in Kortright, Bovina, Andes, and Delhi.

With Mary's help, we're able to take her previous experience at the Walton Reporter and add it to our news coverage. This includes her regular county committee meetings, as well as coverage for the Town and Village of Delhi. Being local helps in that pursuit! We've also added significant research, photography, and investigative skills with Robert Brune of Arkville. In addition, we've been able to work together with Catskills Air on a potential expansion of both ours and the channel's sports coverage. We're looking forward to our increased coverage of Delaware County in 2023 and beyond. If you would like more info or would like to partner with us in some way, our information is below.

Fortunately, with help from logistical tinkering and a little planning, we've been able to consolidate several routes into one. This means that customers in Delancey, Delhi, and Bloomville will get their copy in the mail on time. Previously, we had to mail it out through a distribution center, which meant that customers there (especially after the Bloomville Post Office closed) would get their papers late. Not anymore.

The longer that I work for the newspaper, the more and more I realize that this little venture is only possible because of those who have given their experience and effort in keeping our newspaper afloat. From our photographers to freelancers to section editors, to logistics, to sales, I realize that each of them have contributed something that I couldn't-- and that made our paper better.

We've grown a lot in the last six years-- increasing our page count by more than 400% and our circulation by more than six-fold. In an era where print journalism has faced steep challenges, the kindness of our readers and resilient skill of our team has allowed us to grow and improve little by little.

I look forward to announcing our next expansions with you later in the year and finding new ways that we here at the Mountain Eagle can serve you better.

-- Matthew Avitabile
Publisher

RUSTY AND LILA BY BILLY SHEARS



For more information or about syndication, contact Mr. Shears at shears-sw@protonmail.com.

WHITTLING AWAY WITH DICK BROOKS

News Junkie

I will admit to being a news junkie. I like to be up to date with my knowledge of the world in which I live and frequently it makes me remember the past or try to think up solutions to the problems I see people dealing with. It helps keep my brain exercised and helps stave off mental mush.

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GARDENING TIP OF THE WEEK BY BOB BEYFUSS Winter Tips to Be Safe!



Although it has been a pretty mild week, eventually, the snow and cold weather will return. Please be very, very careful when shoveling snow! An hour spent shoveling heavy snow is more strenuous than running full speed on a treadmill. Every winter, many seemingly healthy people have fatal heart attacks while shoveling snow. Your heart attack risk even lasts for about an hour after you come inside. Breathing cold air diverts blood away from your internal organs to your skin and this can trigger a heart attack. You may feel just fine while doing this chore, but quit before you get even a little tired, or begin to sweat and try to avoid shoveling when it is really cold or windy. Seniors are particularly at risk, as are people with other health issues, or COVID.

Last week I neglected to mention that there are some de-icing products that are advertised as being "pet friendly". There are actually no products that are 100% safe for your pets, either from ingestion, or skin contact, but some are less corrosive and damaging to paws than others. If your dog will tolerate them, doggie boots are the best protection for your dog's feet from rock salt and the elements. Before you spend the big bucks to buy any of these products, make sure they are not just re-packaged common items. If the ingredients are mostly Sodium

Chloride (rock salt) or Calcium chloride, you can buy them much cheaper than special blends. Some of these other pet friendly products will contain propylene glycol, which is a type of antifreeze, as is ethylene glycol. Ethylene glycol is highly toxic to dogs, however and propylene glycol is not. Both are sweet tasting and some dogs will readily consume either of them. Be very careful handling any car antifreeze if you have pets!

Neither is particularly good at melting ice or snow, however. They lower the freezing point of water, but they don't melt ice very well in very cold weather, compared to calcium chloride. At 30 degrees, one pound of rock salt will melt 46.3 pounds of ice, but at 0 degrees, the same pound of salt will melt just 3.7 pounds of ice. Salty brines, containing either rock salt or calcium chloride are often used as pre-treatment when snow is expected. Beet juice is sometimes added to these brines to make them more effective at lower temperatures.

Another ingredient you may see listed is urea. Urea is a concentrated nitrogen fertilizer, containing about 46% nitrogen and it does melt ice and snow. It is also relatively non-toxic to animals. Actually, any chemical garden fertilizer, such as 10-10-10 or 5-10-5, will melt snow in a pinch. The down side of using urea is that if applied anywhere near grass, such as along a walkway, the grass adjacent to the walk will grow like crazy for several years afterwards! It may need to be mowed two or three times as often as grass that

is further away. I made that mistake years ago when I used some garden urea on my driveway to melt ice. I am not fond of lawn mowing in general, so I was not happy to have to mow these places so often. I thought it was only a temporary reaction to the urea, but the grass grew like mad for the next two, whole seasons!

Now that the grass has gone dormant and most of the snow has melted, this is a good time to fertilize large trees on your lawn, or in your backyard. Only apply fertilizer if the tree has been declining or appears to have stopped growing. Measure the circumference of the tree at about 4 foot high and apply one pound of 10-10-10 or the equivalent per inch of circumference. If you are using something like urea, which is 46 % nitrogen, you will only need to apply about 1/4 pound, per inch of circumference. If you are using 5-10-10, apply two pounds per inch of circumference. An organic fertilizer, such as dried blood, which is about 12-0-0 would use about one pound as well.

The best way to apply it is to poke holes in the turf with something like a crowbar. The holes should be six inches deep to get the fertilizer beneath the root zone of the grass. Measure the amount of fertilizer you need in a pail and start poking holes about six feet from the trunk, in a circle around the tree. Fill each hole with the fertilizer. After making the first circle, repeat the process a couple of feet further away and continue making circles of holes extending beyond the dripline until you have used the entire amount.

There are items on the news that they wouldn't consider showing on The Cartoon Network or on The Comedy Network because they're just too silly. Like the guy who called the Police and reported that he had been robbed, someone had pilfered the drugs he was planning on selling and he thought that the police should do something about it--not the sharpest pool cue in the rack! Then there was the guy who stuck up a liquor store one night and ran down the street with the owner chasing after yelling bloody murder. A policeman on the beat took up the pursuit, the felon dodged into the neighborhood park, figuring to lose the policeman in the dark bushy area, he twisted and turned, doubled back and tried every trick he could think of and still couldn't shake his pursuer. He finally just stopped and surrendered. As he was being taken away, he asked the officer how he was able to track him in the dark. The officer laughed and reminded the young man that he was wearing those sneakers that light up with each step. Sounds like the shoes were brighter than the guy wearing them!

Recently reported there were two cases of seven year olds being handcuffed and removed from school by the Police. The poor little kids were crying, obliviously traumatized by the big, mean officers--then they showed the behavior that had led to the incident, the kids were out of control completely! These were two separate incidents but a temper tantrum is a temper tantrum, they were jumping on desks, throwing things, kicking and hitting teachers and aides. In both cases the classrooms had

to be evacuated for the safety of the other children, but there was a lot of learning going on that day!

Being a well known problem solver with a well established intellectual approach to things, I asked myself what I would do in these situations since in both cases the parents of the little darlings involved are talking lawsuits. The first solution I came up with was that since the kids were already handcuffed, handcuff them to their parents until they taught their children some anger management techniques or at the very least some manners. I realize that this is a short term solution, so I suggest that along with the friendly police officer that now inhabits most of our schools, we add someone from the Conservation Department, like maybe a Forest Ranger. The Police Officer teaches safety and usually runs the D.A.R.E. program, the Forest Ranger could teach about conservation, Smokey the Bear, and other nature stuff, they'd be a great team. What has this to do with unruly children you may ask? Remember that Conservation Officers

are trained to deal with out of control animals, bears in trees, rabid raccoons and such, best of all, they have those tranquilizer dart guns! Consider the possibilities, a little one goes wild in a classroom, call Ranger Rick--Pssst--and the little one goes peacefully to sleep. No trauma, very little disturbance to class time and the kid gets a well needed nap, it's win-win all the way. Most teachers or aides who have playground duty could probably speak to the usefulness of having a highly trained person with a dart gun on call to minimize rough play.

Yup! I enjoy the news, it's thought provoking! (To help head off the nasty e-mails, I don't REALLY believe that tranquilizer darts should be used on children although I can remember a few that----).

Thought for the week--The way my mind runs, I think I'll make a sign to hang around my neck that reads--DO NOT DISTURB. ALREADY DISTURBED!

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

whittle12124@yahoo.com

HALLOWEEN PUN By Timothy E. Parker

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Hoop Season Moves Into League Play in the New Year

DELAWARE LEAGUE – The Windham Lady Warriors defeated Loudonville Christian 72-18 in a non-league game on Monday. Amanda Nilsen led the charge with 29 points on the night and teammate Emma Drum chimed in another 16 points in double figures and Ashtyn Hansen added 13 points. Stamford/Jefferson defeated Gilboa 62-17 on Monday in a non-league

matchup. Tryhnati Donato led the way for S/J with 31 points, eight rebounds, seven assists and five steals. McKenna Hoyt chimed in another 13 points, nine rebounds and seven steals. Karly Sutton scored six points to lead the Wildcats. The Charlotte Valley Lady Wildcats defeated Downsville 42-11 in a non-league game on Monday. Jessica Zuill scored 13

points and pulled down 12 boards, while teammate Kailey Whitbeck chimed in another 12 points and Ella Gerster chipped in 11. Mckenzy Brown led the Lady Eagles with seven points. Windham defeated the Lady Eagles 42-18 last Thursday. Amanda Nilsen led the way with 18 points, Emma Drum added 15 points and Ashtyn Hansen bucketed eight points.

McKenzy Brown netted 11 points to lead Downsville. South Kortright defeated Hunter-Tannersville 44-21 last Thursday. Caitlyn Deysenroth scored 13 points and pulled down 14 rebounds and teammate Carlee Dropp added another 10 points in double figures. Hedda Flynn led all scorers with 14 points for H-T. Milford defeated Mar-

garetville 44-24 in non-league action last Thursday. Ava Fronckowiak was the high scorer for the Lady Blue Devils with nine points on the night. Last Wednesday, Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton defeated Downsville 40-16. McKenzie Brown scored 10 points in double figures for Downsville. South Kortright defeated Windham a 53-38 in a top league pairing on Jan

3. Caitlyn Deysenroth bucketed 18 points and seven rebounds, while Madison Coberly chimed in 15 points and nine steals and Addy Eckert added 12 points for the win. Emma Drum led Windham's scoring with 17 points on the night. Morris defeated Roxbury 60-34 in non-league action on Jan. 3. Kylie DeMaio scored 18 points to lead the Lady Rockets.

Windham Defeats Jefferson/Stamford for Delaware League Win, While SK Tops Davenport

DELAWARE LEAGUE – Two teams remained undefeated in league play as hoop season revs up in the new year. South Kortright and Margaretville were the only two unscathed in league play through Jan. 10. SK defeated Charlotte Valley on Tuesday to hand them their first league loss.

On the other side of the standings, the Windham Warriors defeated Jefferson/Stamford for their first league win and second win overall.

Windham used a balanced scoring attack, as the two teams traded leads throughout all four quarters. Windham held a six-point lead in the late going to hang on for the win. Eli Cercone led Windham with nine points, while Aaron Cohen added eight and Judah Allsop scored six points and pulled down

eight rebounds. J/S was led by Patrick Terk's seven-point effort.

In SK's key 84-43 win on Tuesday, Connor Quarino scored the game high of 23 points while Adam Champlin and Josh Anderson chimed in another 14 and 13 points, respectively in double figures and Troy Dianich added 10. The Rams moved out to a 16-point first half lead and added 19 more over third period to go on for the win. Eight players contributed points to the win. For Charlotte Valley, Jamison Quigley led his team with 14 points on the night. They also had eight players contribute points.

Margaretville defeated Gilboa 56-40 to pick up a league win on Tuesday. Ryan McVitty struck from the three-point mark, with four tres to lead the night's

scoring with 22 points for the Blue Devils. Connor Wayman added another 14 points in double figures with Christian Bravo adding seven points and dishing off five assists. For Gilboa, Dakota Oliver's 11 points and William Cipolla's 10 points led their cause. Margaretville led 31-23 at the half and held the Wildcats to single digits over the final two quarters to take the win.

The Downsville Eagles fell to non-league Greene 47-22 on Monday. Gavin Brunner was the high man for Downsville, with nine points.

Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton Upton defeated Jefferson/Stamford 47-41 on Monday. Patrick Terk led J/S scoring with 14 points on the night.

Downsville defeated Windham 46-27 in a league matchup last Fri-

day. Tyler Reed led the charge for the Eagles with 12 points and four assists, while Gavin Brunner added 11 points and 14 rebounds. Windham's Eli Cercone was the high scorer of the night with 14 points.

Margaretville defeated J/S 50-31 in a league pairing last Friday. Ryan McVitty led the way with the game high of 18 points, while teammate Connor Wayman added another 15 points in double figures. Mate' Villaneuva was the high man for Jefferson with eight points and 18 rebounds.

Charlotte Valley defeated Gilboa 70-62 in a battle of top league forces last Friday. Trevor Waid poured in 29 points to lead Davenport, while Jamison Quigley chimed in another 19 points for the win and Ezra Ontl

chipped in 14 points. William Cipolla led Gilboa with 23 points, while teammates Dakota Oliver and Jacob Strauch chimed in 11 points apiece.

South Kortright defeated Hunter-Tannersville 76-26 in league action last Friday. Troy Dianich led the way with 17 points and Josh Anderson added another 13 points in double figures. Jevail McKinie led H-T with eight points.

In a non-league pairing last Wednesday, Worcester defeated Jefferson/Stamford 34-24. Patrick Terk had six points for J/S.

Roxbury defeated Windham 45-31 to pick up a non-league victory. George Proctor netted 23 points and pulled down 11 rebounds to lead the charge for the Rockets and Jordan Johnston added another 9 points.

Taran Davis had a good night on the boards, pulling down 14 rebounds. Eli Cercone led the Warriors with 13 points.

Charlotte Valley defeated Downsville 46-40 to pick up a league victory. Jamison Quigley scored 20 points and Trevor Waid chimed in 11 to the win. For Downsville, Gavin Brunner and Tyler Reed each scored 12 points.

Roxbury fell to non-league Morris 94-31 on Jan. 3. George Proctor scored 14 points to lead the Rockets.

South Kortright defeated Windham 91-24 to pick up a league win on Jan. 3. Troy Dianich netted 25 points, Connor Quarino added 19 points and Adam Champlin contributed 15 points to the win. Jacob Schwartz led Windham scoring with 10 points.



Above: Windham's Eli Cercone (32) finds himself all alone at the hoop as he took the layup during Tuesday's Delaware League action at Jefferson.

Above right: Windham's Judah Allsop (33) takes the shot as Louis Ortiz (11) puts some pressure on in league action at Jefferson on Tuesday. Windham won it.

Right! S/J's Caleb Hardenbergh (21) goes up for the rebound in action against Windham on Tuesday. The Warriors won it. More photos on next page.





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Potential 10% Tax Exemption For Delco Volunteer Firefighters & Emergency Responders

By Mary A. Crisafulli

DELHI - Delaware County Public Safety Committee members will request supervisors approve a 10% property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers. Emergency Services Director Steve Hood requested the exemption at a committee meeting on Jan. 9.

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

by the municipality. A lifetime exemption may be offered to individuals that have served over 20 years of volunteer service.

The legislation could support recruitment and retention efforts since many volunteer services struggle to keep membership, said Hood. All fire departments in Delaware County operate solely through volunteers. Hood suggested offering a maximum 10% exemption for volunteers who have served for two years. Albany county has already drafted a local law for the exemption, which can be used as a template, he said. The law suggests utilizing a points program for continued participation in the exemption. Volunteers would be required to acquire a minimum of 50 points annually for atten-

dance at meetings, training, or responding to calls, to remain exempt.

A limit of one exemption per property would be offered, Hood explained.

Towns, school districts, and fire districts would be required to pass a separate local law to participate in the state legislation, said Hood.

Andes Supervisor Wayland Gladstone, committee chairperson, said the exemption is a good incentive to keep volunteers.

"Everyone is struggling to get volunteers, this could help," said Roxbury Supervisor Allen Hinkley.

Proposed legislation will be reviewed by Real Property Tax Director Sherri Falcone and County Attorney Amy Merklen before it's presented to supervisors.

In another discussion, Hood reported estimates for an updated integrated computer dispatch and records management system were higher than expected, ranging between \$300,000 and \$700,000. Grants awarded for purchase of the system have been extended, providing an opportunity to negotiate cost or explore additional options, he explained. Approximately \$152,921 from the state Public Safety Answering Points Operations Grant Program and \$85,356 from the State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program are intended to purchase a new integrated system. Hood is working to secure an additional \$250,000 in state grants.

The system will replace the state-regulated computer system, which is expected to be discon-

tinued, Hood explained. The current system does not operate in conjunction with the Sheriff's record-keeping system. The new system should have total interface capability between Sheriff's records and 911 dispatch to increase efficiency, he added. With interface capability, Hood said, dispatchers can share essential details with responding units.

Two types of systems are being explored, one with cloud-based data collection and another which would require an on-site server. Both contract options would incorporate complete oversight by an outside agency, including system updates, equipment management, and security.

Once implemented, Hood said the initial system would remain in place while a test period

is conducted. Once the new system is at approximately 90% accuracy, he said the current system would be shut down.

In other business:

The county contracted ambulance service through AMR (American Medical Response) responded to 220 calls with 99 cancellations for December.

Emergency services in Delaware County received 36,446 total calls in 2022; 24,234 law enforcement, 4,293 fire department, and 7,919 emergency responders. Approximately 69% of calls are from wireless callers, 6% less than the national average.

The next Delaware County Public Safety Committee meeting will be scheduled at the next supervisors meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 1 p.m.

Sports, from Previous Page



It's a loose rebound as Windham's Tyler Lashua (23) and J/S's Matt Villeneuve (13) miss the opportunity during league action on Tuesday. BELOW: J/S's Jordan Anderson (15) takes a shot during Tuesday's league action on his home court against Windahm in coverage by our own Liz Page.



Creative Workshops led by Celia Buchanan at Headwaters Arts Center

66 Main St. Stamford, NY

607.214.6040 or roxburyartsgroup.org

The Headwaters Arts Center on Main Street in Stamford is hosting two creative workshops led by artist Celia Buchanan in January and February. The first, 'Mixed Media Workshop' will be held on Saturday, January 14th from 11 am to 4 pm. This workshop will be an exploration of multimedia techniques using stencils and resist methods incorporating watercolor inks, soft water-soluble wax pastels, liquid acrylics, and beyond. Participants will learn the correct way to combine multimedia and maintain archivally stable work while having fun.

The second event will be a Monoprint Workshop taking place on Thursday, February 16th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. In this workshop, one-of-a-kind monoprints will be created using gel plates and acrylic paints. It is a combination of printmaking, painting,

and drawing media all rolled into one. Participants will be introduced to mono and transfer printing. These workshops take place at the Headwaters Arts Center, 66 Main Street, Stamford.

The cost of each workshop is \$45, which includes all materials. Pre-registration is required at www.roxburyartsgroup.org. Masks are strongly encouraged.

Both workshops will be led by Celia Buchanan. Celia is a mixed media artist and holds a B.A. in 2-D surface design from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, Dundee, Scotland, and an M.A. in arts management in education from the City University, London. Celia's work has been featured in galleries, notably the Institute of Education, London, National Exhibition Center, U.K., and The London Design Center. Digital content creator, the author of several books and magazine articles on mixed media, sur-

face design, and fiber arts, Celia has been working in her field for over three decades. She now works and lives in NY and teaches throughout the USA, Canada, and the Caribbean.

For more information, connect with Headwaters Arts Center at 607.214.6040 or headwaters@roxburyartsgroup.org. Additional information and workshop tickets are available at www.roxburyartsgroup.org.

All programs offered by the Roxbury Arts Group are supported by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the office of the Governor and the NYS Legislature, the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation, the A. Lindsay and Olive B. O'Connor Foundation, the Tianaderah Foundation, The Roxbury Contemporary Catskill Lodging, The Delaware National Bank of Delhi, and by the generosity of business sponsors and individual donors like you.



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Delco Launch Terrorist Threat Assessment Unit

By Mary A. Crisafulli
 DELHI - Delaware County Sheriff Craig DuMond announced the launch of a threat assessment team at a board of supervisors meeting on Jan. 4.

Following the May 2022 supermarket shooting in Buffalo, resulting in the death of 10 individuals, Governor Kathy Hochul issued a state mandate requiring counties to develop a plan to identify and prevent acts of domestic terrorism.

Special Advisor Brian Perazone gave a presentation on plans for the assessment team. The team will have over 30 members involved in emergency services, behavioral and mental health, law enforcement, school systems, and other high-risk organizations. Bringing these groups together to collaborate will increase communication regarding potential threats, said Perazone. In addition, he said,

the team can offer proper resources to the individual in question to prevent the threat.

Some driving factors for school shootings are mental illness, broken homes or violence in the home, and economic insecurity, said Perazone. Some statistics on school shootings include 27% of school shooters had an interest in violent movies, 37% expressed violence in writing, poems, essays, or journal entries, 59% of shootings occurred during the school day, 63% had a history of weapon use, 93% engaged in concerning activity before the attack, 90% planned the attack, 68% used a weapon from their home, and 93% were current students of the school they attacked, said Perazone. In addition, many attackers are involuntarily celibate and post concerning remarks or plans for violence on social media prior to an attack, he added. Statistics

on previous violent acts can help the assessment team identify and mitigate potential threats.

Warning signs are "cries for help," said Perazone, and the team can step in to offer the appropriate supports to divert the individual from violent acts by encouraging participation in positive activities. "That could be all it takes," he said. Previously, there has not been a consistent stream of communication or plan for organizations to report concerning warning signs, which are typically present before an attack, said Perazone.

Unit members have established an anonymous tip line, 888-914-9111, where potential threats can be reported, and the team can assess the situation. Perazone clarified the team would not collect or share information on individuals outside of threat assessment needs. If a threat is identified, the proper organization

will be notified and given resources to mitigate or divert the situation; it is then up to the discretion of such organization to intervene, he explained.

In addition to the tip line, Delaware County has a cell phone application that can be downloaded at any application store. The application, called Delaware County NY Sheriff, has an area to report potential threats, read press releases, see sex offender lists or animal abuse registry, and more.

The state has been running a campaign for several years, "If you see something say something," said DuMond. Even if it is not a potential act of terrorism, DuMond encourages individuals to contact the department through the tip line or application. "We are living in a different time, things are changing and there are threats, if something looks out of place it probably is," he said. "This is

what you pay taxes for, call us, if its nothing, no harm no foul. If it could make our community better it's worth informing us."

Another goal of the assessment team, Perazone continued, will be to establish consistent active shooter plans for schools, hospitals, stores, government buildings, and other high-risk areas. The team will conduct training sessions and support organizations in safety planning.

By employing these measures, DuMond said, we, as a county, can say, "We tried our best to prevent the situation and raise awareness."

The state mandate has formalized and connected measures already in place, he added. Since September 11, he said, the sheriff's department and emergency services have been involved in anti-terrorist efforts in a robust way. Delaware County is a member of the Counter

Terrorism Zone Six, where officials meet regularly with other county officials in the zone, state, federal, and FBI representatives to address potential violent acts and share information, he explained. In addition, DuMond said, deputies participate in red team exercises that assess businesses in the county for sensitivity to domestic acts or threats of violence and help establish prevention mechanisms.

Delaware County has not had a domestic terrorist event that DuMond can recall, though he said there have been several threats investigated over the years.

The state budgeted \$10 million to support the creation of threat assessment teams in all 57 counties. Each county is eligible to receive up to \$172,413 in state funding. According to Perazone, the county will be seeking grant funding to support the team's efforts.

Music on the Delaware January 15th

Music on the Delaware Coffeehouse Concert: Sara Milonovich and Greg Anderson

Sunday, January 15, 2023, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Walton Theatre

Music on the Delaware is excited to bring Sara Milonovich and Greg Anderson (of Daisycutter) to the Walton Theatre coffeehouse on January 15, 2023. The live concert will run from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. and is free, with donations accepted. It will also be available for home viewers at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84455407805>. For more information, see www.musiconthedelaware.org.

Sara started playing



fiddle professionally at a young age, first performing the music she heard in her home area, Upstate New York, then diverging to bluegrass, folk, rock, Celtic, and Americana. She has performed across the world, first with The McKrells, then with other well-known musicians including Pete Seeger and Eliza Gilkyson, and eventually with the band, Daisycutter. She recently appeared in the popular Broadway show, "Come From Away," and was just named 2022 Americana Artist of the Year by the Capital District Thomas Edison Music Awards ("The Eddies").

Milonovich will be accompanied by guitarist

Greg Anderson. The Northcoast Journal says of the two musicians: "Milonovich is a world class fiddler and very talented singer, and her accompanist has a simple versatility with the acoustic guitar that sounds a lot easier than it is to accomplish. These musicians are obvious lifers."

The duo will perform a concert of mostly original songs, many from Sara's most recent solo release "Northeast," which has received high praise from the music world.

Sara's website is <http://www.saramilonovich.com>

Her Facebook is:

<https://www.facebook.com/daisycuttermusic>

Sara is also @daisycutter on Instagram and @SaraMilonovich on Twitter. Audio can be streamed from Bandcamp, at saramilonovich.bandcamp.com.

Upcoming Coffeehouse concerts include Bill Seneschal on 2/19/23 (folk and country); Linda Hickman & Iris Nevins on 3/19/23 (traditional Irish); Barn Paint Blue on 4/16/23 (traditional/progressive bluegrass); and Bea Summers & Barb Acker (The B's) on 5/21/23 (classic country, country rock, folk, and originals).

Community Participation Needed to Develop Onteora Central School District's District-Wide Plan

BOICEVILLE— The Onteora Central School District Board of Education's Ad Hoc Long-Term Planning Committee is seeking volunteers to participate in three collaborative, structured discussions designed to gather stakeholder input to support the development of a long-term, District-wide Plan. Volunteers are asked to participate in three sessions—one in January, one in February, and one in March.

"There are important conversations needed regarding the challenges

and opportunities faced by the District, and the Board and its Ad Hoc Long-Term Planning Committee are eager to hear the thoughts and ideas of community members from all of our various stakeholder groups," explains Superintendent Victoria McLaren.

Some areas that will be explored include addressing staff shortages, facilities needs, budgeting, student achievement, community impact, and the expansion of the Middle School to add Grade 6. Additional topics will

likely emerge during the course of the process.

At each event, facilitators will lead teams of volunteers through "World Café-style" sessions, which are small group discussions that are designed to encourage and promote a focused conversation; value and honor the perspective that each participant brings to the conversation; allow for an exchange of thoughts and ideas through conversation; and promote thought and reflection as a result of the conversation.

The World Café discussions are planned for 6:30-8 PM on the following dates:

January 31, 2023 at the Middle/High School Cafeteria (snow date 2/2)

February 28, 2023 (to be held remotely: a Zoom link will be provided)

March 27, 2023 at the Middle/High School Cafeteria (snow date 3/29)

Those interested in volunteering for the discussions are asked to participate in all three sessions, review The Baughman Report prior to the first event, and be willing to engage with their rep-

resentative stakeholder team between sessions. Interested individuals who can commit to these three criteria are asked to complete a brief online volunteer questionnaire by January 19. The questionnaire can be found at www.onteora.k12.ny.us/survey23.

The goal is to have balanced representation from students, parents, faculty, staff, and various groups within the community (senior citizens/retirees, business owners, elected officials, realtors, non-profits,

community groups, etc.). If there are more respondents than necessary from a particular group or groups, then participants will be chosen by lottery.

"Hearing diverse viewpoints is an important step in the process of developing our long-term plan," says McLaren. "We hope that many will choose to participate in this process and help in the shaping of the future of our District."

For further information, please contact Sharon Wood at (845) 657-8851.



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When Ruled the World

Part VI

Major League Baseball in the 1970s, the Last Golden Era

By David Avitabile

The baseball of the 1970s began with the Amazin' Mets' unexpected championship over the Baltimore Orioles in October 1969 and ended with the "We Are Family" Pirates' victory over the Orioles 10 years later.

In between were the first, league-wide organized strike, the beginning of free agency, the introduction of the Designated Hitter rule, garish uniforms, drug problems, wild Afros, expansion, team relocation, fake grass, and the birth of the million-dollar baseball player.

"When Topps Ruled the World" looks at all these changes and happenings in Major League baseball not through the eyes of the owners, commissioner, or business people of the game. It speaks through the most interesting people: the ballplayers.

The kids of the 1970s still looked at ballplayers as heroes instead of millionaires. They were idols to be looked up to. They may have had feet of clay but that feature was not exposed in the pre-Internet and social media world of the 1970s.

You are about to travel back in time not only to the era of the stars such as Reggie Jackson, Tom Seaver, and Pete Rose, but to the times of Fred "The Chicken" Stanley, Herb Washington, Danny Ainge, and many others who helped make the decade what it was.

Bob Locker, 1973, #645.

One of the biggest fears in the halls of baseball card companies, aside from a protracted baseball strike, must be trades.

It must be hard enough for players, uprooted from a place they have called home, at a moment's notice, sometimes in the middle of a season.

Card companies have to scramble to "update" their photos to match the player's new uniform.

Take, for instance, this waxy image of reliever Bob Locker.

The A's committed a baseball-card sin and traded Bob to the Cubs in November 1972 for Billy North.

Topps, unfortunately, did not have any pictures of the righty hurler in Cubs blue and white and had to make-do with what they had, which was this shot of him pitching against the Orioles (I think).

Locker not only got traded but also lost his number on his back. Talk about an identity crisis.

The artists did a good job adding the little bear and some baby blue and erasing the green and gold of the Oakland uniforms, but check out the center fielder (Reggie Jackson) who has a big "C" stuck right in the middle of his chest.

It could have been worse, I guess.

By the way, almost exactly a year later, Bob was sent back to the A's

in November 1973 for pitcher Horacio Pina.

But then the Cubs realized the mistake of their way and traded for Locker again after the 1974 season (in which he didn't pitch), leaving everyone in Chicago and Oakland confused.

Milt Pappas, 1971, #441.

They say that "almost" only counts in hand grenades and horseshoes. I guess Milt Pappas knows what close really means.

Pappas, who will forever be known as the player the Orioles traded to get "old" Frank Robinson from the Reds, was enjoying one of his best seasons for the Cubs in 1972 when he came to the mound on September 2 at Wrigley Field against the Padres.

The Cubs were buried 11 games behind the Pirates in the National League East but don't blame Pappas, he went on to go 17-7, tied for the most games he won in a year in his 17-year career.

The Padres were still in their incubation and trying to gain their bearings.

In a typical cold, windy Wrigley afternoon before 11,144 Cubbie diehards, Milt retired the first three Padres in the first, in the second. It continued through the third, fourth, fifth, all the way to the ninth inning.

With the fans roaring on every pitch, Pappas retired John Jeter on a liner to left field and Fred Kendall on a ground out to shortstop. All that stood Pappas and baseball immortality and having his hat hang on a wall in the Hall of Fame was left handed hitting back-up outfielder Larry Stahl, a lifetime .232 hitter.

Pappas went to 3-2 on Stahl. Milt threw one more fastball. Catcher Randy Hundley tried to frame it, and it was close, but home plate umpire Bruce Froemming, in his second season of a 37-year career, called it a ball.

Some have argued that Froemming, a relatively new umpire, should have called the pitch a strike.

After the game, Hundley said, "Froemming could have called that a strike and nobody would have said anything about it." Most people remember Babe Pinelli for calling a third strike against Dale Mitchell to end Don Larsen's perfect game in the 1956 World Series. It was also Pinelli's last time behind the plate. If you look at the old black and white film clip of the last pitch by Larsen, it looks a bit outside. It didn't matter, Pinelli called it a strike and Yogi Berra caught it and leapt into Larsen's arms and the rest was history.

Back to Pappas. Despite coming as close as you can to baseball perfection, Pappas was able to compose himself and get Garry Jesteadt (remember him? I didn't think so). on a pop up to

second base to complete a no hitter, no small accomplishment.

Unlike other sports, in baseball you can't run out the clock by taking a knee in a "victory formation.", or dribbling the ball by yourself, The pitcher can't kneel down and let the final seconds tick off. The players can't form a "four corner" like in basketball to keep the ball away from the other team.

Baseball is made up of 27 outs.

If it was only 26 outs, baseball would be very different. If you don't think so, just ask any Angels or Red Sox fans from 1986 when one out means.

Records are made to be broken and equaled, if we cheapen them by giving those who are close a break (think Michael Strahan "sacking" Brett Favre to break the season sack record), we might as well ban scoreboards, stop keeping score, like in a T-ball game, and announce that there will be no winners and losers and that everyone get a trophy for participating.

Pete Rose, 1975, #320.

Being a disciple of Bud Harrelson, it was very hard for me to warm up to Pete Rose.

A day after the famous (infamous) Rose-Harrelson fight in the 1973 National League championship series, the Reds' left fielder homered off of the Mets Harry Parker to send the playoffs in a deciding fifth game. As he ran (yes, he ran) around the bases, Rose held his fist high in triumph as New York fans booed him. In the end, the Mets and their fans got the last laugh as Tom Seaver, Tug McGraw, Eddie Kranepool, and the other New Yorkers downed the Reds to win the playoffs at Shea Stadium the next day.

The years, though, softened one's outlook and by 1978, as Rose was chasing the ghost of Wee Willie Keeler and the legacy of Joe DiMaggio, I rooted for him.

When he helped the Phillies to their first

World Series title in 1980, I was happy. It didn't hurt that Tug McGraw was the "fireman" for those Phillies.

As he lined a pitch off of Eric Show of the Padres to break the all-time hit record in 1985, I smiled.

"Charlie Hustle," the man who ran out walks, played baseball the way it was supposed to be played (at least when he was a player and not a bet-making manager). Who could deny or dislike that? He played to win.

Maybe he played to win too much. Just ask Ray Fosse when he tried to stop Rose from scoring the winning run in the 1970 All Star game.

That drive to succeed eventually put him in jail and out of baseball forever and the only way he could enter the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown was to pay his way in like the rest of us. From the day he broke in with the Reds as a second baseman in 1963, it seemed like his bronze plaque was just waiting to be hung on the wall but it was not to happen.

Now we don't remember Pete for his head-first slides or line-drive hits, it is a vision of Rose selling his personal artifacts on one of those cable channels in the middle of the night.

Sandy Vance, 1971, #34.

Sandy Vance seemed destined for fame.

Even his name seemed to portend success for the Dodgers.

His first name was borrowed from the great Sandy Koufax and his surname was the same as great Dodger Dazzy Vance. How could he miss?

After Sandy Koufax, that is, retired after the 1966 season, the Dodgers were hurting for pitching.

The Dodgers drafted the Pasadena High School graduate in the second round of the June 1968 supplementary draft. In his first year in the Dodgers system, Vance split his first year between LA's rookie league and AAA teams

and ended with a 15-3 record and 2.54 ERA with 158 strike outs in only 131 innings in 20 games. By 1970, he advanced to the big club and had a good start going 7-7 for the Dodgers with a 3.13 ERA. But, he would only win two more games in his career and he was out of baseball altogether by 1973.

If an outfielder came up with the Yankees with the name of Babe Mantle, I guess we would all expect a lot of majestic home runs.

Sometimes it's just not in the cards.

Lenny Randle, 1973, #78.

Either Lenny Randle was very brave or very stupid.

Lenny is remembered for two things.

In the spring of 1977, Randle, upset over a lack of playing time, cold cocked his manager, Frank Lucchesi of the Rangers. The manager was knocked out and suffered a broken rib. For his efforts, Randle was fined \$23,500 and suspended for 30 days.

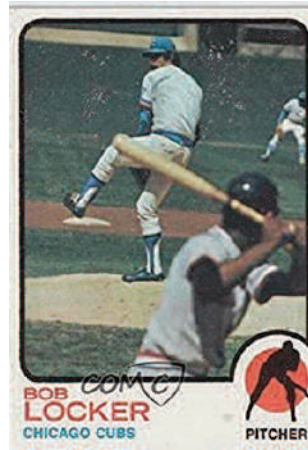
After that, it was "Baseball Siberia" for Fightin' Lenny.

The 1977 Mets, under the reign of M. Donald Grant (remember when Shea Stadium was known as Grant's Tomb?), forever looking for a bargain, picked up the scrappy infielder on waivers.

He hit .304 that summer for the Mets but was better known as the man who lived out the All-American dream by showing his boss exactly how he feels about him.

Then, just for good measure, Randle, who was toiling for the Mariners by now, thrust his way into the headlines again as blew a roller by the Royals Amos Otis foul as it rolled up the third base line. Randle succeeded and the ball went foul but Otis was awarded first base on a hit and baseball had a new rule against blowing a ball foul.

To be remembered more than 40 years later after hitting just 27 home runs in 12 seasons is no small feat.



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Rip Van Winkle

The Catskills Chronicle

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FRIDAY, January 13, 2023

\$1.00



Juiced To Start

The Tree Juice Maple Syrup crew in Arkville has not tapped yet, but the team has been busy in the woods since the fall, fixing lines, changing out all droplines (from the spout to the sapline, about 5,000 of them). Ryan Annetts (foreground) said they are changing out old droplines to reduce bacteria buildup in lines and the result should be a significant yield increase (up to 70% according to research by UVM). At right is founding partner Jake Fairbairn. — Contributed photo

RCS Starts Search For Superintendent

Jeffrey Bennett Retired Dec. 31 After Three Years

By Brian Sweeney

A search for a new superintendent is underway by the Roxbury Central School Board of Education.

The RCS Board held an informational meeting with community members on January 9 to update the public on how the search will be conducted.

Jeffrey Bennett, who served as superintendent for three years, notified the board in December of his plans to retire as of December 31. Superintendent Bennett began work at the Roxbury District on January 2, 2020, two months before the pandemic hit. Dr. Joanne Shelmidine has begun duties as interim superintendent and is under contract through June. The RCS Board of Education is hoping to have the full-time position filled by July 1.

Dr. Huber, ONC BOCES District Super-

intendent/Roxbury search consultant and several of her colleagues were present at the January 9 session to explain the goals of the community focus groups.

Prior to the public meeting, Dr. Huber had conducted focus groups with internal stakeholders (students, administrators, teachers, and support staff) as a preliminary step in the superintendent search.

Seeking input

The search consultant explained that information gathered from community focus groups will be to the feedback garnered from the internal stakeholders to generate a complete picture of the qualities sought by the community in its next superintendent.

The schedule developed by the RCS Board of Education for the superintendent search includes the following timeframes. The job vacancy was set to be posted on January 12

with applications due no later than February 7.

The board is planning has set February 8 at the date for its initial application review. The next step in the process would be determining stakeholder interview groups by March 1. The following day, the board anticipates interviewing candidates to determine finalists to be considered for the position.

A mandatory stakeholder interview group meeting is set for March 13 at 6:30 p.m.

March 21 & 22, 2023: Finalist interviews would then take place on March 21 and 22. The board then expects to appoint a new superintendent at either its April 12 or May 9 meeting. The appointee would begin work at the district on July 1.

Anyone who was unable to attend the informational meeting is invited to fill out a questionnaire regarding the hiring process that can be found at: roxburycs.org

Roxbury's 'Friendly Neighbor Policy' Seen As Compromise For STR Rules

Town Seeking Middle Ground On Regulations

By Mike Martin

The Town of Roxbury is taking a unique step in trying to reach a compromise regarding the STR (Short-Term Rental) debate. This has become a hot issue among residents on both sides of the debate.

About a year-and-a-half ago, the town board took up the task of trying to draft some basic STR regulations. They were soon to find this was a much more complicated task than anyone thought. Roxbury established a committee to review,

investigate the issue and report back to the town board with recommendations. The committee struggled for more than a year trying to sift through all the considerations and recommend regulations that were fair to STR owners and non-owners alike.

Resistance met

They met with resistance from both sides. Among the primary concerns was the issue of who was responsible for managing, tracking, oversight, fines, and enforcement of any regulations that would be implemented. It was determined that, to perform these duties would possibly require setting

up an additional department with paid employees.

The issue was already becoming more complicated than first thought. The committee recommended tabling the issue for a while, as few complaints had arisen from STR abuse. This decision, after the considerable amount of work that had gone into studying the issue, didn't sit well with many residents and the town board received a large number of letters complaining about the lack of action on the issue.

In an attempt to satisfy all sides, Supervisor Allen Hinkley stated the town wasn't abandon-

continued on E4

Middletown Sets Annual Appointments

Organizational Meeting Held

Staff report

Committee appointments official designations were made at the Middletown Town Board's Organizational Meeting on January 4.

The following appointments for the upcoming year were made by Supervisor Patrick Davis: Brian Sweeney was reappointed as Deputy Supervisor and Signatory for all bank accounts. Beth Bush was named Supervisor's Bookkeeper / Secretary and Personnel Administrator. Nicholas

Cortese, a partner with Coughlin & Gerhart, LLP, was appointed Attorney for the Town. Verna Dietrich will serve as the town's Dog Control Officer, Roger Davis was reappointed Transfer Station Supervisor. Representative to the MARK Board, Brian Sweeney.

Other appointments include: Sarah Hubbell, Town Health Officer; Joseph Todd, Chairman of the Board of Assessors; Patricia Kelly, Registrar of Vital Statistics, Mary Vaccaro Deputy Registrar, Patrick Davis, Budget Officer, Arkville/Halcottsville Water Superintendent, Cedar-

wood Engineering; Diana Fronckowiak, Arkville/Halcottsville Water Clerk; Leonard Utter, Historian; Hiram Davis, Code Enforcement Officer, Floodplain Administrator, CRS Coordinator, and Safety/Fire Inspector; Sandy Rockwell, Justice Court Clerk, Mike Hill, Deputy Highway Superintendent.

Committee appointments for town board members include: Economic Development and Planning Committee, Carl Davis and Brian Sweeney; Legislation and Policy Committee, Christopher Dabritz

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Manning Named Catskill Mtn. Club Director

DELHI — Peter Manning has been named executive director of the Catskill Mountain Club (CMC).



Peter Manning

Peter is well known in the Catskills for his work on the many pressing issues that face the Catskill Park and region. He has demonstrated his strong support for the CMC by serving as the volunteer editor of our newsletter and he is a long-time member of the club.

He is also an avid outdoor enthusiast who appreciates the importance of the organization's outing and event programs. As an experienced regional

planner and an organizer of projects that align perfectly with the mission of the CMC, officials are confident that Peter is well prepared to lead the club through its

next chapter.

"It's a great privilege to work with such a dedicated organization. The Club is instrumental in protecting the Catskills and advancing appreciation of its resources through many channels," according to Peter.

"The club's positive impacts on the region and its accomplishments with outdoor recreation are quite impressive. The strong commitment of the CMC board, the devoted work of former Executive Director Wendell George, and the healthy volunteer participation are inspirational. I am thrilled to

be stepping into this critical role, and I look forward to building upon this momentum. I'm excited to work with all the partners, many of whom I've collaborated with to advance crucial projects and programs," Peter commented.

Catskill Mountain Club officials expressed their appreciation to the A. Lindsay & Olive B. O'Connor Foundation for its support and faith in the CMC and its mission. The foundation's generous grant will partially fund the position of Executive Director for three years and sets the CMC on the path to success.

The Property Exchange

See Titan Drilling sponsor ad this page

Roxbury acreage

Congratulations to Maura on the sale of her gorgeous Roxbury land featuring a spring-fed pond with swim dock, mountain views and privacy! Listed by Jeffrey Ashton of Coldwell Banker Timberland Properties, Margaretville office.

and when it came time to sell their vacant parcel on Shaver Hollow, they called the top producing agent for land sales in Delaware County, Cricket Keys from the Catskill Dream Team.

Keys used her expertise of vacant land to find the right buyer who was familiar with the area and looking for some land to hunt on with his family. Another happy real estate match in the Catskills!

Parcel with pond

The Chirico family has enjoyed their various properties in the Catskills for many years

Roxbury General Marks Start of 10th Business Year

ROXBURY — Roxbury General, a modern general store on Main St. in Roxbury, will be celebrating the start of its 10th year in business. On Saturday, Jan. 14th they will offer 14% off on all merchandise in the store. Cava and canapes will be served from 4-6 p.m.

Doug McLaurine and Robin Factor opened their general store to serve the needs of the community, both temporary and permanent, with a quality shopping experience offering a variety of carefully curated crafts, gifts, homewares, hardware, clothing, and more.

In their years here in the Catskills they have

become familiar with the ethos of the community and are ever enthusiastic and optimistic about its prospects. Originally located in the Enderlin Building on Main Street in Roxbury, the store moved in 2017 to a building Robin and Doug bought and totally renovated, including restoring the façade to match its original 1898 appearance as a Dry Goods Store.

With their background in publishing (Doug in technology, Robin in content management) the couple had no experience in retail before opening Roxbury General, but had successfully worked to-

gether for more than 20 years, so the partnership was an easy one. The community, the beauty of the area, and the home and friends they have made here have meant a great deal to them and informed the success of the store.

Robin and Doug first came to the area for a family gathering one

cold and snowy December weekend in 2007 and fell in love with the Catskills.

They found a place in Roxbury among old and new friends; their home is just a few miles from the store. They are very grateful to the community, family, and friends for their support through the years.

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Obituaries



Blanche Kellerhouse

Blanche P. Kellerhouse passed away peacefully on December 23, 2022, after a brief illness. She was surrounded by the love and warmth of her children.

Born on June 17, 1950, in Saugerties, NY, Blanche was the youngest of four siblings and only daughter. Her father, James Mergendahl, worked at the local cement plant and her mother, Blanche (for whom she was named) was a stay-at-home mom. At age 15, Blanche met the love of her life, Keith Kellerhouse, at a local roller rink and the rest, as they say, is history. With the loving approval of her adoring father and three protective brothers, Blanche and Keith were married five years later. Blanche and Keith moved to West Hurley, NY to begin their life together.

Blanche and Keith were blessed with two sets of twins, nearly three and a half years apart. Blanche loved being a mom and enjoyed the daily routines of family life. She also savored visiting with cousins and friends, spontaneous field trips, and swimming at local beaches in the summer. When the family moved to Grand Gorge, summers were spent managing the family farm, picnicking, playing badminton over the sidewalk, and sharing laughter with one another. Throughout many years, the family farm welcomed friends and new generations of family. The grandchildren and great-grandchildren loved being with their grandmother, their "Nongey" – a special name that was coined several decades ago.

While most of her life

was devoted to family, Blanche also worked outside of the home. She owned a video store in Roxbury, Hometown Video. The store offered a variety of movies - cartoons, action, romance- something for everyone - and was a "local stop by" for friends in the community. Blanche enjoyed making connections and especially loved her conversations with the teenagers who came in not only for candy but also to discuss their adolescent angst.

One of Blanche's greatest joys was crafting, a creative passion that started early in life. Her talents included knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, sewing, quilting, and embroidering, to name a few. Her home was filled with mountains of fabric, thread, accessories, and crafting machines. The many gifts Blanche made with love for her family will be forever treasured. For more than ten years, she was a member of a quilting guild in Windham, NY, serving as its president during the past several years. The guild displayed their quilts in local shows and donated hundreds of quilts to local children's charities. The guild members, fellow quilters and crafters, were some of Blanche's closest friends.

Blanche valued friendship deeply. It was her friends – old and new – that made each day special. Most mornings started with a flurry of calls to longtime companions. The phone rang early and often. Daily updates and family news from close friends were an integral cadence to Blanche's life. Her day would not be complete if it didn't include conversations with Debbie, Casey, Jean, Marsha, Annie, and others. Blanche is predeceased by her parents, James and Blanche Mergendahl; and her brother, James Mergendahl. In August 2022, she lost her husband, Keith Kellerhouse. Together they had four children Becky Kellerhouse (Shannon), Amy Cronk (Robert), James Kellerhouse (Tom), and Benjamin Kellerhouse (Becky). She was best

known as "Nongey" to her seven grandchildren and their families – Jacob (Bonnie), John (Amanda), Olivia, James, and Lydia Cronk; and Keene and Kade Kellerhouse. She adored her three great-granddaughters, Abigail and Penelope Cronk, and Susanna Mead. Blanche is survived by her brothers William and John "Jack" Mergendahl and their families.

Family and friends are invited to a memorial service and celebration of life on Saturday, February 4, 2023 at p.m. at the Jay Gould Dutch Reform Church in Roxbury, NY. In lieu of flowers, we encourage you to make donations in her memory to the Grand Gorge Rescue Squad, 0753 State Highway 30, Grand Gorge, New York 12434.

Patrick Fronckowiak

Patrick F. Fronckowiak passed away peacefully at home as were his final wishes on January 7, 2023, after a lengthy illness.

He was born in Margaretville on March 2,

1946, to Joseph Fronckowiak Sr. and Ruth Davis Fronckowiak and is survived by his daughter, Christy Zullin and Daniel June and grandchildren, Raymond Jr., Dylan, Christy and Christyna.

Also surviving are his siblings; Judith Balcom, Stephen (Earleen) Fronckowiak, JoAnn (Richard) Bergeron, John (Franie) Fronckowiak, Michael (Doris) Fronckowiak, Juliana Hassett, Tim (Millie) Fronckowiak, Betty (Dale) Fronckowiak, and Joseph Fronckowiak III. He was predeceased by his parents and four brothers, Joseph Jr., Jerome, Robert, and David Fronckowiak.

He is also survived by numerous nephews and nieces and extended family members.

Pat spent the majority of his life in Fleischmanns after serving in the United States Army and was a self-employed contractor, he also served as a village trustee in the Village of Fleischmanns.

Calling hours were held Wednesday, January 11 at Hynes Funeral Home, Margaretville.

'Taste of Shabbat' Series Online

FLEISCHMANNS — Congregation B'nai Israel will continue its "Taste of Shabbat" series via zoom on Friday, January 20.

Log on starts at 6:15pm and the event is from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

The service is free and you do not need to be a member. This is a special opportunity to meet your neighbors during this uplifting service filled with singing, prayer and music.



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PROGRAM SCHEDULE

1/13 Fri	6:00PM - Citizen News Bureau - Lori Fairbairn brings you the Weekend Weather report for the Catskill Region. 6:30PM - WARK Community Television Archives - The Larry Smith Show. Watch as Larry takes to the slopes at Belleayre Mountain. 7:00PM - Mostly Folk with Artie Martello - Artie's guest is Stella Prince, an 18 year old Singer/Songwriter. 7:30PM - WARK Community Television Archives - a show on Ice Climbing. (Airdate Early 80s) 8:00PM - Focus on the Arts - Elizabeth Mami talks Jim Richardson from Music on the Delaware about the upcoming coffeehouse with Sara Milonovich and Greg Anderson. They'll be performing a wonderful blend of Folk, Bluegrass, Celtic and Americana music. 8:30PM - Citizen News Bureau - Jezz Harkin visits The Bearsville Theater and talks with Lizzie Vann, the owner. Lizzie also takes Jezz on a tour of the theater.
1/14 Sat	6:00PM - Delaware County News Update - Julia Marks and Matt Avitabile bring you the latest news from the Delaware County Region. 6:30PM - The Hiker Trash Husbands - Join Jeff and Moe as they spend some time exploring Milan Hill State Park. 7:00PM - Downstaters - A comedy web series about two New Yorkers who leave big city life for the Catskills. In this episode, Jess & Beth learn that if you want to take out the trash you've got to play by the rules. 7:30PM - Focus on the Arts - Elizabeth Mami talks Jim Richardson from Music on the Delaware about the upcoming coffeehouse with Sara Milonovich and Greg Anderson. They'll be performing a wonderful blend of Folk, Bluegrass, Celtic and Americana music. 8:00PM - Music on the Delaware - Tune in for a pre-recorded concert with Reggie Harris. Reggie Harris is a musician, storyteller and educator who has been a vibrant force in musical, educational and historical circles for over 35 years.
1/15 Sun	6:00PM - Grocholl Homestead - Ashton makes planters for succulent plants and then shows us how planting vegetables from seed. 6:30PM - The Catskill Center - Do you know what to pack for a hike on a rainy day? Catskill Ridge Runner Jenny Flavin walks us through the essentials you will want to have to make sure you're safe and comfortable when the trails are soggy. 7:00PM - WARK Community Television Archives - The Larry Smith Show. Watch as Larry takes to the slopes at Belleayre Mountain. 7:30PM - Chamber Connects - The Delaware County Chamber of Commerce. Ray Pucci talks with NYS Cannabis Control Board member Jen Metzger discusses the work accomplished by the Office of Cannabis Management and the timeline for future action. 8:00PM - Robert - Portrait of an Art-er - A documentary about Robert Johnson, Franklin NY's beloved stone artist, and all around interesting person.
1/16 Mon	6:00PM - Focus on the Arts - Elizabeth Mami talks with local author, Peg DiBenedetto about her book, Silver Dollar Girls. In this book, DiBenedetto weaves a realistic tale of life in a rural farming town—the friendships, hardships and rewards. 6:30PM - WARK Community Television Archives - a show on Ice Climbing. (Airdate Early 80s) 7:00PM - Mostly Folk with Artie Martello - Coal miner's daughter, grand-daughter and great grand-daughter as well as International charting singer songwriter Tiffany Williams discusses her 3rd studio CD with Artie. 7:30PM - Your Role in New York's Climate Action - A virtual discussion about the state's climate planning process and what the scoping plan means for all New Yorkers—and what action you can take. Presented by The River.
1/17 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 & Robin Williams, a licensed insurance agent. Tonight's episode: Financial Aspects of Medicare. 7:00PM - The Hiker Trash Husbands - Join Jeff and Moe as they spend some time exploring Milan Hill State Park. 7:30PM - "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. 8:30PM - WARK Community TV Archives - Tune in and watch Dance Effects, a dance show that features local artists and hits of the 80s. (Airdate Early 80s).
1/18 Wed	6:00PM - Grocholl Homestead - Ashton makes planters for succulent plants and then shows us how planting vegetables from seed. 6:30PM - Focus on the Arts - Elizabeth Mami talks 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. 7:00PM - Medicare With Robin - Join Julia Marks as she asks important questions about Medicare with Robin Williams, a licensed insurance agent. Tonight's episode: Financial Aspects of Medicare. 7:30PM - The Delaware County Chamber of Commerce presentation on Workforce Wellness: Cancer Screening Program. 8:00PM - The Sonny Rock Show - Join Sonny as he visits with Sean Doolan, a magician from Magic on Main in Windham. 8:30PM - The Delaware County Chamber of Commerce presentation on Workforce Wellness: Cancer Screening Program.
1/19 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 Ray Lambiase and Lanny Sichel. Ray is a well accomplished folk musician with albums to his credit and a 5th being worked on. 7:00PM - Downstaters - A comedy web series about two New Yorkers who leave big city life for the Catskills. In this episode, Jess & Beth learn that if you want to take out the trash you've got to play by the rules. 7:30PM - WARK Community Television Archives - The Larry Smith Show. Watch as Larry takes to the slopes at Belleayre Mountain. 8:00PM - Music on the Delaware - Tune in for a pre-recorded concert with Reggie Harris. Reggie Harris is a musician, storyteller and educator who has been a vibrant force in musical, educational and historical circles for over 35 years.

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Here's The Scoop

Natural Balance

By Brian Sweeney

It's time for the late October — I mean mid-January — bird watching update. As you may recall, I have become a pretty big fan of bird feeding/viewing over the years. It's kind of a nice sport.

In case you haven't become part of the bird feeding society, it's pretty easy. There are no real skills involved. No confusing directions to follow. There are just a few key elements to keep in mind.

One thing that's important to remember is these devices are called bird feeders. Not to be confused with bear feeders. Bears, respected for their intelligence, are known to pretend they don't know the difference. That's why it's important to remove feeders during periods of non-hibernation.

Not all are welcome

So, if you've got that concept down, you can sit back and enjoy the feathered feeding frenzy. Oh, wait, what about squirrels? Good question. Squirrels also enjoy eating bird food. They are generally obnoxious and eat like pigs. As you have likely witnessed, the Internet is packed with videos of squirrels doing practically anything to gain access to bird feeders. While I don't think squirrels are generally regarded as highly intelligent, they certainly are cleverly annoying.

This brings us to the part of the column that squeamish readers may want to skip over. As I noted more than once (and my wife has often reminded me) I have been known to spend a good deal of time gazing outside to survey the wildlife action in our yard. It beats thinking. I mean it gives me time to think. Occasionally, I see something remarkable.

This is...yikes!

For instance, a few weeks back as I surveyed my Animal Kingdom, I watched a squirrel race across the bottom of our yard. "That one must be starving," I thought to myself. Seconds later, I realized the squirrel's motivation was not eating — but to not be eaten! It seems a bobcat was looking for some breakfast food and it didn't involve bird seed.

I called my wife to check out the bobcat and we had a great view as it crossed the yard, but then it disappeared over an embankment. The ground-feeding blue jays and other squirrels that had been enjoying the fruits of my labor didn't get the memo about the hungry visitor. After losing sight of the bobcat, I notified my wife I would go upstairs for a better vantage point. I had taken about 10 steps out of the room when the patient member of our family exclaimed how she had witnessed the bobcat sprinting to the feeder and plucking an unsuspecting squirrel.

Still hungry"

Although this activity can be considered bit gruesome, my wife had a closeup look at the natural world in action. Don't hate me, but I am still disappointed I missed this scene. I would have been OK if the bobcat had picked up a "two-fer" and also nabbed a blue jay. Face it, they are pretty obnoxious.

Truth be told, I'm betting the other squirrels were not terribly unhappy with the prospect of getting a bigger share of seeds.

I hope no one gets the wrong idea. I feed all birds (and squirrels and deer) that show up. It's just that I have favorites. Blackcap Chickadees and Cardinals are the feathered friends I like the best. They're polite and don't eat too much. With the price of bird seed, that's important. It's not like I can always count a bobcat to help keep the feeding population in check. But it sure keeps things lively. Unless you're a squirrel.

Roxbury's 'Friendly Neighbor Policy'

continued from E1
ing the issue, but needed to gather more information on the subject. The STR issue was still in their sights, he said, but was not a top priority issue at this moment while the board studies STR laws implemented in other nearby municipalities.

In an effort to offer a compromise equitable to all, on January 1, the town board passed a resolution adopting a "Friendly Neighbor Policy." The document describes ways for community members to live in harmony with all residents, whether STR owners, full or part-time residents.

This policy is meant simply to provide guidelines for proper behavior; there are no fines or enforcement mechanisms. It is the board's hope that everyone will read these guidelines, see the benefits and follow them.

Below is a copy of the adopted policy guidelines.

Friendly Neighbor Policy

The Town of Roxbury is a quaint area in the Catskill Mountains.

Roxbury offers several recreational opportunities, business amenities and dining opportunities, such as the world-renowned Roxbury Motel, the Roxbury at Stratton Falls, Ski Plattekill and Shephard Hills Golf Club, to name a few.

The Town of Roxbury is comprised of the Hamlet of Roxbury, as well as the hamlets of Grand Gorge and Denver.

As members of the community, we value relationships with our neighbors. Therefore, the Town Board created this policy for all permanent and part-time residents, as well as visitors to the Town of Roxbury. The policy indicates what makes for a friendly neighbor in the Town of Roxbury.

Trespassing:

Trespassing is prohibited. Wandering off your property onto a neighbor's property without permission is considered trespassing.

Noise:

Be considerate of your neighbors when it comes to noise. Do not disturb neighbors by

creating unnecessary disturbances or engaging in disorderly conduct.

Parking:

Do not block neighbors' driveways without their permission. Avoid using town parking lots for overnight parking; if on-street parking exists, please abide by the parking signs.

Garbage:

Avoid leaving garbage outside for a significant amount of time to eliminate the possibility of wildlife becoming a nuisance in the neighborhood. If possible, keep garbage left outside in sealed containers at all times.

The Roxbury Transfer Station can be used to dispose of garbage. A sticker can be purchased at the Roxbury Town Hall in order to have access to the Transfer Station. The owner/manager is responsible for garbage pick-up as guests do not have the authority to use Roxbury Transfer Station.

Dogs:

The Town of Roxbury

has a Leash Law; therefore, we ask that you keep your dog(s) on a leash when not on your property. We ask that when walking your dog(s) in the village, you ensure that you clean up after your dog(s). Please remember a barking or whining dog is considered noise and might be disturbing your neighbors.

Outside Fires:

If having a fire, please keep it contained and refrain from having a fire during the posted burn ban timeframes (typically March to May) and if weather conditions are windy or severely dry.

The Roxbury Fire Department typically posts burn ban timeframes each year.

Enforcement:

This policy is a suggested guideline for residents and visitors to our community. Failure to abide by the above policy shall not result in an enforcement action by the Town, and violations of the above policy are not punishable by citation, fine, or any other punitive action.

Middletown Sets Annual Appointments

continued from E1
and Robin Williams. Nominating Committee for Administrative Boards, Nelson Delameter, and Carl Davis. Highway and Transfer Station Committee, Carl Davis, and Nelson Delameter.

Named to the Building and Zoning Committee were Robin Williams and Christopher Dabritz. Scenic Byway Committee, Diane Galusha and Robin Williams. Railroad Committee, Robin Williams, NYS Emergency Preparedness Plan Committee, Carl

Davis and Nelson Delameter. Compliance Officers of the Anti-Harassment Prevention Policy, Brian Sweeney and Nelson Delameter. Water District Committee members are Brian Sweeney and Nelson Delameter.

The MARK Project Inc. was appointed as the Local Development Corporation, and Brian Sweeney was named the town's representative to the MARK Project. The Mountain Eagle was named as the town's Official Publication. Depositories for Checking,

Savings and Investments, NBT Bank/Norwich, Margaretville and Delaware National Bank, Margaretville.

Emergency team

Members of the Emergency and Communications Committee are: Amy Metnick, Beth Bush, Brian Sweeney, Carol O'Beirne, John Hubbell, Diane Galusha, Winifred Zubin, Peg Ellsworth, Doris Warner, Lisa Tait, and Carl Davis.

The board set the following meeting schedule for 2023: regular meetings are held on

the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the town hall. In addition, the Organizational Meeting is held on the first Wednesday in January and workshop meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday in October and November.

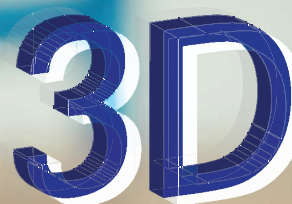
In other action at the session, the board approved a raise of \$.64 per hour for Deputy Highway Superintendent Mike Hill. This 2.5 percent increase matches the amount included in the 2023 budget for the town's non-union members.

Delaware County Deed Transfers

By or against	Town	In Favor of	Transfer Tax
Date: Jan. 9 HAHN KENNETH	COLCHESTER	ROSSANO ANTONIO	116.00
BERKOW JEFFREY D (HEIR AT LAW) DEVITO MARY ANN (HEIR AT LAW OF) DEVITO FRANCIS (SEE INST)	KORTRIGHT	DEVITO THOMAS F	0.00
MCKOWN KIMBERLY AXTELL KEITH M (LIFE USE/SEE INST)	MASONVILLE	MCKOWN KIMBERLY MCKOWN JEFFREY	0.00
GALES MARIE M (EXR OF/EST OF) GALES MICHAEL R (EXR)	HANCOCK	GALES MATTHEW R	0.00
ANGOWSKI RICHARD J ANGOWSKI JOYCE A	ROXBURY	ANGOWSKI RICHARD J	540.00
Date: Jan. 10 WILMINGTON TRUST COMPANY (SUCC TR/BY ATTY) US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (TR/BY ATTY) MASTR ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2005-5 (BY SUCC TR/BY ATTY) PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION (ATTY)	SIDNEY	MCKAY SHERON	120.00
KELLY THOMAS V JR (SUCC CO TR) PATTERSON MOIRA L (SUCC CO TR) KELLY FAMILY TRUST AGREEMENT DATED SEPTEMBER 3 1992 (BY SUCC CO TRS)	COLCHESTER	SARCEVIC ADNAN	1,796.00



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MFD Elects Officers; Listed Call Data

MARGARETVILLE — The Margaretville Fire Department elected its officers for 2023 at the December meeting. The following officers were chosen to lead the department for 2023:

Chief: Nelson Delameter; 1st. Asst. Chief: Alan Gavette; 2nd Asst. Chief: Sarah Hubbell; Fire Police Chief: Bob Vining; Captain: Nate Bramley; Lieutenant: Henry Friedman; Lieutenant: Chris Rosa; President: Don Bramley; Vice President: Nate Hendricks; Secretary: Sarah Hubbell; Treasurer: Kim Maggio; Members at Large: Mike Porter, John Hubbell.

The department had a very busy year in 2022. Members answered 196 calls for assistance during the year, a slight decrease from 2021.

Each of the 196 calls involved an average of eight members spending in excess of one hour on the scene.

A breakdown of calls follows:

- 76 medical assistance calls with Margaretville Memorial Hospital's ambulance team. This includes landing zone setups as well as on-scene assistance.
- 24 motor vehicle accidents
- 20 automatic alarms
- eight building fires
- 10 grass and brush fires
- 25 hazardous conditions (trees and power lines down)
- 33 good intent, cover as-

signments, canceled enroute, and mutual aid calls

Chief Delameter took the opportunity to commend volunteers from other departments for their ongoing assistance.

"The Margaretville Fire Department would like to thank the neighboring departments that have provided assistance to us throughout the year. Without you, we would be unable to meet the demand that is required of us throughout the year.

"In rural communities like ours, volunteers are the core of emergency first response. Our mission goes beyond fire-fighting and prevention: We are on call to respond to accidents, emergencies, and natural disasters of all kinds, and to help our neighboring fire departments respond to larger incidents," Chief Delameter stated.

Margaretville's long-time fire chief added, "Fire departments are facing a critical shortage of volunteers in rural New York and across the nation. We are proud to serve our community and our neighbors. If you are interested in joining us as a volunteer firefighter or a member of our auxiliary, or would like to know more, please contact us at: margaretvillefiredept.org/contact."

Worship Service Directory

ADVENT CHRISTIAN MARGARETVILLE
ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH
109 Maple Street,
Margaretville, NY 12455
845-586-4601
Sunday Worship Service, 11am
Bible Study
Wednesday 6 pm, April-November

BAPTIST STAMFORD BAPTIST CHURCH
40 Lake Street,
Stamford NY 12167
(607) 607 652-3713
Sunday School, 9:45 AM,
Worship 11:00 AM
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Associate Pastor Shawn Frazer
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375 Main Street, Andes, NY 13731
Phone: 838 910 9889
Mass on Sunday at 12 pm

ST. PHILIP NERI MISSION CHURCH
State Highway 30, Grand Gorge, NY 12434
Phone: 838 910-9889
Mass Sunday 8am
Reconciliation is offered
Sundays 7:30-8:00 am

SACRED HEART CHURCH
543 Main Street, Margaretville, NY 12455
Phone: 838 910 9889
Masses: Sun. at 10 am,
Tuesday at 12, Wednesday at 9am

SACRED HEART CHURCH
27 Harper Street, Stamford, NY 12167
Phone: 838 910 9889
Masses: Saturday 4:30,
Thursday 12:00pm, Friday 9:00am
Reconciliation is offered
Saturdays 3:30-4:15pm

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CATSKILL MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN CENTER
629 Main St. Margaretville, NY 12455
845-586-4848
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EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Saint James Church
Lake Delaware
55 Lake Delaware Drive
Delhi, NY 13753
(607) 832-4401
Sunday Mass, 10 am

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SAINT HERMAN OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH / CLOUD-BEARING MOUNTAIN RETREAT CENTER
1714 Mountain Brook Road, Bovina, NY 13740
Phone: 607 326-0052
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www.cbmountain.org

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Margaretville NY 12455
May-October
5177 County Hwy 6
New Kingston NY 12459
Sunday Service 9.30 am.
Tel: 845-586-4567

REFORMED CHURCH JAY GOULD MEMORIAL REFORMED CHURCH
53837 NY Highway 30,
Roxbury, NY 12474
Phone: (607) 326-7101
Time of Service
9:30 am Sunday
Rev. Richard Dykstra

REFORMED CHURCH
14630 Main Street, Pratts-ville, NY 12468
Phone : (607) 326-7101
Sunday Worship 11 am
Rev. Richard Dykstra

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ANDES UMC
327 Lower Main Street,
Andes NY 13731
10:30 am Sundays

HALCOTT UMC
42 Bouton Road,
Halcott NY 12430
9:00 am Sundays

MARGARETVILLE UMC
55 Church Street,
Margaretville NY 12455
10:30 am Sundays

ROXBURY UMC
53761 State Highway 30,
Roxbury NY 12474
9:00 am Sundays

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Events Calendar

Friday, Jan. 13

Longyear Gallery of Margaretville is pleased to announce the opening of "Members' Winter Group Exhibit," a new group show featuring the art of all Longyear Gallery Members. Opening on Friday, January 13, the exhibit will run through Sunday, February 12. Info: longyeargallery.org, or call 845 586-3270. Longyear Gallery is in The Commons, 785 Main Street, Margaretville.

Saturday, Jan. 14

The Delaware County Democratic Committee will hold an informational meeting for anyone interested in running for local office on the Democratic ticket. The event will be held on January 14 at the Hamden Town Hall, 37029 St. Rt. 10, Hamden from 2-4 p.m. Newcomers, lifelong Delaware County folk, boomers, millennials – all are welcome. Light refreshments, hot and cold drinks will be served. For more information, please visit: dcnydem.org

Sunday, Jan. 15

Music on the Delaware is excited to bring Sara Milonovich and Greg Anderson (of Daisycutter) to the Walton Theatre coffeehouse on January 15. The live concert will run from 6-8 p.m. and is free, with donations accepted. It will also be available for home viewers at via Zoom. For more information, see www.musiconthedelaware.org.

Tuesday, January 17-February 21

Writers in the Mountains (WIM) presents Modern Love, a six-week creative writing workshop with Elizabeth Koster, January 17 – February 21, 2023. The class will be held online Tuesdays, from 12 noon to 2 pm. Once you register and pay, you will be given instructions on how to join the class. To register for this class, e-mail writersinthemountains@gmail.com. To register online, visit writersinthemountains.org. Class fee is \$1 Limited to 10 students.

Coffeehouse Concert: Sara Milonovich & Greg Anderson

WALTON — Music on the Delaware is excited to bring Sara Milonovich (of Daisycutter) to the Walton Theatre coffeehouse on January 15. The live concert will run from 6-8 p.m. and is free, with donations accepted. It will also be available for home viewers at via Zoom. For more information, see www.musiconthedelaware.org.

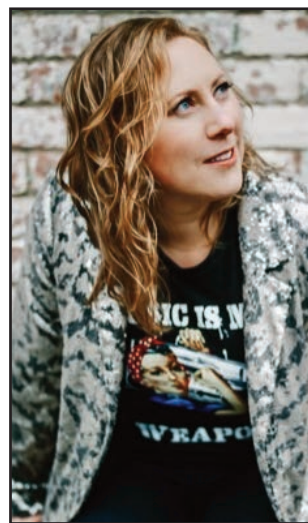
Sara started playing fiddle professionally at a young age, first performing the music she heard in her home area, Upstate New York, then diverging to bluegrass, folk, rock, Celtic, and Americana. She has performed across the world, first with The McKrells, then with other well-known musicians including Pete Seeger and Eliza Gilkyson, and eventually with the band, Daisycutter. She recently appeared in the popular Broadway show, "Come From Away," and was just named 2022 Americana Artist of the Year by the Capital District Thomas Edison Music Awards ("The Eddies").

Milonovich will be accompanied by guitarist Greg Anderson. The Northcoast Journal says of the two musicians: "Milonovich is a world class fiddler and very talented singer, and her accompanist has a simple versatility with the acoustic guitar that sounds a lot easier than

it is to accomplish. These musicians are obvious lifers."

The duo will perform a concert of mostly original songs, many from Sara's most recent solo release "North-east," which has received high praise from the music world.

Sara's website is saramilonovich.com Sara is also @daisycutter on Instagram and @SaraMilonovich on Twitter. Audio can be streamed from Bandcamp, at -Sa-



Sara Milonovich

ramilonovich.bandcamp.com.

Upcoming Coffeehouse concerts include Bill Seneschal on February 19 (folk and country); Linda Hickman and Iris Nevins on March 19 (traditional Irish); Barn Paint Blue on April 16 (traditional/progressive bluegrass); and Bea Summers and Barb Acker (The B's) on May 21 (classic country, country rock, folk, and originals).

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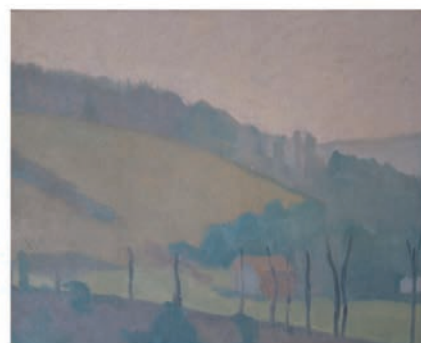
Enjoy the MLK Holiday Weekend!



Members' Winter Group Exhibit
Friday Jan 13, 2023 - Sunday Feb 12, 2023
Reception-Sat Jan 14, 3-5pm Gallery Hours: Fri/Sat/Sun 11am-4pm



Temma Bell



Wayne Morris

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Karate Kickers

This photo from the PAKS Karate School shows students who tested their skills during class on January 3. Bottom row, left to right, are: Jaxx Hoffman, Lucie Suyama, Dallas Faucett, Sayge McDermott, Deliah Ferran, Tessa Marks, and Tucker Johnsmeyer. Second row: Julia Marks, Aurora Riley, Stella

Sines, Ryan Steen, Jacinta Updyke, Lily Landes and, Master Terry Bergmann. Back row: Robin Williams, Micah Faucett, Steven Sines, Alexandra Sines, River Williams, Gabby Sines, Molly Slater; and Jake Slater. Missing from photo were Maydyn Hoffman, Viviana Cordero, and Isabella Muller.



The PAKS Karate School in Margaretville held a promotional test on December 12 and many students advanced to a higher rank to get their Black Belt. Alexandra and Steven Sines received their Black Belt, as did Molly Slater. From left to right are Steven Sines,

Molly Slater, Master Terry Bergmann, and Alexandra Sines. "Everyone did a wonderful job in demonstrating their skills which includes forms, techniques, self-defense, board breaking, and sparring," Master Bergmann commented.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT

MARGARETVILLE. Charming, 2 BR, 2 bath home, walk to village. Private, secluded but close to everything, including the hospital. Available Dec 1st. Unfurnished \$1,000 or furnished \$1,500. Utilities separate. First month, last month, one month security. No pets, no smoking. Perfect for professionals. Includes washer, dryer, and dishwasher. 203-482-4719.

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.

ONE-BEDROOM APT. Pine Hill near Belleayre Lake. 2nd floor, gorgeous views, wall-to-wall carpeting, laundry room on ground floor. Parking space, trash removal, water, lawn care, snow plowing included in rent of \$1,200/month. Available January 1st. 607 326-7713.

HELP WANTED

THE TOWN OF HARBURGH HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT is seeking full time general help for our Highway Dept. located in Arkville, to perform general highway tasks. Starting pay average for our area with ad-

vancement and acquired skills. Top notch benefit package including NYS Retirement plan and fully paid health insurance plan. CDL preferred. Call 845.586.2223 for application and wage information. 3D16C

HELP WANTED - Part-time mechanic. Tires and Service. B&D Motors, 885 Main Street, Margaretville 845 586-3253. D9TFC

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO REFINISH GE 4-line business phones. Approximately 10 phones. Please call Janet 607-588-4700

TSN DOCUMENT SERVICES CORP.

Local Grand Gorge office looking for seasoned office assistant versed in Micro soft office suite and customer service. Detailed oriented & enjoys a professional progressive working environment. Wish list includes 2nd language and Notary license. Website: titleservice.us \$18/hr. part-time.

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Conscientious individual(s) to show proper attention and effort toward assisting the growth & development of the trees in our tree Nursery located in the Andes/Delhi area. \$25.00 per hour.

Call: 845 676-4364 Mon-Fri. 8am-4pm.

POLICE NEWS

DELHI — Delaware County Sheriff Craig S. DuMond has announced the arrest of 68-year-old Jeffrey P. Hall of Treadwell.

On the afternoon of January 2, Sheriff's Deputies observed a vehicle fail to obey a traffic control device while traveling on Meredith Street in the Village of Delhi. Deputies conducted a traffic stop and identified the driver as Jeffrey Hall of Treadwell. A check of the ve-

hicle's registration revealed it to be suspended due to an insurance lapse. A check of Hall's New York State driver's license revealed that his driving privileges were revoked in the State of New York.

Deputies then arrested and issued Hall Uniformed Traffic Tickets for Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the Third Degree, operating a Motor Vehicle While

Registration is Suspended, both Unclassified Misdemeanors of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law. Hall was additionally issued tickets for Unlicensed Operator and Failure to Obey a Traffic Control Device, both Violations of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law.

Hall was released on tickets and is scheduled to appear before the Town of Delhi Court at to answer the charges.

Classifieds Sell! Call Gretchen: 845 586-6192

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.

LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF ROXBURY COLLECTOR'S NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF TAX ROLL & WARRANT

I, the undersigned Collector of Taxes for the Town of Roxbury, County of Delaware, State of New York, have duly received the Tax Roll & Warrant for the year 2023. The Tax Collector will receive tax payments in person on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in January 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Roxbury Town Hall, 56 Hillcrest Drive, Roxbury, NY except for January 17 and January 18. To speak with the Tax Collector you must now phone 607-326-6567.

Take further notice that taxes may be paid on or before January 31, 2023 without interest or charge. All taxes received after such date, there shall be added interest of one percent (1%) per month. February (1%), March (2%), April (3%). After April 15th, all checks must

be certified. All unpaid taxes after April 30, 2023 will be returned to the County Treasurer pursuant to law.

Bonnie Walker, Tax Collector
Town of Roxbury
2JA13C

NOTICE TOWN OF ROXBURY, NY

Notice is hereby given Town of Roxbury, Delaware County, NY will hold regular meetings as follows for the year 2023: TOWN BOARD: will meet the second Monday of each month except for January when they shall meet on January 3, 2023 and except for October when they shall meet on October 10, 2023 and except for November when they shall meet on November 9, 2023. All meetings will begin at 6:00 pm and will be held at the Town Hall, 56 Hillcrest

Drive, Roxbury, NY except for April and August when they will meet at the Grand Gorge Civic Center, 60933 State Hwy. 30, Grand Gorge, NY. Videoconferencing will be used and access information will be available on the Town website www.roxburyny.com prior to the meeting.

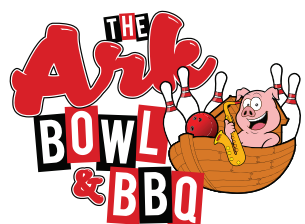
PLANNING BOARD: will meet on the third Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 pm at the Town Hall, 56 Hillcrest Drive, Roxbury, NY.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION: will meet quarterly on the third Fridays of January, April, July and October at 10:00 am at the Town Hall, 56 Hillcrest Drive, Roxbury, NY.

By Order of the Town Board
Diane Pickett, Town Clerk
Dated: Jan. 3, 2023
JA13C

BOWLING NEWS

Team Name	W	L	High Game
Spillian	37	11	Kacie Thomas 179,
ROI	31	17	Amanda Goodchild 159,
JM Lawncare	27	21	Karen Straut 157
Better Late Than Never	24.5	23.5	
JK Tinting	24.5	23.5	
Bye	0	48	
			High Series
			Kacie Thomas 460,
			Karen Straut 456,
			Jessica Watson 424



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Members' Show Next At Longyear Gallery

MARGARETVILLE — Longyear Gallery of Margaretville is pleased to announce the opening of "Members' Winter Group Exhibit," a new group show featuring the art of all Longyear Gallery Members. Opening on Friday, January 13th, the exhibit will run through Sunday, February 12th, 2023, with the Artists' Reception on Saturday, January 14th from 3-5 p.m.

Longyear Gallery is a cooperative art gallery that first opened in Margaretville in Fall 2007. In "Members' Winter Group Exhibit," Longyear Gallery's 34 artists, including Robert Axelrod, Joanna Barham, Temma Bell, Robert Buckwalter, Marcia Clark, Anna Contes, Neil Driscoll, Gail Freund, Ann Lee Fuller, Elaine Grandy, Irina Grinevitsky, Robin Halpern, Louise Kalin, Hedi Kyle, Linda Lariar, Margaret LevesonHelene Levine-Keating.

Also, Patrice Lorenz, Ron Macklin, Alethea Maguire, Douglas Maguire, Frank Manzo, Helene Manzo, Anthony Margiotta, Gary Mayer, Sheila McManus, Richard Kirk Mills, Bonnie Mitchell, Wayne Morris, Lesley A. Powell, Deborah Ruggerio, Victoria Scott, Gerda van Leeuwen, and Ros Welchman, will be presenting their watercolors, prints, monotypes, photographs, drawings, ceramics, objects, mixed media work, and oil paintings.



Robert Buckwalter, *Moment of Truth*, oil on canvas, 20x16



Gail Freund, *Hog Mountain Wildflowers*, India ink on paper, 24x18

Future 2023 Longyear Gallery exhibits will include "Members' Late Winter Group Exhibit," which will run from Friday, February 17th-Sunday, March 19th, and, following "Members' Late Winter Group Exhibit," a Special Exhibit running from Friday, March 24th-Sunday, April 23rd: "Farms, Farmers & Farming: A Tribute to Local Agriculture," featuring art focusing on the farming communities surrounding Margaretville and located throughout the Catskills, a theme close to the hearts and minds of Longyear members.

This special exhibit will be accompanied by a group show of those Longyear Gallery artists who will not be participating in "Farms, Farmers & Farming."

Longyear Gallery Members' "Members' Winter Group Exhibit" will be on view Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Holiday Mondays each weekend from 11 p.m.-4 p.m. Special attention will be paid to keep safe all visitors to the gallery as well as members. In view of health precautions at this time, it is suggested that all visitors wear masks.

Longyear Gallery is located Downstairs in The Commons, 785 Main Street, Margaretville. For information, please see Longyear Gallery's website, www.longyeargallery.org, or call 845.586.3270 during gallery hours.

Poetry Forms Subject Of WIM Online Workshop

MARGARETVILLE — Writers in the Mountains (WIM) presents Poetry Forms: Why and How Workshop with William Duke, a week-end 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 con-

temporary 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 *Alphie the Angel's Little Alphabet Book 2020*. visit online at: 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 Ca-

baradio 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.

McINTOSH AUCTION SERVICE

MLK WEEKEND QUALITY ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLE AUCTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 10:30 AM
DELHI AMERICAN LEGION HALL
41 PAGE AVENUE
DELHI, NY 13753

FEATURED ITEMS: 1839 Delhi, NY Coverlet, and US Gold & Silver Coins. Ward Herman signed oil painting on canvas, boxed Lionel & American Flyer trains, & Crazy Quilt.

TEXTILES: Spectacular, 1839 Delhi, NY Coverlet in outstanding, all original condition, Crazy Quilt, homespun coverlets, Circle of Life quilt, Hour glass quilt, quantity of vintage lines

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES: 3 pieces of blue decorated stoneware, crocks & jugs, mixing bowls, tramp art sewing box, Ward Herman books & prints, horse tack sign, feed sign, gasoline sign, pair of Chinese ginger jars, Winchester advertising statue, wooden box marked B & H, advertising tin, wooden bowl, framed prints & paintings, table top easel, framed turkey print, figural bottle stoppers, hand mirrors, mahogany box, mounted bell, iron candlesticks, bottle w/ ground stopper, wooden shovel, 3 pronged wooden hay fork, hay knife, kitchenware, walking canes, jardiniere, large copper pot, drying rack, German steins, tea caddy, tea pot, stereo-optic viewer, pinball machine glass backs, "Dixie Boy" advertising tray, lap desk, picnic basket, Case XX knife, Griswold #768 square skillet, oil lamp, vintage children's books inc: "Alice In Wonderland", "Uncle Tom's Cabin" & Tow Swift. Walton, NY advertising, small Shaker style box. "Parrot head" pliers, knife box, wooden bowls inc 36" hand-made trencher bowl

ANTIQUE FURNITURE: 2 pieces of antique stained glass, small oak barrel roll desk, Globe Were oak file cabinet, mahogany parlor table, oak ladies desk, tapered leg cherry sand, 2 drawer cherry stand, mahogany lyre bak chair, footstool, walnut magazine rack, piano stool, pair of tiger maple chairs, pine stand, hanging cabinet, marble base lamp w/ mica shade, oak stand. Walnut hall rack, oak coat tree, oak youth chair, oak pedestal, mahogany plant stand, small oak cabinet

COINS & JEWELRY: 1852 gold dollar coin, 1854 gold dollar coin, 2 1/2 gold coin, 1879 10 dollar gold coin, Coins from a local estate inc: 20 silver dollars, standing liberty half dollars, Ben Franklin half dollars, Washington quarters, standing liberty quarters, mercury dimes, Roosevelt dimes, 3 V nickels, 1949 Franklin half dollar, silver commemorative coins, Mexican silver dollars, Confederate bills, silver certificates, 1977 proof set, Cameo bracelet, Waltham pocket watches, 10 K gold ring, silver & turquoise rings, sterling chains & pins, sterling bracelets, pearl necklace.

VINTAGE MODEL TRAINS & TOYS: Punch & Judy mechanical bank, Hubley police motorcycle w/ sidecar & riders, Arcade overland bus, Tootsietoy construction set w/ box. Tootsietoy truck set w/ box, American Flyer Royal Blue set w/ boxes, American Flyer freight set w/ boxes & accessories, 1939 American Flyer Hudson freight set w/ box, Lionel #318E standard passenger set w/ boxes, Lionel Special I (Macy's) freight set, Lionel Special 3 (Macy's); passenger set w/ boxes, Lionel # 218 standard crane w/ box

15% buyers premium—3% discount for cash or check — Positive ID required

Preview: Friday, January 13-Noon- 3 PM, Saturday, January 14-8 AM until Auction

For lots of pictures, and a detailed listing go to: www.mcintoshauction.com or www.auctionzip.com (Auctioneer 18080)

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CPD to End Night Patrols

Staffing Shortage Hits During Difficult Contract Negotiations

By Matthew Avitabile

COBLESKILL - A fundamental disagreement over officer pay and Cobleskill's budget may result in fundamental changes to the department. One major shift starts the week after next. The issue over funding and officers leaving has already hamstrung the department. The CPD is currently down one patrol, lost two in the previous month, and could lose more in the future-- potentially affecting nearly half the department. The Sheriff's Department recently hired two officers from the CPD. The impasse came after the Village of Cobleskill offered three years of minimal salary increases. The first offer was 0% the first year, 0% the second year, and 1% the last year, which the union rejected out of hand. While the increase to come to par with the Sheriff's Department would require a 9% increase, the union offered a 4.5% one-year

raise.

The fundamental issue, both sides agree, is due to salary payments. However, while the difference in current and hoped-for salaries are different, there is disagreement even over current salaries. The Mayor cited an approximately \$90,000 salary for PBA head Brandon Collison. That's true, he said, but included banked short shifts and overtime. His base salary is much lower, he said. A public records search corroborated this, finding a \$60,252 salary in 2021. The higher figure was a one-time increase.

"It's a fake number," he said.

The difference between current and potential salaries was exacerbated by a recent raise at the Schoharie County Sheriff's Department, leaving the average CPD officer about \$5,000 on-average behind their deputy counterparts.

For Collison, the responsibility falls to the

mayor. When asked if the Village Trustees would vote for a pay increase, he said that it was unlikely.

The topic of money continued to come up. Collison said that Mayor Stanton-Terk speaks about how the Village brings in the most taxes in the county, yet gets little back. It's irrelevant, he said.

"The mayor doesn't really care about the police department and our careers," he said.

Collison, with three years on the CPD, planned to retire and go part-time with the Department. He said that this became impossible after he became union president. What had been a more positive environment switched, and Collison believes that the mayor now has a "personal vendetta" against him.

The negotiations between the union and the village have deteriorated that there has been an official Declaration of Im-

passe, which is headed for mediation.

The deadlock may not be broken, said Collison, as negotiations have become harder "because of the way it's been handled."

When officers of the CPD asked Mayor Stanton-Terk about the pay difference between the Sheriff's Department and themselves, the Mayor responded to go to work with the Sheriff's Department. Collison relayed that the mayor said "we didn't care."

He added that he believes that the mayor has intentionally "done little things to diminish the department." This included cutting orders of polos and winter turtlenecks. When asked about the latter, the mayor responded

that officers should go to Walmart and simply get them themselves.

This includes special permission to use new blue pens. The pens are now held in a locked closet. If an officer needed one to fill out court forms, they need to have the pens specifically delivered.

Collison called them "small little control factors."

"The men don't think she cares."

The police review board intended for next week has now been canceled, though the Cobleskill Village Board will hear concerns about the current state of the police department at their next meeting next Tuesday at 7pm at the Firehouse.

Collison asked for public input, stating that the

officers simply want to "take care of the community."

"The community has supported us in the past," he said. "Everyone's kind of afraid," he said.

"If you have a target on your back, there's always worry."

Night patrols stopping on the 22nd. This will be replaced with a single car in Schoharie County from the State Police after 1am.

The public is welcome to speak to the PBA, he said. The best way to get ahold of him is at bcollison@cobleskill.org.

The mayor stated that the village is in "active contract negotiations" and that she does not have any current comments. She added that she will address the current situation at the village's next meeting on Tuesday.

CRCS Approves Costa Rica Trip

By Joshua Walther

COBLESKILL - The CRCS Board of Education met last Monday evening to hear a proposal for a class trip to Costa Rica.

Students Frank Liardo, Ainsley Mumenthey, and Brae Dunham are juniors from Naoisa MacGloin Hoskins's spanish class that had the opportunity to present the trip to the Board members. They each took turns explaining the full itinerary, which would last ten days.

Come March 2024, around forty students will spend the first day flying down to Costa Rica from Albany's airport and getting settled into hotels in San Jose, the country's capital.

On days two and three, students will enjoy outdoor activities around Costa Rica, such as kayaking, hot springs, and exploring a volcano up close.

Days four and five will feature a trip to Monteverde and horseback riding, along with planting trees and learning about ecosystems at a preserve, while the next day would be a day out on the beach.

From there, the itinerary would guide the students through several days of

learning about Costa Rican culture through a trip around the country, culminating in a supervised white water rafting session on day nine and returning on day ten.

Upon the conclusion of their presentation, Bruce Tryon threw in his support, saying "Costa Rica is a fantastic experience and I hope you get the chance to go. Personally, I do not have an issue."

Yet not all Board members shared the same sentiment. Susan Strausser believed

that the personal cost that the parents have to pay is far too high, and wanted to see other opportunities for people that could not afford the trip, such as scholarship funds.

In response, the class promised that those opportunities would be put in place, and went on to explain that there was still a chance for other students to sign up for the trip. Upon hearing this, the Board unanimously agreed to approve the plan.

Tuesday Night Pickleball Challenge at POWER UP

As a member of the Power Up Gym in Warnerville owned by Travis Hyer, I would like to offer a Challenge Night for intermediate pickleball players to compete in a 2 out of 3, eleven point challenge matches.

I have scheduled for Tuesday nights at the Power Up gym, starting at 7:00 PM, to challenge two players teams, either current gym members or not. Non-members will pay a \$5 a night fee and must sign Travis's release papers at the door. All participants must sign in for a time on the "Sign Up Genius" page or contact Gretchen Cosgrove at gcosgrovelmt@gmail.com for access to the sign-up page at least several days before the match. Travis has asked that non-members play no more than once a month.

Tuesday, January 17 - Men's Doubles - Jack Gosselink and Pete Lindeman will play against Ron Kosier and Ed Carroll in the first 2 out of 3 game challenge match at 7:00 PM. A second or third duo is able to sign up for an 8:00 and again 9:00 o'clock match to play the winning team.

Tuesday, January 24 - Women's Doubles - Are there two women who wish to send out a challenge for a 7:00 PM match?

Tuesday, January 31 - Mixed Doubles - Gretchen Cosgrove and Jack Gosselink invite mixed double teams to a challenge at 7:00, 8:00 and again at 9:00 PM matches. Any takers?

Contact Jack Gosselink at 518/234-2259 or gosselj@gmail.com for questions.

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.

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.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

All banks, government institutions, and schools will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, January 16th.

Richmondville - Village Board Meeting

The Richmondville Village Board of Trustees will be holding its monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 17th at 6:00 PM at the Municipal Building on Main Street. Typically held on the third Monday of the month, this meeting was rescheduled due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Cobleskill - Village Board Meeting

The Cobleskill Village Board of Trustees will be meeting on Tuesday, January 17th at 7:00 PM at the Cobleskill Firehouse. Meetings are also available for viewing afterwards on the SCHOPEG website.

Family Recovery Support Group

Every Wednesday evening from 5:30 PM to 7:00 P.M., SCCASA hosts Family Recovery Support Group Meetings facilitated by Maggie Jackman Pryor, a Family Support Navigator, and Tom Moran, a Peer Engagement Specialist and Recovery Coach at 349 Mineral Springs Road.

Sharon Springs - Village Board Meeting

The Sharon Springs Village Board of Trustees will be meeting on Thursday, January 19th at 7:00 PM at 129 Main Street. Meetings are also available afterwards on the SCHOPEG website.

Schoharie - Board of Supervisors Meeting

The Schoharie County Board of Supervisors will be holding its monthly meeting next week - Friday, January 20th - at 9:00 AM. Meetings are also available for viewing afterwards on the SCHOPEG website.

Canajoharie - Annual Wintergreen Winterfest

The Village of Canajoharie Parks and Rec Committee in conjunction with the Canajoharie Village Board are hosting the third annual Wintergreen Winterfest 2023 on Saturday, January 28th from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Hosted at Wintergreen Park, this event is for all ages.

Summit - Poker Run Benefit

The Summit Sno-Riders Inc. will be hosting their annual poker run for Helios Care on Saturday, February 25th, 9:00 AM, at the Summit Conservation Club. All proceeds raised go to Helios Care, followed by a ham dinner at the Club. This is a snow or no snow event.



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COFFEE IN COBY War in Europe XL

By Timothy Knight

The next phase of the Russo-Ukrainian War is drawing nearer, as Kyiv's strategic initiative is now shifting from liberating lightly occupied territories to turning the tide in Donbas and pressing the advantage south in Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, and Crimea.

With the imminent arrival of Patriot missile systems to Kyiv this winter, Ukrainian forces will be able to better defend the nation's interior populace against long-range assaults, which will free up both personnel and resources toward offensive actions.

To this end, the United States and its European allies have recently decided to supply Ukraine with armored vehicles, including the American-made Bradley Fighting Vehicle and the German-produced Marder. While neither the Bradley nor Marder fit the military definition of a "tank," these vehicles will provide Ukrainian forces with greater protection on the battlefield.

This strategic shift in Ukrainian prioritization reflects the intrinsic relationship between Kyiv and Brussels, the headquarters of NATO, in that the western military al-

liance is supplying Ukraine with more weaponry designed to advance its liberation of occupied territories. Less and less concerned with escalation, NATO is offering its blessings for a fresh advancement.

Nearly eleven months into Russia's illegal, immoral invasion of Ukraine, the board is set for the next stage of conflict in that both sides have clearly defined goals: Kyiv wants to liberate all occupied territories prior to any formal negotiations, and Moscow wants to maintain its current holdings – or at the very least Donbas and Crimea – and compel Ukrainian capitulation.

Furthermore, the most recent reports on Russian offensives are simply disturbing. Obsessed with seizing the now-destroyed Bakhmut, Moscow has been deploying mobilized forces in continuous wave assaults upon Ukrainian positions, resulting in self-inflicted killing fields reminiscent of Stalingrad's depiction in Enemy at the Gates (I highly recommend this film).

Unlike that grand Soviet Union victory, where hundreds of thousands of soldiers perished to liberate the Nazi occupied city so-named for the Sec-

retary General of the Politburo, the modern Red Army falls by the hundreds daily to seize salt mines and prestige for a Russian warlord.

In one grisly respect, there is no greater contrast between the Soviet Union's highwater mark of propaganda fueled patriotism and modern despot Vladimir Putin's failed attempts to replicate it than fields of untrained, led-to-slaughter mobilized dying for a mercenary's status in Moscow.

This also represents a crucial and very telling distinction between Ukrainian and Russian leadership in this prolonged conflict, as the latter has stressed an emphasis on defensive weapons to protect its civilians, while the former's destructiveness is causing civilian deaths in both nations.

In Solidarity with Ukraine.

Greetings! I am planning a "mailbag" edition of Coffee in Coby soon, so please send any questions you may have for me about Schoharie County politics, the Atlanta Braves 2021 World Series title or whatever else, and it might just be included. My email is timothyknight93@gmail.com.

Adult Student Gets A Charge In Education At Boces

SCHOHARIE/COBLES KILL - An adult from Cobleskill is finishing his education at Capital Region BOCES in order to achieve his career goal of becoming an electrician.

Ben Loupin started BOCES Electrical Trades program as a senior in Cobleskill High School and is completing the two-year course as an adult student. During his first year, he learned the basics of wiring and electrical work and earned the OSHA 10 professional certification which is required to work in most construction fields.

"I love everything about the program. The experience I am gaining at Capital Region BOCES is great," he said while wiring a box in the Electrical Trades lab on the Schoharie Campus.

Loupin said he has al-



ways been interested in the electrical field but was unable to enroll in BOCES as a junior because he had just moved to New York State from California.

"I signed up for the program as soon as I could," he said.

Loupin currently works at Capital Region BOCES as a full-time custodial employee, assists professional electricians on a part-time basis and at-

tends the Electrical Trades program. Upon graduation, he hopes to land a job in the industry.

"I would like to ultimately be an electrician. I find the work interesting," he said.

"His work ethic and attitude are the employability skills employers seek and we try to foster in our students," said Nancy Liddle, senior business liaison for Capital Region BOCES.

Gardening: Choose Your Own Adventure

In the dark days of January, gardeners sometimes find themselves overwhelmed by dazzling seed catalogs and online offerings. Everything looks wonderful and it is hard to decide what to pick or what to plant. Join Otsego Master Gardener, Francine Stayter, on Saturday, January 21, at 10 a.m., for Gardening: How to Choose Your Own Adventure, a hybrid workshop in-person at the CCE Education Center in Cooperstown, or virtually via

Zoom.

Cornell has many resources that can help you make decisions that suit your garden to give you the right plants for the right place. In this workshop, Ms. Stayter will discuss how to use some of these resources, from selecting from seed catalogs, to seed starting, to planting your 2023 garden, that will help you choose your best gardening adventure.

This workshop is free and open to the public,

but pre-registration is required by Wednesday, January 18th. To register and for more information, go to

<https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/Gardening-Adventure> 243 or call 607-547-2536 x0.

Otsego Master Gardener Volunteers have been specially trained and certified by Cornell University Extension with a mission to provide education on a broad range of horticultural topics and practices based on university research and recommendations.

BOCES Career & Technical Education Center Open Houses Planned

ALBANY – The Capital Region BOCES Career & Technical Education Center will host a pair of open houses in the coming weeks for prospective students.

The open house is scheduled for Feb. 9, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Career & Technical Education Center – Schoharie Campus. The center is located at 174 State Route 30B in Schoharie, NY 12157.

A second open house

is scheduled for March 9, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Career & Technical Education Center – Albany Campus. The center is located at 925B Watervliet-Shaker in Albany NY 12205.

Once an education path for those students only seeking vocational skills, career and technical education is now a pathway for students looking to build career skills, get a start on their college education or just learn a

life skill that will allow them to pay for college. At the Capital Region BOCES Career & Technical Education Center (CTE), more than 70 percent of high school students pursue higher education, while many others directly enter the workforce with a highly technical skill set.

For more information, go to <https://www.capitalregionboces.org/student-recruitment-underway-for-2023-24/>.

Sharon Woman Arrested For Brandishing A Shotgun

COBLESKILL - On January 4, State Police of Cobleskill arrested Jessica M. Valetutto, 40, of Sharon, NY, for Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Fourth Degree and Menacing in the Second Degree.

On January 4, 2023,

at about 8:27 p.m. Troopers responded to a home in Wright, for reports of a domestic dispute involving a shotgun. The investigation determined that during a verbal disagreement, Valetutto displayed and threatened the use of a shotgun. No one

was injured, and the firearm was never discharged.

Valetutto was arrested at the scene and transported to SP Cobleskill for processing. She was arraigned at the Wright Town Court and released on her own recognizance.

NOTICE

The following vacancies exist in the
SCHOHARIE COUNTY OFFICE OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES

G.I.S. Coordinator

(Starting salary: \$51,771 – CSEA grade 17)

Senior G.I.S. Technician

(Starting salary: \$48,922 – CSEA grade 16)

G.I.S. Technician

(Starting salary: \$41,575 – CSEA grade 13)

Data Collector

(Starting salary: \$34,579 – CSEA grade 9)

For full job postings, including minimum qualifications & details on how to apply, visit:
www.schohariecounty-ny.gov

Last filing date: JANUARY 18, 2023



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Spartans Down Wells



Again at the net Mike Cashman shoots for two. Wells started double teaming at the net, and still couldn't slow the Spartans down. Sharon started out hot putting up 21 points in the first period of play, another 16, in the second, 19 in the third, and slowed down in the fourth only adding 9, for a total of 65 for the night. Luke Enyart #14 was the Grandmaster of this game adding 19 of the 65 points for the Spartans.

Mike Cashman #22 up for the rebound, and scored 2 points with this shot. Mike added 16 points to the scoreboard in this game. The Spartans were triumphant, winning 65-35.

BELOW: Seth Mahoney # 32 from Wells tries to block Mike Cashman on this shot, but was ineffective in his attempt.

BELOW: Brady Law #24 for Sharon gets the game off and running against Wells. He racked up 13 points for the team.



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Email us at cobleskillherald@gmail.com!

YOUR LOCAL HAPPENINGS FOR SHARON SPRINGS

Sharon Things

Due to Personal Circumstance, We Do Not Have Sharon Things in This Week. We'll Return Back to Normal Soon

NOTICE

Vacancies exist in the Schoharie County Health Department in the positions of

*PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Starting Salary: \$61,631 – CSEA grade 20 and

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSE

Starting Salary: \$51,771 – CSEA grade 17

*Appointment to the position of PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE will be provisional. Permanent appointment will be contingent upon successful completion of a Civil Service examination & becoming reachable on the resulting eligible list.

Candidates interested in being considered for a position must submit an employment application to the Schoharie County Department of Personnel & Civil Service, 284 Main Street, PO Box 675, Schoharie, NY 12157, (e-mail: civilservice@co.schoharie.ny.us) by the close of business on JANUARY 31, 2023.

Applications may be obtained in the Personnel Office or online at: www.schohariecounty-ny.gov

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Public Health Nurse: Possession of a bachelor's degree in Nursing from a regionally accredited or New York State-registered college or university; and licensure & current registration to practice as a Registered Professional Nurse in New York State.

Registered Professional Nurse: Possession of an associate's degree in Nursing from a regionally accredited or New York State-registered college or university; and licensure & current registration to practice as a Registered Professional Nurse in New York State; and two (2) years of general nursing experience. (Part-time employment can be pro-rated to count towards full-time, based on number of hours worked per week).

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: These positions require extensive travel. Incumbents will be required to possess a valid, appropriate level, New York State operator's license, or otherwise demonstrate the ability to meet the travel needs of the job.

In accordance with NYS Public Health Law, appointee must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 at time of appointment and provide proof of vaccination status

SUNY Hangs on Against Maine

The SUNY Cobleskill men's basketball returned to North Atlantic Conference (NAC) action on Friday evening foiling a late-game comeback effort by the host Owls of the University of Maine-Presque Isle (UMPI) by a score of 74-70 in conference play. With the win the Fighting Tigers extend their current winning streak to eight games and are now 12-2 overall on the season including a 4-0 record in conference action while the Owls drop to 2-8 overall with a 0-2 conference record.

Cobleskill appeared to have the game in hand leading 68-56 with 5:58 remaining in regulation when the Owls began a comeback effort that would cut the lead to 70-68 with 28 seconds left to play.

After regaining possession, out of a timeout, the Owls ran an inbounds play under the Fighting Tiger basket which was broken up by first-year forward Chace Peterson, Troy, N.Y., Troy High School, who stole the inbounds pass and was fouled leading to the rookie hitting a pair of free throws to make the score 72-68 with 18 seconds remaining.

On the ensuing series the Owls were once again the victim of strong Cobleskill defense when junior guard Andre Starks, Rochester, N.Y., Fairport High School/Corning Community College, came up with a steal leading to a UMPI foul. Starks split a pair of free throws to make it 73-68 to secure the victory for the visitors.

Once again, the Fighting Tigers depth played



Men's Basketball #3 Andre Starks pulls up for jumper

key role in the win with 12 players entering the scoring column with senior forward Justin Feldman, Chester, N.Y., Chester High School/Orange Community College, hitting a team high of 18 points to go with four rebounds and two assists and sophomore swingman JaNyve Smith, Albany, N.Y., Bishop Maginn High School, tallying 14 points and five rebounds on the night.

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Sheriff's Office Arrests Fulton Man on Heroin and Meth Charges

FULTON - The Sheriff's Office arrested Joshua T. McDonnell, 27 of the Town of Fulton following a traffic stop on Saturday January 7 in the Town of Fulton.

Mr. McDonnell was operating a 1999 Mazda pickup truck on Walhalla Road when a Sheriff's Patrol observed the operator's failure to signal a turn onto State Route 30 and further noted an inadequate exhaust on the vehicle.

Following the initiation of a traffic stop and speaking with the operator and subsequent investigation, deputies discovered a large quantity of packaged



heroin (79.5 grams), crack cocaine (1 gram), several hydrocodone pills (1 gram), in addition to \$1,900 cash, and a set of

brass knuckles. Mr. McDonnell was placed into custody and

his vehicle was impounded. A further search of his personal belongings revealed information of potential criminal sale of controlled substances on a larger scale.

Sheriff's Office investigators, and patrols working with the District Attorney's Office obtained search warrants for both Mr. McDonnell's vehicle and his residence property on Walhalla Road in the Town of Fulton.

A Subsequent search of the property lead to the discovery of approximately \$25,000 cash buried in the yard and details indicating the monies came from multiple sales over

a four month period. A search of the vehicle was also conducted.

Mr. McDonnell was charged with multiple felonies, including 2 counts of each Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 4th degree, 2 counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd degree, and misdemeanor charges of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 4th Degree, and Criminal Use of Drug Paraphernalia in the Second Degree and a traffic ticket.

Mr. McDonnell was arraigned in the Town of Fulton Court and released to return on February 1st.

Auto Racing News

By Tom Coughlin

There were a couple of big announcements late last week.

Starting off with Hall of Fame driver Bob Vedder of Schoharie looking for a 358 modified ride. Bob is very interested in running the DIRTcar 358 modified Series Tour race at Glen Ridge Motorsports Park. On top of that Bob also said that he would seriously consider

racing weekly at The Ridge. Bob has never been shy with me in regards to the fact that the little 1/4 mile track up on the hill is one of his favorite tracks to compete at. Although Bob still has a couple of race cars and motors, none of his engines would be legal for this division under the DIRTcar sanction. So you can reach out to Bob or myself if you have

a lead on a competitive ride.

Announced last Thursday morning in Sherrill, N.Y. was the partnership of Halmar-Friesen Racing and their driver Stewart Friesen with Ferris Industries. If you're not aware, Ferris Commercial Mowers is a Briggs & Stratton Brand of their lawn mowers. The late Bill Shea who was former owner of Utica-Rome

Speedway and also Senior Director of Sales at Ferris was instrumental in putting this deal together. The high point of the partnership announcement was that Ferris will be the primary sponsor on the HFR-#52 Toyota for six NASCAR Craftsman Truck

Series races. Ferris will also be an associate sponsor throughout the 2023 season for Friesen on both his NASCAR Craftsman Truck and his #44 dirt modified.

Division sponsorship helps to secure purse structure both in weekly racing and in traveling events.

Fonda Speedway in 2023 will have the following for titles of their weekly divisions. Amsterdam Truck Center modifieds, Swagger Factory Apparel crate 602 sportsman, Below Zero Ice Cream pro stocks, Montgomery County Office For the Aging limited sportsman, and Fonda Fair 4 cylinders.

Glen Ridge has marketing partners for four of their weekly divisions and has room for a couple more in 2023. The division spon-

sors currently are the Red Chair DIRTcar 358 modifieds, the Classic Muscle Parts DIRTcar crate 602 sportsman, the Yurkewecz Auto Crushers DIRTcar pro stocks, and Northeast Paving & Sealcoat slingshots All-Star & junior.

This weekend is the annual Eastern Motorsport Press Association convention. Hall of Fame inductions will take place along with numerous award presentations.

Hall of Fame inductees for this year include Frank Rio, Bobby Marshman, Reggie Ruggiero, Steve Kinser, Greg Hodnett, and Mike Joy.

The following special awards will also be presented as voted on by the E.M.P.A. membership. The John Blewett III Young Gun Presented by New England Race Fuels-Logan Watt, Jerry Reigie Contribution to Sprint Car Racing Award Presented by World Racing Group-Jack Kromer, Junie Donleavy Memorial Spirit of the Sport Award-Tom Wanick III, Richie Evans Memorial Northeast Dirt

Driver of the Year Award-Matt Sheppard, Richie Evans Memorial Northeast Asphalt Driver of the Year Award-Matt Hirschman, Al Holbert Memorial National Dirt Driver of the Year Award-Jonathan Davenport, Al Holbert Memorial National Asphalt Driver of the Year Award-Erica Enders, EMPA Promotional Effort of the Year Award-Brett Deyo/ Short Track Super Series, Chris Economaki Memorial Newsmaker of the Year Award-North Wilkesboro Speedway.

The following Awards have yet to be announced, as some judging and voting takes place during the convention. Those awards are the Marilyn & Ernie Saxton EMPA Service Appreciation Award, the President's Award, the Janice Brice Award, the Mary & Howie Hodge Award, the Jim Hunter Memorial Writer of the Year Award, and the Ace Lane Sr. Memorial Photographer of the Year Award.

It'll end there for this week. Have a Safe & Happy week everyone.

SUNY Cobleskill Fighting Tigers Weekly Recap

The SUNY Cobleskill men's basketball team won two-of-three games during the week posting a 95-88 non-conference home win on Tuesday over the visiting Gators of Russell Sage College prior to taking to the road over the weekend defeating the host Owls of the University of Maine-Presque Isle 74-70 in North Atlantic Conference (NAC) action in Presque Isle, Maine on Friday evening prior to dropping a 74-55 NAC road game to the Eagles of Husson University on Saturday afternoon in Bangor, Maine to move to 12-3 overall including a 4-1 record in league

action. The Fighting Tigers were led by senior forward Justin Feldman, Chester, N.Y., Chester High School/Orange Community College, who averaged 15.3 points, 4.7 rebounds, 2.3 assists and 1.0 steals per game while shooting 51.4% from the field for the week.

The Fighting Tiger women's basketball team opened the 2023 portion of their schedule by splitting a pair of North Atlantic Conference (NAC) road games over the weekend defeating the Owls of the University of Maine-Presque Isle in Presque Isle, Maine on Friday by a score of 87-79 then traveling to Bangor, Maine on Saturday

to lose to conference rival Husson University by a score of 75-61 to move their record to 8-7 overall including a 4-1 record versus NAC opponents. First-year forward/center Emily Satterday, Latham, N.Y., Shaker High School, averaged 13.5 points and 11.5 rebounds per game while shooting 61.4% from the field during the week.

UPCOMING HOME CONTESTS:

Men's Basketball vs. Maine-Farmington 1/13, Northern Vermont-Johnson 1/14

Women's Basketball vs. Maine-Farmington 1/13, Northern Vermont-Johnson 1/14

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We Need Your Help!

Please help stop industrial solar facilities from taking over our county!

Important meetings:
January 10th, 2023:
at the Carlisle Town Hall,
Crommie Road, Carlisle 7pm.

January 24th:
Seward Town Barn, Lowe
Road 7pm. Bring a chair.
Bring a chair!

Come say no to the proposed solar panels at 190 Brown Road in the towns of Seward and Carlisle.

Institute Announces Second Cohort of Farm and Food Business Accelerator Participants

COBLESKILL – The Institute for Rural Vitality at SUNY Cobleskill and the Center for Agricultural Development & Entrepreneurship (CADE) are proud to announce the second cohort of entrepreneur participants of SUNY Cobleskill's USDA-funded Farm and Food Business Accelerator. Over the next 18 months, through access to strategic support services and professional facilities, Accelerator participants will launch new value-added products to the regional marketplace and capitalize on a collective \$500,000 investment into product development and business growth.

Participants are selected based on their potential for growth and impact on the local farm and food sector. Each has been carefully vetted to ensure they will have economic impact in the Mohawk Valley region. The second cohort consists of the following growers and producers:

Empty Pockets Ranch

- Cobleskill, NY
- King Creek Farms – Delanson, NY
- Old Homestead Farm – Richfield Springs, NY
- Lovin' Mama Farm – Amsterdam, NY
- Van-Dale Farms – Central Bridge, NY
- Broadwell Dairy – Carlisle, NY

The first Accelerator cohort consisted of nine participants and launched in December 2021. Since then, 21 new products have been introduced to the local farm-to-table market. "Through the success of our first cohort, we have proof of concept of the transformative potential of this Accelerator program, and its ability to create positive impact for small business on an individual scale, and on a larger scale, the entire regional food system," said Dr. Scott Ferguson, executive director of the Institute for Rural Vitality at SUNY Cobleskill. "The members of this next cohort show the same promise, and we are excited to get underway and once again

expand our reach and capabilities by working together and sharing resources."

Participants receive access to a complete suite of services and resources from SUNY Cobleskill and CADE, tailored to each's specific needs. Services include support with new product development from food science experts, completion of a scheduled process from the Cornell Food Venture Center; technical support on marketing strategy, legal and financial advisory services, and outreach assistance to develop a network of distributors, retailers and wholesalers, institutions and restaurants, in the Mohawk Valley and beyond.

Cohort members also have access to SUNY Cobleskill's on-campus, shared-use facilities, which include a dairy processing center, USDA-inspected meat processing facility, commercial kitchens, packaging equipment, and use of

the Carriage House Café & General Store for conducting retail pilots and market research.

The Farm and Food Business Accelerator is made possible through a \$741,271 grant from the USDA Agriculture Inno-

vation Center, and was one of just three centers funded in 2020 by the USDA, nationwide. Through additional funding from other sources, the program represents a total investment of \$1,121,002. The grant funds resources specifi-

cally earmarked for cohort members, as well as dedicated staff at SUNY Cobleskill and CADE to address identified needs of farm and food entrepreneurs in the Mohawk Valley, Central New York, and Southern Tier regions.

Cobleskill's Letko Earns Honors at SUNY Canton

Amber L. Letko, a SUNY Canton Homeland Security major from Cobleskill, NY (12043), earned President's List honors during the fall 2022 semester.

"I take great pride in

the academic success of SUNY Canton's students," said SUNY Canton President Zvi Szafran. "The individuals who've earned a place on the President's List have demonstrated that they can succeed in

an exceptionally competitive academic setting." President's List recognizes full-time students who achieve a 3.75 or greater GPA. A complete list of all honor students runs on www.canton.edu.

SUNY's Feldman Named Athlete of the Week



COBLESKILL - The SUNY Cobleskill Athletic Department announced today that senior Justin Feldman, Chester, N.Y., Chester High School/Orange Community College, a member of the men's basketball team has been named the Fighting Tiger Athlete-of-the-Week for

the week ending Sunday January 8, 2023.

The senior forward averaged 15.3 points, 4.7 rebounds, 2.3 assists and 1.0 steals per game while shooting 51.4% from the field for the week as Cobleskill won two-of-three games during the week posting a 95-88 non-conference home win on Tuesday over the visiting Gators of Russell Sage College prior to taking to the road over the weekend defeating the host Owls of the University of Maine-Presque Isle 74-70 in North Atlantic Conference (NAC) action in Presque Isle, Maine on Friday evening prior to dropping a 74-55 NAC road game to the Eagles

of Husson University on Saturday afternoon in Bangor, Maine to move to 12-3 overall including a 4-1 record in league action.

Overall, on the season the Chester, N.Y. native 11.4 points, 5.7 rebounds, 2.6 assists and 1.1 steals per game in 15 games while connecting on 66-of-146 shots from the field, 45.6%, including 24-of-62 from three-point range, 38.7%.

The Fighting Tigers will next be in action on Friday January 13 when they host the Beavers of the University of Maine-Farmington in North Atlantic Conference (NAC) action with tip-off at 5:30 p.m.

HELP WANTED

Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District

seeks outstanding applicants for the following vacancies:

Full-Time Positions:

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Computer Support Specialist
(12-month position)

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We offer competitive salaries and an excellent benefit package.

Please refer to our web site for details:
www.crcsd.org/District/employment
or visit the Business Office.
Submit application materials to:

Lisa Zaba-Miller
Cobleskill-Richmondville CSD
155 Washington Avenue
Cobleskill, NY 12043

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Coxsackie-Athens Downs CRCS



It was an exciting effort in Wednesday's game between Cobleskill-Richmondville and Coxsackie-Athens Wednesday night.



The Bulldogs' effort was there, but Coxsackie carried the match 6-3.



Photos by Robert Duso.




Family Support Meetings in Schoharie!
 Family Support Services will be available at our "new" office location at 597 E Main St Cobleskill
 Chrystal Bushnell (Family Support Navigator) will be available from 8 -4 Thursdays to answer questions and help direct those in need to services and resources.
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Speakers Denounce Carlisle Solar Plan

Staff Report, Special Credit to Robert Duso

CARLISLE - A majority of speakers ripped into the prospective solar project in the town of Carlisle at a public hearing on Tuesday. The Town Planning Board is considering a potential Cypress Creek 125 acre project and were greeted by dozens of local residents.

Some speakers supported the idea, arguing that it offered flexibility for farming families. However, the majority spoke against it. In particular, members of the public put ire on Planning Board member Charles Rhoades, said resident Kirk Holmes. Cypress Creek's attorney, Jeff Davis, about consulting with the board. In particular, members of the public argued that there were not proper provisions to tear down the panels in two decades.

Speakers asked who would be on the hook if there was a lawsuit years in the future. If Cypress Creek sold to another company, who would deal with any environmental concerns. Concerns about the construction, water table, and post-operation plans all were major topics at the meeting.



Cypress Creek's attorney, Jeff Davis. Photos by Robert Duso.



Resident Kirk Holmes talks during Tuesday night's meeting.



Farm Bureau of Schoharie County President John VanDerwerken



Charles Rhoades received criticism from resident Kirk Holmes.

There's Plenty More Schoharie County News Inside!

Dan Zeh Owner of Black Willow Pond Farm speaks during the meeting.