



# The Mountain Eagle

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## County: 'No Confidence' in Walton Reporter

By Mary A. Crisafulli

DELHI - Following a Delaware County Board of Supervisors meeting on Mar. 8, nearly all town supervisors and county department heads signed a letter accusing *The Reporter*, a local newspaper, of misrepresenting facts and editorializing stories. The letter states that while officials appreciate the increased interest in county business, they request an immediate change to create fair and ethical reporting on county affairs. The letter is authored by department heads with the support of supervisors.

Signatures on the letter include supervisors Tina Molé, Bovina, Arthur Merrill, Colchester, Dennis Valente, Hamden, Mark Tuthill, Delhi, Thomas Axtell, Deposit, Jeffery Taggart, Franklin, Wayne Marshfield, Hamden, Jerry Vernold, Hancock, Lisa Driscoll, Harpersfield, George Haynes, Kortright, James Ellis, Meredith, Carl Davis, Middletown, Allen Hinkley, Roxbury, Eric Wilson, Sidney, John Kosier, Stamford, William Layton, Tompkins, and Joseph Cetta, Walton.

Andes Supervisor Wayland Gladstone abstained from signing the letter; and Masonville Supervisor Betty Scott was absent during the meeting.

Gladstone said he did not sign due to not having an issue with *The Reporter's* coverage of Andes board meetings or himself in county affairs. "In fact, staff have reached out to me to clarify on various occasions," he said, "I have found their reporting to be fair and accurate overall and therefore, could not justify signing."

County officials signing the letter include Deb Mirop, alcoholism and drug abuse director; Maria Kelso, Republican elections commissioner; Pete Montgomery, buildings superintendent; Amy Merklen, county attorney; Debora Goodrich, county clerk; Shawn Smith, acting district attorney; Steve Hood, emergency services director; Joe deMauro, information and technology director; Doug Elson, community mental health director; Wayne Shepard, office for the aging director; Carrara Knoetgen, personnel officer; Shelly Johnson-Bennett, planning director; Scott

Glueckert, probation department director; Joseph Ermeti, public defender; James Thomas, public works commissioner; Mandy Walsh, public health services director; Sherri Falcone, real property tax services director; Craig DuMond, county sheriff; Sylvia Armanno, department of social services commissioner; Beverly Shields, county treasurer; Charles Piper, veterans services agency director; and Penny Bishop, clerk of the board. Department heads abstaining from signing include Economic Development Director Glenn Nealis and Democratic Elections Commissioner Judith Garrison. Code Enforcement Officer Dale Downin was absent during the meeting.

Below is a copy of the letter sent to Kim and Randy Shepard, owners and publishers of *The Reporter*:

"Dear Mr. and Mrs. Shepard,

It is with great regret that this letter has become necessary. As department heads and local leaders working in Delaware County we take great pride in our professionalism and dedication to provide the highest quality

of services to the residents of Delaware County. This is often not easy and is becoming more of a challenge each year with state and federal regulations, along with the growing need for services from our community. Our staff works extremely hard each day and it is disheartening that the reporting in your paper does not truly reflect the hard work, integrity and professionalism that is deserved.

Over the course of the past several years, reporters from your paper have attended the majority of public meetings where county business regularly takes place. This includes board meetings and department oversight committee meetings. Committee meetings are used as a means for department heads to provide operational business updates and get guidance from the elected Board of Supervisors. On its face there is nothing wrong with this, and in fact is a welcome change from the past when very little interest was taken in the day to day workings of county departments, programs and decision making. The only thing we have ever asked of

reporters is that the stories be factual and written fairly. Neither of these two things have happened.

Articles in the *Reporter* are written in an inflammatory manner; facts are either misrepresented or omitted from the stories; employee names, titles and scopes of work are incorrect and editorial remarks are made to put a negative light on the County government. We have attempted to correct misinformation through some reporters, to learn the final versions of stories are edited before print, often without their knowledge. Some reporters have indicated this is one reason they have found other employment. It appears to the signatories of this letter your paper has become a platform to undermine the County and the work that we do each and every day.

This flagrant manipulation of facts and the manner in which your paper reports county business was one of the reasons the Board of Supervisors opted to change the official county paper to the *Hancock Herald* in 2022. This action alone should have signaled to you a prob-

lem in the operations of your business and prompted an immediate change. However, it appears it only prompted additional unfair and unethical reporting from your staff.

The negative reporting and the misrepresentation of county business has caused several misunderstandings, distrust from the community and has created hours of wasted time correcting the damage your paper is causing. We neither have the time or patience to continue to combat this unethical representation of our work. We are asking that you look into this matter and make immediate changes as necessary in an effort to create a fair and ethical form of reporting on county business.

In closing, we appreciate the interest in our daily business. We also understand the information your reporters gain from attending meetings can be difficult to understand as the programs we run are often complex and influenced by regulatory standards. However, at this time our only request is that reports be factual, fair and ethical."

## New Ambulance Service Nearing Realization

By Liz Page

HARPERSFIELD - Establishing a not-for-profit ambulance service to serve three local towns is nearing realization as members of the board of directors work to get the final pieces in place. Headwaters Emergency Medical Services Inc. (Headwaters EMS) has an ambulance, a home and is working on hiring its staff, according to Meg Hungerford, a member of the board tasked with establishing the not-for-profit emergency ambulance service.

Each town has submitted an application for a certificate of need, which is expected to be approved by the state Department of Health this month, with planned operations to begin this spring.

Headwater EMS will be located at 65 Terry Road, near the intersection of state Route 23 at the top of mile hill near Stamford, where it will lease a house and garage for its base of operations. A new two-bay garage to house the ambulances will be constructed by Eklund Family Farm Machinery, who owns the property. The existing home will be renovated to

provide staff quarters, an office and storage for Headwaters.

Headwaters has formally organized as a corporation in New York State, including an application for tax exemption and 501c3 status. Ray Baker, of Sidney, has been hired as the director of operations. He has many years of experience in emergency operations and is currently the director for Sidney EMS.

One ambulance has been purchased and they are looking to purchase a second ambulance. The intent is to have one Advanced Life Support and one Basic Life Support provider on staff 24/7 initially, and over time they will add a second Advanced Life Support crew available for 12 hours.

A number of applications from Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics are being received and applications are still being accepted for those who may still wish to apply. Interested applicants can apply through the Headwaters EMS website at hemsny.org.

The service is being established through a coordinated effort by the Robin-

son-Broadhurst Foundation and the towns of Kortright, Stamford and Harpersfield.

R-B is providing the "seed" money to establish the service and its initial operating costs, with the towns also contributing after the second year of operation. Individuals and insurance companies will be billed for transport. The best case scenario is that it will at some point become self-sustaining.

Hungerford said services will be billed, which is expected to be the primary source of revenue, supplemented by the three towns beginning in 2024. Headwaters will be providing regular reports to each town regarding the services provided, revenue collected and the cost of operations.

With volunteer services disappearing, the need for a paid ambulance service in the region was critical, with patients waiting far too long for an ambulance to respond for transport. R-B stepped forward to pledge the cost of establishing the ambulance service and costs to get it operating. It is now at the critical point, with the board of directors working for almost a year now

to get this critical service going, progressing through all the necessary stages and criteria related to emergency medical services in establishing an ambulance service.

Stamford Supervisor John Kosier said he will be thankful that the service is getting close to being operational. "A majority of the calls are in the town of Stamford and this really is needed for all three towns," said Kosier. He added that he would also like to see an urgent care facility open in the area, which would also help emergency services.

"From the town's perspective, it is very important that we work with Headwaters to be sure they succeed. With waning numbers of volunteers for the ambulance, it's very much needed and with the Robinson-Broadhurst funding, it's our one good opportunity to make things work," said Kortright Supervisor George Haynes.

"The Robinson Broadhurst Foundation, and I are beyond ecstatic and proud that this much needed service is no longer a dream but is about to become reality in the very



near future," said Don VanEten, president and director of the R-B Foundation. "I commend the three towns (Stamford, Kortright, and Harpersfield) for their willingness to work with the Foundation and Headwaters EMS to initiate this much needed service to our communities."

He also thanked the Headwaters EMS Board of Directors for their time, hard work, determination, and commitment to bringing this vital service to our communities. "Every single individual who has supported this endeavor and played a role in bringing this medical service to fruition are heroes in my book. They saw the need, understood what had to be done, and they made it happen. Each of the individuals will be responsible for saving lives because of the hard work they have done."

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## 500 Petitioners Invite Delhi Council Reconsider Bramley Mountain Fire Tower Resurrection Local Law Adopted to Appoint a Single Assessor Instead of Elected Board

**By Mary A. Crisafulli**  
DELHI - Eileen Kline of Delhi presented nearly 500 signed petitions on Mar. 13 to Delhi council members, asking they reconsider the decision to decline the contract for the resurrection of the Bramley Mountain Fire Tower.

The Friends of Bramley Mountain Fire tower have been working to resurrect the original fire tower for several years and have since raised over \$100,000 for the project.

In February, the Friends of Bramley Mountain Fire Tower President Anne Roberti requested the council accept the building permit, develop a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the group, and work with the New York City Department of Environmental

Protection (DEP) on a land use application. DEP drafted a contract requiring a municipal entity to take responsibility for liability, deconstruction, and other associated needs for the tower if it is to be resurrected on what is DEP-owned property. Council members voted not to sign the contract 3-2 following an executive session with the town attorney. Council members Matthew Krzyston and Christina Vifore voted to move forward with a DEP contract, while council members Margaret Baldwin, William Cairns, and Supervisor Mark Tuthill voted against it.

According to Kline, of the 500 petitions, 232 are Delhi residents, 490 are county residents, 24 are Delhi business owners, and over 35 are SUNY Delhi students.



Eileen Kline requests Delhi council members reconsider their decision to decline the contract for the resurrection of the Bramley Mountain Fire Tower at a meeting on Mar. 13.

Kline urged council mem-

bers to consider the benefits of having a fire tower in town. "The restored tower will provide our region with a vital recreational and educational resource." The structure will increase tourism, providing benefits to Delhi business owners, she added. "Given the public outcry with this decision, we sincerely hope the council will reconsider," Kline concluded.

Later in the meeting, Councilmember Margaret Baldwin reported that she had contacted state representatives in Albany regarding the project and received positive feedback. It is her belief that due to the property being owned by the city, the concern is at a different level than the local level. The council favors the project but can not take responsibility as laid out in

the DEP contract, she explained. It is Baldwin's intention to hand over all research and contact information to Roberti in hopes that it assists in the initiative.

Supervisor Mark Tuthill explained that this was the first attempt to resurrect a fire tower on city property. Other fire towers on DEP property were restored before city ownership and were not subject to municipal contract negotiations, he said.

In another discussion, council members unanimously voted to change a local law from a three-person elected board of assessors to a single appointed assessor for the town. The council appointed Donald Joseph Gifford as town assessor and Jim Corcoran as assessor clerk for salaries of \$24,250 annually for a six-year term to start Apr. 1.

During a public hearing on the law, Gifford and Tuthill explained that several New York municipalities are shifting to appointed assessors due to a lack of available or willing individuals to fill positions. Of the 933 New York municipalities, approximately 47 still utilize an elected board of assessors, they said. The town will save funds annually due to having one less assessor salary, Tuthill added.

In other business: Dustin White was hired as pool operator for \$3,200 from May 13 until Sept. 15. Following an executive session, Kali Barnhart was hired as recreation director for \$7,000 from Apr. 15 until Sept. 15.

A contract was signed for Amish Barn Company to replace the six-foot ramp at the town pool for \$325, to be paid for by an anonymous donor.

The mowing bid of \$300 per mow every 12 to 14 days for the town hall, highway department, and park and pool areas from Natural Advantage LLC. was accepted.

The highway department will advertise for grit, diesel fuel, and heating oil bids to be received by Monday, Apr. 10 at 3 p.m.

Bridge replacement over the Little Delaware River on Arbor Hill Road will begin this year. The roadway will remain open during the two-year construction project, but delays are expected, said Highway Superintendent Daren Evans.

The code enforcement officer issued four building permits, conducted 11 inspections, held six in-house conferences, issued six C/O letters, three certificates of compliance, and one violation, and drove 173 miles in February.

The next Delhi Town Council meeting is scheduled Monday, Apr. 10, at 7 p.m.

## Stamford Sets Public Hearing on ATV/UTV Use of Town Roads

**By Liz Page**  
HOBART - A public hearing was set for 5:45 p.m. on Wednesday, April 12, to hear comments regarding all terrain and utility vehicles to operate on town roadways in the town of Stamford.

Chris Ciaizza, of the

607Riders in Stamford, was present to determine if the town board would approve his club for the issuing of permits as a way of ensuring the vehicles are insured.

Ciaizza said the law should not refer to the 607Riders, but rather any

town approved club, which at this point would be the 607Riders.

The proposed law would allow access to certain areas and/or trails adjacent to town roadways. The roadways must be posted as defined by section 2281 of the state

Vehicle and Traffic Law and the town. It includes all town roadways.

All those traveling on town roadways must abide by the state vehicle and traffic laws, avoid trespassing on private property unless they are granted permission by the landowner, operate with respect to other vehicle traffic, property owners and town highways.

They must operate in a manner that does not cause damage to town roadways, operate on the shoulders, operate only registered and insured ATVs. If unable to be registered, it still must be insured. Obtain and prominently display an affixed permit from a town recognized ATV/UTV club.

Club information will

Pick, who has expertise as a member of a local electric cooperative, but who was not speaking as a member, warned that solar will not provide cheaper electricity and that the current administration is looking to go green without considering the consequences to residents, particularly rural residents.

There were also arguments regarding health and environmental impacts.

Ania Miller asked the town board to consult with the town attorney regarding the moratorium.

In the end, Supervisor Lisa Driscoll, said they would take all the comments under advisement and will have the town assessor chairman attend the next town board meeting. The committee will make a list of items they would like to see incorporated into a solar law.

Dwayne Hill, who was recently appointed to the town council, handed in his resignation as town historian, due to his new position. Board members appointed Thomas Giaguzzi as the new historian

In other business, Pick wanted to go on record with a positive note, thanking the town highway department for an excellent job.

Speed limit signs have arrived for Austin Road and will be erected soon.

## Harpersfield Considering Moratorium on Solar Farms

**By Liz Page**  
HARPERSFIELD - Members of the Harpersfield Town Board were asked to consider a moratorium on solar farms, asking them to halt the process in the wake of three proposed solar projects, in order to develop a law. Those requesting the moratorium were asked to develop a list of the criteria they want to be included in any proposed law.

In the meantime, there was a lengthy debate regarding existing solar projects, one off Weaver Road, being developed by Delaware River Solar and two off Bruce Hill Road, being developed by Blue Wave Solar.

"Why did you wait so long," asked Councilman Patrick Funk. "These projects are well underway."

Resident Kristen Basile said the group, Preserve Harpersfield Committee, had asked for a moratorium when the original project off Weaver Road was proposed a few years ago.

The PH committee said they are not against solar energy, but they are against the project off Weaver Road, believing it to be a sensitive

area environmentally.

While town board members were given moratoriums to review from other towns in the region, they were reluctant to establish a moratorium after the fact of proposals already under review with the town planning board. Funk said it could open them up to litigation.

Joe Ferla, who was making the appeal on behalf of the committee, said the intent of a solar law is to develop a specific set of guidelines for review up front, to determine if the project is feasible prior to the review process under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA).

Resident Edward "Rusty" Pick urged the council to declare the moratorium, saying without it, the town is losing its ability to control where the projects may be sited. It would allow the town to determine how to ensure it retains control, by instituting some guidelines applicable and beneficial to the town. He cited things such as setbacks, assessments, etcetera. He contended the group was not asking for a lot.

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# County Auction Delayed & Village Foreclosures Discussed

**By Mary A. Crisafulli**  
 DELHI - The Delaware County 2019 tax foreclosure auction scheduled for July has been canceled, County Treasurer Beverly Shields reported at a finance committee meeting on Mar. 8. The cancellation is due to time constraints and storage of employees, said Shields. "We will have to coordinate with court dates and reschedule." Shields estimates the auction could occur in September. County auctions are generally held on the second

Saturday in July; however, due to a state hold on foreclosures, the auction has been postponed for three years. Renters and homeowners were federally protected from eviction and mortgage or tax foreclosure during the pandemic. The protection caused a backlog of foreclosed properties, and to catch up on the process, supervisors scheduled additional auctions. The auction regarding foreclosures from 2018 taxes scheduled for Apr. 1 will still occur. There are 67

parcels up for auction at the county courthouse, 1 Court House Square, Delhi, starting at 10 a.m. Individuals interested in bidding must register before auction. To print a registration form, visit delconyus. The following towns have properties up for auction, one in Andes, four in Bovina, three in Colchester, five in Davenport, six in Deposit, one in Franklin, ten in Hancock, one in Harpersfield, three in Kortright, two in Masonville, three in Middletown, four in Roxbury, 16

in Sidney, two in Stamford, three in Tompkins, and two in Walton. The finance committee will meet on Wednesday, Mar. 29, at 9 a.m. to review and finalize properties up for auction. Shields is seeking volunteers or employees to help on auction day by taking bids, managing the door, keeping files, and more. Bovina Supervisor and Chairperson to Supervisors Tina Molé offered her services to help on the day. Shields also reported that village trustees in Walton,

Delhi, and Sidney are exploring possibilities for hosting foreclosure auctions. The trustees are exploring this route because the proceeds from auctioned properties are first used to make the town taxes whole, and remaining funds go to the county. If a property is within a village, the county has individual agreements with each village. All villages, except Walton, have agreed to a two-year tax reimbursement, which means the village and county will receive two years of back taxes on

the property and all other revenue from the sale returns to the county. According to Shields, it would be best for villages and the county for the county to perform foreclosures to avoid conflicts. It would be cheaper for the village if the county held auctions for the village and charged a flat rate, she added. Shields will organize proposals for village foreclosure fees. The next finance committee meeting is scheduled Tuesday, Mar. 22, at 10:30 a.m.

# South Kortright Falls In Regional Playoff At Binghamton

**By Liz Page**  
 BINGHAMTON - Despite another fantastic season, the South Kortright Rams will hang up their basketball sneakers for another season after they lost to a familiar foe on Saturday at the arena in Binghamton. SK lost to Chapel Field Christian 68-58 at Visions Veterans Memorial Arena in a regional game. It was the same team they defeated last year to advance to the final four in the state championship. While it wasn't the outcome they had hoped for, the team still feeling the pain of a physical game last Tuesday, their fans are still very proud. SK defeated Greenburgh-North Castle 80-55 last Tuesday in a sub-

regional game to make the advance. Greenburgh-North Castle was also a familiar foe the Rams defeated last season. The finish their season as the top team in the league, undefeated in league play at 8-0, league champions and sectional champions. While they will not repeat a trip to the final four, the fans have again enjoyed a great season and they are the envy of other teams. In Saturday's game, the two teams traded baskets until midway through the first quarter. They were tied 12-12 before CF began to pull away, finishing the quarter with a five-point lead. They stretched the lead to nine points by the half where SK couldn't seem to break

them. The Rams got to within three points more than once over the final half but could get no closer. As soon as SK made an advance, CFC would retaliate to negate it. Connor Quarino, who will return to the SK lineup next year, finished the game with 22 points to once again lead his squad. Josh Anderson added another 19 points

points and Trent Cole scored nine. It just wasn't in the cards this season for the Rams. They end the season with a 21-4 record. Josh Anderson, Troy Dianich and Connor Quarino were named Delaware League All Stars. The team will graduate Anderson, Dianich, Cole, Adam Champlin and Adin Haynes.



SK's Darren Dengler (5) goes up for the rebound along with teammate Troy Dianich as CF's Jonah McDuffie goes up with his teammate during a state regional game at Binghamton on Saturday.



South Kortright's Connor Quarino heads the ball to the hoop as a CF player looks to interrupt the shot during action on Saturday at the Visions Veterans Memorial Arena in Binghamton. CF won the regional playoff to advance to the state final four.



South Kortright's Josh Anderson (12) goes up for the shot in Saturday's regional game at Binghamton.



SK's Darren Dengler (5) goes up for the rebound along with teammate Troy Dianich as CF's Jonah McDuffie goes up with his teammate during a state regional game at Binghamton on Saturday.



South Kortright's Troy Dianich (10) dribbles in to the zone during Saturday's regional game at Binghamton.

## It's Here!

The biggest snowfall of the season last over two days and left 23 inches of snow behind in Stamford. Snowfall varied by elevation, with some areas receiving a few inches more and others a little less. It did make travel difficult and keep snowplows going around the clock.  
 Photo by Liz Page

# Offender Failed to Register Address

DELHI - Delaware County Acting District Attorney Shawn J. Smith announced that Lyman G. McCann, 49, of Delhi New York, was arraigned on a three-count indictment in Delaware County Court on March 6th. The defendant appeared before the Honorable Gary A. Rosa, who ordered cash bail be set at \$5,000 and secured bond at \$10,000. The defendant was accused of Failure to Register

Change of Address, a Class D Felony, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Third Degree, a Class D Felony, and Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, a Class E Felony. New York State Corrections Law requires persons convicted of a registerable offense to notify the police department of where they are residing. McCann is accused of failing to register.

# PA Resident Arrested for Suspended License

DELHI - Sheriff Craig S. DuMond announced the arrest of a Blandon, PA resident for driving with a suspended license. On March 12th, Sheriff's Deputies conducted a traffic stop on Main Street in the Village of Delhi after observing a vehicle without functioning taillights. The driver of the vehicle was identified as 48-year-old David Gensler of Blandon, Pennsylvania. A check of Gensler's license revealed that his driving privileges

in the State of New York had been suspended. Deputies subsequently arrested Gensler and issued him traffic tickets for Aggravated Unlicensed Operator in the Third Degree, an unclassified misdemeanor, as well as Unlicensed Operator and No/Inadequate Tail Lamps, both violations in the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law. Gensler is scheduled to appear before the Town of Delhi Court at a later date to answer the charges.

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# Letters to the Editor

## Rethink Tower Decision

The Delhi Town Council should rethink their 3/2 no vote to the Bramley Mountain Fire Tower.

The Friends have worked for four years preparing the fire tower for replacing it on its original site.

Having hiked all six fire towers in the Catskills and many more, the towers add the unique experience of height. This opens up a 360 degree view with much more vistas.

As a local retired teacher from the area, these towers provide education and possible careers to local students. Just look at a Catskill trail map on the internet and subjects such as math, the sciences, English and many more are applied. We don't have a lot of high tech or factories here in the Catskills, but we have a wealth of nature waiting to be written about, measured, photographed, painted, explored and taken care of environmentally.

Finally, the Economist in me knows it will help the local businesses in the area because I know a good meal after a great hike is very much appreciated. Our group always looks for nearby restaurants.

Gail Black  
Delhi

## Middleburgh Village Hall- Access Denied

It was with profound sadness that I recently read an article in The Schoharie News that stated that after a split vote, the Middleburgh Village Board had elected to continue having illegal, nonpublic meetings in the Village Hall. I can not tell the reader how disturbing this is, given the decades-long history of numerous Board members having accomplished absolutely nothing in this regard.

Elected officials have been kicking this can down the road to my knowledge, going back at least as far as the Charlie Slater administration of the early 1990s. This is when I first approached both the Village and Town, who were sharing the building at that time. I remember the late Village Justice and World War II hero Marcus Heim after sustaining an injury, having to hoist himself up those four steps to hold court. I felt, what an injustice this was to him and others who could not readily participate in "their" government.

The Americans With Disabilities Act had been passed in July of 1990. Our local officials needed to step up for those who no longer could. I met with both Boards to advocate for modification to the building. None would be forthcoming.

The Village essentially blew me off. However, Town Supervisor Rich Shultes and his Board recognized it is the right of its citizens to attend public meetings. With no cooperation forthcoming from the Village, the Town elected to move into the old Agway Farm store where they remain today.

At that same time, I approached the Post Office and Central National Bank, as neither were accessible to all citizens. There was another person whom I cannot recall who had also contacted the Post Office. The Banks solution at the time was to have people in their wheelchairs push themselves up to the drive-thru and they would be waited on. I got this right from their Manager at the time. You know there was only one step up to the old bank building at that time. It would of cost next to nothing to modify that.

Yet this is how the general public often treats those with disabilities. As if they are invisible. Well, things began to change when Town Supervisor Lee Lacy had me appointed to a voluntary County level advocacy position. As they say, money talks. And so did I, as I started making a little more noise where it counts. The bank suddenly came around. They tore up their entire sidewalk right out to the street and poured a new one at an angle so slight you never even knew you were walking uphill. The Post Office came around too, with the ramp you see today.

And the Village, all these many years later despite numerous plans, has accomplished nothing. You Village taxpayers are a very fortunate group, in that someone has not come along and sued the collective pants off you. Believe me, you would lose in a heartbeat. Access to public places is not something nice to do for others, it is a civil right. Just like the other rights Marcus Heim and many others fought for in World War II and the subsequent conflicts that followed. While I have been long removed from the day-to-day concerns of the Middleburgh government, I suspect Town leaders would be very willing to open their doors so that the Village could hold legal and proper public meetings in the future.

Brian DeFeo  
Edinburg, NY  
Formerly of Middleburgh

## Firearms Corner: Tips & Responsibilities

This month, I would like to discuss: "Brandishing a weapon", and some suggestions. NOTE: I AM NOT A LAWYER.

What is Brandishing?

With respect to a firearm, to display all or part of the firearm, or otherwise make the presence of the firearm known to another person, in order to intimidate that person, regardless of whether the firearm is directly visible to that person.

However, doing so in an aggressive manner is NOT ALWAYS an illegal crime.

There are scenarios when it may be prudent and legally justified to draw and display a firearm.

The drawing of a weapon is normally an "option of last resort". The same legal standard would apply to Brandishing as to actually firing a weapon; therefore, the prosecution might consider both "Deadly Force". Both are judgment calls that you are in fear of your life or grave bodily harm or someone else's.

However, the mere brandishing of a firearm may be enough to deescalate the confrontation and NOT require you to subsequently fire your weapon.

I would like to share Mas-sad Ayooob's Ten Commandments for Concealed Carry:

1 - If you choose to Carry, Always Carry. Be prepared.

2 - Don't Carry a Gun if you aren't prepared to use it.

If you are not prepared to take a life - a CCW Option is NOT for you.

3- Don't Let the Gun make you Reckless. The Law holds the CCW holder to a "higher standard of care."

4 - Carry legally - State laws differ - especially in our home state of NY. NOTE: I strongly advise taking a NYS Penal Law Article 35 class from a certified NYS Instructor.

5 - Know What You're doing. Know how to shoot - fast and accurate.

6 - Concealed means Concealed!

7- Maximize Your Firearms Familiarity. Make all aspects of gun manipulation second nature.

8 - Understand the Fine Points - "Ignorance of the law is no excuse" We live in an Anti-Second Amendment State. You are likely to be presumed guilty until you prove yourself innocent.

9 - Carry an Adequate Firearm. Carry a loaded gun with a caliber that you can safely handle and shoot; however, it has to have "stopping Power".

10 - Use Common Sense. You have a "Right" to carry; however, with that Right comes RESPONSIBILITY for your actions. Use the power wisely.

Furthermore, you and only you need to make the decision IF you can take a life. This will involve a lot of self-examination. know the Legal, Emotional, and Psychosocial aftermaths that you will face.

If you can't say with any 'reasonable certainty' that you can live with these risks then DON'T carry a gun for self-defense.

When carrying be on the alert for dangers - Try to avoid locations and situations and avoid confrontation if at all possible - swallow your pride!!!

The best self-defense scenario is not getting into an altercation at all. In the aftermath of an encounter - you will have to demonstrate "fear for your Life"!!!

However, if you are faced with either a BRANDISHING or SHOOTING encounter - IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS - NOTIFY THE POLICE. Be the first to report the event - failing to do so, can make grave complications for yourself. The 'aggressor' can quickly turn the scenario to him/her being the victim!!

Furthermore, a self-defense scenario is a CRITICAL HIGH-STRESS encounter; and your 'skills and training' will be put to the ultimate test. Your range performance will be significantly diminished. If your weapon handling skills are not a matter of "muscle memory" and instinctively "second nature". your performance will prove - possibly deadly for you or the individual you were trying to protect or an innocent bystander. PRACTICE, PRACTICE... Get qualified Self-defense training.

"A free people ought not only to be armed, but disciplined..." George Washington.

Richard Rossi  
NRA Certified, Pistol, Rifle, Shotgun and Personal Protection in the Home Instructor  
Denver, NY

## Apology Needed

I sent an earlier version of this letter to Mayor Bergan of Middleburgh and want to share it with the public. According to the mayor: myself, Supervisor Wes Laraway, and the volunteers that took care of the "colored section" of the Middleburgh Cemetery are racist.

Our volunteers worked together to honor the people buried in the cemetery. For years, headstones were stolen for foundations and that part of the cemetery was overgrown. After Gary Hayes tried to place a cell phone tower on the graves, Wes Laraway worked with his students to clean up the cemetery and Mayor Avitabile repaired some of the fallen-over stones. I and the members of the Historical Society worked with Kim and Reggie Harris to put up a monument to honor the dead there.

You never took notice or consulted with the people actually involved with the cemetery's upkeep. You show a great lack of respect for our community's history, including those disrespected for years buried in those plots.

So now you are going to destroy all the military stones that say, colored troops?

You are going to change the Official Village records that say Colored Section?

You are going to change a Sanborne Map because of a street name?

What is next, the Tim Murphy statue because he shot Indians? Or all the Indian names in the Village?

Or maybe do away with the term Paupers Section, and change the Village records?

I do expect you to retract your statements and apologize to the volunteers that actually helped honor our dead by actions, not words.

The mayor did not respond to my email.

Steve La Mont  
Middleburgh Village and Town Co-Historian

# Several DPW Equipment & Vacancy Authorizations Made

## Compost VFD System Down

**By Mary A. Crisafulli**  
DELHI - Delaware County Department of Public Works (DPW) Committee members made several equipment purchase authorizations on Mar. 8.

The DPW 38-foot trailer was attempted to be repaired, but after work was initiated, it was determined the equipment was beyond repair, said DPW Commissioner James Thomas. The purchase of a new trailer for \$39,500 was approved.

Another approved purchase includes fuel master upgrades to resolve communication issues at county pumps at East Meredith, Fishes Eddy, and Kelly Corners by switching to a cloud-based system. The price includes database upgrade, a service contract, and staff training on the new system.

The final purchase includes a pole saw for \$654.49.

After purchases, the equipment budget will have approximately \$40,000 remaining.

Committee members also authorized Thomas to advertise for several vacant and seasonal positions. Vacancies include three seasonal mowers for \$18.08 per hour, a solid waste motor equipment operator for \$18.08 per hour, a heavy equipment operator II for \$21.39 per hour, a working supervisor for \$23.82 per hour, solid waste seasonal heavy equipment operator for \$19.54 per hour, 14 seasonal laborers for \$15 per hour, a highway crew supervisor for \$23.59 per hour, and a seasonal engineering

laborer for \$16 per hour.

In another discussion, Solid Waste Coordinator Tyson Robb reported on needed repairs to the compost system. The 20-year-old variable frequency drive (VFD), which controls the induction motor's speed, torque, and direction, is down. A new VFD has an approximately 180-week delivery delay. Robb proposed purchasing and installing a soft start system as a temporary solution while a new VFD is researched and ordered. "The VFD provides very consistent and clean power at a set rate which is important for the 300-ton moving bioreactor," said Robb. "The soft start works in a pinch, but you don't get that consistent regulated voltage." He continued that the county compost plant operation is critical to continue while waiting for a new VFD. The old VFD could be rebuilt, he added. The soft start, new VFD, and installation of both are estimated at \$52,000. The soft start will be maintained as a backup system option.

In other business: Committee members authorized the Greater Delhi Chamber of Commerce to utilize the DPW parking lot on Page Avenue for staging the St. Patrick's Day Parade parade floats on Saturday, Mar. 18.

Bridge NY funding of approximately \$5 million is proposed to repair the Cat Hollow Road bridge in Roxbury.

The next DPW committee meeting is scheduled Wednesday, Mar. 22, at 8:45 a.m.

Schoharie Colonial Heritage Association presents the *Spring Antiques* in Schoharie

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# THE SCOHARIE NEWS

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SCS AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM POPULAR**

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

Volume 8, No. 11 mountaineaglenews@gmail.com FRIDAY March 17, 2023 518-763-6854 \$1.00

## Resident May Abandon Middleburgh Housing Development

**By David Avitabile**  
MIDDLEBURGH - A controversial Middleburgh housing development could be dead before it was born.

Resident Fred Risse, who revealed his plans last month for a housing development off of upper Main Street told town board members Thursday that he might pull out of the project because of costs.

Mr. Risse, who is chairman of the village and town joint planning board, said last week that the village zoning laws are so outdated, the planning board would have to follow the town subdivision laws which would require a state environmental quality review as well as requiring a payment of \$250 for each proposed lot.

There might be 10 lots, Mr. Risse said.

If he has to follow the town subdivision rules and costs, "I might not go ahead with the project because of that."

The proposal has been controversial since it was

revealed at the February village board meeting. Three days later, a resident asked that the town conduct an ethics board review since Mr. Risse and his niece are on the planning board.

Supervisor Wes Laraway said he was going to speak to the town attorney before moving ahead.

On Monday Mr. Laraway said he did speak to town attorney Mike West about Mr. Risse and his niece.

His niece, Denise Lloyd, Mr. Laraway, "could technically vote as a relative but we all agreed that it would be most appropriate for Fred to recuse himself from all issues involving himself personally."

At last week's meeting, Mr. Risse said that in the past a relative was allowed to vote as long as there was no financial gain.

Mr. Laraway said he disagreed.

He noted that when the town votes on fuel oil bids and Laraway Oil

is involved, he removes himself from the conversation and the vote.

Mr. Risse said he did not vote on the issue and neither did Ms. Lloyd.

"Good," Mr. Laraway responded, "because I think it's inappropriate."

Village resident Dave Jeremenko issued the town board a letter last month requesting an ethics board review on the project proposed by Mr. Risse, Mr. Risse is the chairman of the plan-

ning and his niece is the vice chairman.

Last month, Mr. Laraway noted that when a planning board member proposes a project, it should mean the member goes "beyond recusing yourself."

Mr. Risse said that, normally, unless the project is for financial gain, the member can vote.

Mr. Risse detailed the proposed project to the village board last month. The housing develop-

ment he is proposing would be on the fields behind Andy's Auto. Phase one would include six acres. The plans still have to go to an engineer to lay out.

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

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

Village building inspector Lloyd Stannard said the zoning in the area requires lots to be a minimum of about a half acre.

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

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

## M'burgh Town Ramping Up Move to Community Center

**By David Avitabile**  
MIDDLEBURGH - As Middleburgh officials battle air circulation problems at the old town hall on Railroad Avenue, the move of town offices to the community center continues.

The town court moved up to the community center on Cotton Hill Road at the end of 2022 and town board members last week discussed providing space for the clerk, assessor, and other town offices at the center.

The moves could also be a precursor to the town eventually selling the 100-plus-year-old building that once housed an Agway store.

The layout of the community center cannot be changed for five years, Supervisor Wes Laraway noted at the town board meeting Thursday, but setting up a few partitions for offices is not changing the layout. There is plenty of space in the main section of the community center for a clerk's office, possibly in a corner, and the assessor's office can be put in a large closet. The closet can be outfitted with a door and window. Items from the historical society could be moved to the town garage.

Decisions will have to be made sooner rather than later, but they have not yet been made.

"We're getting closer," Supervisor Wes Laraway said.

"There's a lot of moving parts and we're not rushing on it and we'll go from there," Mr. Wes Laraway said. The town has options. The least cost would be best, officials added.

The town has been at the town hall on Railroad Avenue for nearly 20 years. The community center, which also doubles as an

emergency shelter, opened about three years ago.

"There is poor air circulation in the town hall," Mr. Laraway said.

Once vacated, the town could look to sell it.

"I think someone would want to buy it," he added. "It would be great for a variety of things and would be better back on tax paying rolls. We won't be selling it until we are ready and if we think the move to the Community Center will work."

Definitive answers are needed before any decisions are made. Councilman Pete Coppola said.

Mr. Laraway noted that permanent walls cannot be put up for at least a few years, according to NY Rising rules.

The Supervisor said that he was not in favor of moving the offices to the community center and selling the old building, but that has changed.

"I wasn't thrilled about it, but it's starting to grow on me," he said. "It's really valuable space," he said of the community center.

"I'd love to sell the town hall, but we can't until we have a lot of our ducks in a row and everything in place."

The community center hosts the town board and planning board meetings after nearly 30 years at the town hall on Railroad Avenue.

The town court was moved to the new facility in late December and now it appears that the rest of the town office the clerk and the assessor, may be moved and the old building may be put up for sale.

The move was made because of poor air circulation in the court space, Mr. Laraway said.

Work will commence on

the town hall, Mr. Laraway said.

There will be remediation on the building to improve issues, Mr. Laraway said.

After that, the town will be making decisions on how to proceed.

The town moved into the town hall around 1995 after an "amicable" divorce with the village when Richard Shultes was supervisor and during the terms of Charles Slater and Art Wargo. The town and village shared the Municipal Building on Main Street for many years before town officials at that time were worried that the state would force the two mu-

nicipalities to make the building, which was once Central National Bank, handicap accessible. The town agreed to buy the town hall, which once housed an Agway store. After much rehabbing, the town moved in a few months later.

The village hall is still not handicap accessible and a resident has been badgering the village board about the lack of handicap access to the building.

The community center was built with \$3 million in NY Rising funds that the town received after the flood of August, 2011.

### Valley Briefs

#### 2023 Village Of Middleburgh Meeting Schedule

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

April 3

May 1

June 5

July 10

August 7

September 11

October 2

November 6

December 4

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

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

The dinner includes a half chicken, a baked potato, coleslaw, roll and butter, dessert, and a drink for \$13.50. Sale is only by pre-sale only. Please mail a check to the Middleburgh Rotary, PO Box 1100, Middleburgh, NY, 12122, or buy a ticket in person at Lenny's Tire, Middleburgh Hardware, National Bank of Cossackie, Middleburgh Pharmacy, or Middleburgh Mercantile. Pick up is from 2 to 4pm at the Community Center, the MEVAC bay, on Cotton Hill Road.

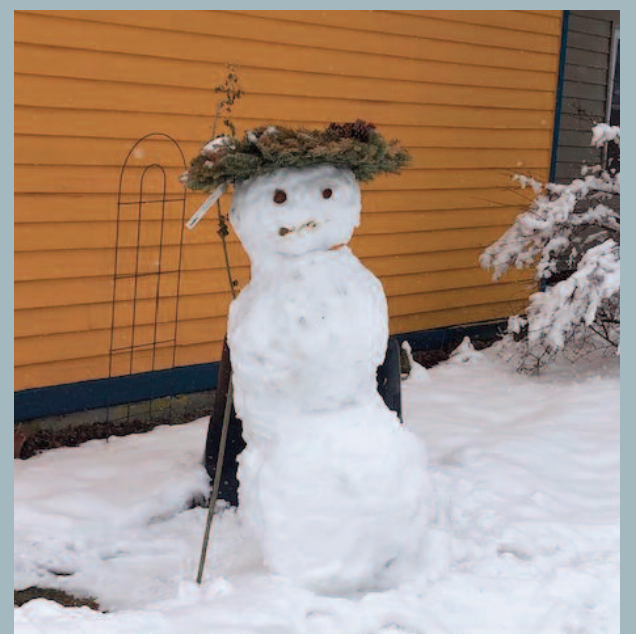
#### Corned Beef Dinner to Benefit Special Olympics

MIDDLEBURGH - Drive by and pick up a home-made corned beef dinner with cabbage, potatoes, carrots, and, of course, soda bread on Sunday, March 19 at Our Lady of the Valley parking lot on Chestnut Street in Middleburgh. Serving from 3:30 to 6pm. Suggested donation \$15. Proceeds to benefit our athletes competing in the Special Olympics of the Capital District. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 4475.

#### MCS Craft Show Sat.

MIDDLEBURGH - Discover the best homemade crafts Saturday, March 18, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. as members of the National Honor Society and Middleburgh Central School Student Congress host a craft fair at the high school. Proceeds benefit the year-end scholarships provided by the National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society. Questions: maria.sime@mcsdny.org

### Frosty in Middleburgh



This snowman by Dr. Roy Korn's house at the corner of Wells and Railroad avenues in Middleburgh definitely had some company after the snowstorm Monday and Tuesday.



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# M'burgh Planning Board Asking for Moratorium on STRs

By David Avitabile

MIDDLEBURGH - As short-term rentals become more popular in rural areas, the Middleburgh joint planning board is asking for a moratorium on the rentals.

In a letter to the town board last week, it was reported that members had discussed a short-term rental for the Black Bear Country Inn (formerly Wattles Inn the Middle) on Main Street in the village.

The zoning board of appeals was scheduled to hold a public hearing Tuesday on a proposed short-term rental at 296 Main Street, next to the post office. The owner is planning to use all or a portion of the building as a non-owner-occupied short-term rental facility. The two-story building was the Wattles Inn the Middle and is now owned by Daniel Green of Smith Road in Potter Hollow.

He is seeking a special use permit. "We have recommended to the ZBA that the property in question at 296 Main Street (formerly 'Wattles Inn the Middle') does not meet the requirement for a 'Hotel/Motel/Tourist Home' per the current zoning law definitions and Commercial zoning special uses - it is not a tourist home or B&B because it will not be owner-occupied, and it does not meet the room requirements for a hotel/motel," read the planning board letter to the town board.

A moratorium would be a good idea right now, planning board members suggested. "On a broader level, this opened up issues around the precedent that the outcome of the ZBAs decision would set for other properties in the commercial district as well as short-term

rentals generally in the village, and we would like to recommend that the village hold a moratorium on short-term rentals until the laws are reviewed. We want to make sure that short-term rental facilities are allowed within reason, but also make sure there are no legal loopholes that could be exploited, that our long-term rental and housing stock is protected and that rules/definitions are up-to-date and practical."

The letter stated that Councilman John Youmans, the town's liaison to the planning board suggested sending this recommendation to the town as well to ensure that both the village and town zoning laws are "clear and correspond to each other."

Mr. Youmans noted that the village zoning laws have not been updated in "quite a while."

Planning board members Fred Risse noted that currently, there is a maximum rental of three days and most short-term rentals are for a week.

It was noted that bed and breakfasts are owner-occupied while stay-term rentals aid AIRBnBs could be the whole house.

"You would be surprised how many short-term rentals there are in the town," Mr. Youmans noted.

"We'll put it on our radar," Supervisor Wes Laraway said.

The Wattles Inn the Middle, a bed and breakfast which helped raise funds for the Broome Animal Sanctuary on Route 145, was recently sold as the former owners plan to focus more on the sanctuary and are consolidating the properties in Broome.

The applicant is requesting a special use permit under the village

zoning law.

The property is zoned commercial, under which "hotel, motel, tourist homes" are listed as special uses in the zoning law.

In July 2021, village officials looked at possibly changing its zoning on Airbnbs and decided to leave things as they are.

Officials briefly discussed the new vacationing and renting trend the month prior and decided to let things remain status quo.

Officials received opinions, advice, and the pros and cons from the town and village planning board and the zoning board of appeals members before making the decision on zoning laws.

Airbnbs are all the rage in many other parts of the country and in the Catskills and other areas of the state.

There are differences between Airbnbs, bed and breakfasts, and regular rentals.

A short-term rental (Airbnb) is a lightly regulated home-sharing site that lets almost anyone list accommodations for rent. A bed and breakfast is a regulated small inn subject to state or local lodging laws, kind of like a small hotel with a few extra perks and personal touches.

For now in the village, if you live in the home you can do it, officials said, but there are issues if you do not live there and rent it out.

Some village board members expressed some concerns about Airbnbs and a board member asked what if the renters are just college kids that parents want to get rid of for a few months.

There is a bed and breakfast on River Street but the owners live in the home.

## Auto Racing News

By Tom Coughlin

The meeting of the Hudson-Mohawk Chapter of the Pioneer Engine Association was postponed due to the predicted Monday night storm and has now been rescheduled for Monday, March 20 at 7:00 pm. at the home of Ralph & Barb Liddle. 591 Colby Road, Schoharie, N.Y. 12157

The Northeast Classic Car Museum in Norwich is looking for your help with their next exhibit. If you know of someone with a MGA, MGB, or MG, they can contact the museum at 607-334-2886. The new exhibit will open in June and will last for one year.

Next week will kickoff the Fonda Speedway Car Show at the Via/Port in Rotterdam.

In talking with Fonda & Utica-Rome general manager Jamie Page, there will be a full assortment of race cars from every weekly division competing at both facilities as well as a few of the different divisions of Go-Karts from Dodge City Speedway. Cars will roll into the Via/Port after hours on Thursday and leave after mall hours on Sunday. Mall hours are listed as Thursday through Saturday 11:00 am. until 7:00 pm. and Sunday 11:00am. until 5:00 pm. Be sure to take in some of the other at-

tractions at the Via/Port. Catch the latest movies at the Movie theater, The Local FFF offers an arcade, ax throwing, bowling and more, and the popular Via/Port aquarium

Longtime slingshot hot shoe Kirsten Swartz of St. Johnsville will move up to the limited sportsman for 2023. Having seen Kirsten and her father at the Syracuse Motorsports Expo and the Elmo's Speed & Supply -chassis seminar, I had to ask a few questions. The 17 year old senior at Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsonville Central School has a schedule for 2023, that will see her race weekly in the limited sportsman division on Friday's at the Brett Deyo sanctioned Utica-Rome Speedway and Sunday's at the DIRTcar sanctioned Glen Ridge Motorsports Park. Kirsten says that physics is one of her favorite classes in school and some of her goals in racing for 2023 are naturally wins at each track. She is hoping to be able to fit in Saturday night's about mid-season at Fonda, also with a goal of gaining feature victories and being a future champion in the limited sportsman at the Track of Champions.

Another aspiring young lady in the slingshots is Izzy Pangman, who we send out birthday wishes to as she turned a big 10

years old this week.

Another event next weekend is the Cavalcade of Cars at the NYS Fairgrounds in Syracuse. March 25 & 26 in the Center of Progress building. Cavalcade of Cars is an eclectic collection of street rods & hot rods, Classics & Customs, Race cars & street cars, Custom imports & low riders, Trikes & bikes. Show hours are Saturday 10:00 am. until 9:00 pm. & Sunday 10:00 am. until 5:00 pm.

Longtime car owner, track operator, racing sponsor Jerry Sampson passed away last at home with his family near his side. We send our condolences to Jerry's family and friends.

## Bogs and Wetlands Presentation Upcoming

Michael Kudish, of the Michael Kudish Natural History Preserve in Stamford, will give a presentation on "Bogs & Wetlands, the Record of Catskills Natural History," on Sunday, March 26, at 3pm at Judd Hall in Jefferson (163 Main St.).

Bogs and fens can tell us much about the history of the Catskills, but unlike written records and tree rings, these wetlands can tell us about events going as far back as 15,000 years to the

## Obituaries

### Lauren Coleman

Lauren Elizabeth (Norberg) Coleman, 35 of Charleston, South Carolina, passed away along with her unborn baby girl Lennon Grace on Saturday, March 11, 2023.

Born on October 5, 1987, in Schenectady, NY, she was the daughter of Coleen Norberg (Van Dyke) and the late Peter Norberg. She is preceded in death by Peter Norberg (father) and survived by Matthew Coleman (husband), Coleen Norberg (mother), Derek Norberg (brother), Kelsey Dano (twin sister), and her and Matthew's two dogs, Wesley and Chester.

Lauren was raised in the small town of Middleburgh, NY located in the Schoharie Valley. From her early years, Lauren brought light, love, and laughter into every room. She graduated high school with top honors and was an athletic all-star in multiple sports. Lauren attended SUNY Cortland where she excelled ac-

ademically but more importantly continued to bring light into the lives of those around her. Lauren had an unmatched ability to always see the beauty in life, and she shared that vision with everyone she met.

Whether in her small hometown or soaking up the sun of the south in Charleston, SC and surrounding areas, Lauren's heart was too big to keep to herself. She dedicated her life to teaching elementary school children and developing the next generation through love and care. Never losing her love of sports, she was an accomplished athlete, winning multiple championships in both Charleston Sports & Social Club and Holy City Kickball. Lauren's light was made even stronger by motherhood; some comfort lies in the fact that she can embrace her two babies in the afterlife. Lauren's brightness will continue to shine through the lives of the

children she taught, her teammates, friends, and loved ones. In this sad time Lauren wouldn't want anyone to stay in the shadows of sadness—but to remember that each of us can bring light to the dark.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, March 18, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at McAlister-Smith Funeral and Cremation; James Island, 347 Folly Road, Charleston, SC 29412.

In addition to or in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Going Places Non-Profit at <https://www.goingplacesnonprofit.org/>.

Expressions of sympathy may be viewed or submitted online at

<https://www.mcalister-smith.com/obituaries/lauren-coleman>.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to McAlister-Smith Funeral and Cremation; James Island, 347 Folly Rd, Charleston, SC 29412, (843) 614-8494.

## Costs Up, Revenue Down for M'burgh Highway Dept.

By David Avitabile

MIDDLEBURGH - As the cost of salt, supplies, and trucks continue to rise, the lifeblood of funding for town highway departments may be on the decrease in Middleburgh.

State CHIPs funds came in about \$120,000 last year, but right now are down \$40,000 to \$50,000, and may not reach \$100,000 even if some funding is restored, highway Superintendent Steve Kowalski told town board members Thursday evening.

If there is not a restoration of funding, the town can take several road projects "right off the table."

He is not sure if the funding will be restored.

Currently, there is no money allocated for chip sealing, which is very useful in the region, Mr. Kowalski said.

Without that funding, he added, it basically "leaves (the town) pretty

much dead in the water." Funds are only being allocated for hot mix and blacktopping, which will not go far this year.

He urged residents to contact their state representatives.

"If you don't like driving on potholes, start calling people," he said.

Hopefully the funding will change or it will be "very limited roadwork" this year.

Mr. Kowalski said he is "very frustrated."

In other highway news, Mr. Kowalski said the town has to fill up its salt shed and look into a new truck, and neither will be a cheap purchase.

The town salt shed is getting low, he reported, and the town is looking to buy more.

The cost, as with many things, is "still astronomical," he said.

The town, he added, is still getting quotes on a new six-wheel, four-wheel

drive truck to replace a 2003 model that is "getting tired."

The cost will likely be up to \$270,000, he said, and the build time would be two years out.

Prices are, he noted, "absolutely ridiculous."

The town needs to move forward soon or "the truck will never come," he said.

It will be three years before a bond payment is made on the new truck and by then one truck payment will be off the books for the town, according to Mr. Kowalski.

Two board members were absent from last week's meeting so Mr. Kowalski said he will wait for a full board before asking for a motion to move ahead.

As for other highway work, Mr. Kowalski said the crew is cutting brush but will wait until the middle to end of April to sweep to begin sweeping roads.

## Afterschool Clubs Very Popular at SCS Elementary

By David Avitabile

SCHOHARIE - Schoharie school officials wanted to increase the number of outside activities for elementary school students in order to keep them more engaged. Thus far, that plan has been a big success.

One of the main ways that officials wanted to get students more involved was with after-school clubs and activities. According to the

numbers, students have voluntarily lengthened their time in school to participate in numerous and various clubs and programs offered at the school.

There are 20 different clubs and activities offered five days a week of the week, assistant elementary school Principal Marcella Tebbano told school board members last month.

The clubs and programs attract an average of 308 students per week, she said. Of the 229 students in grades two through five, 154 students participate. There are two clubs offered on Monday, eight on Tuesday, five on Wednesday, five on Thursday, and one on Friday.

The variety of clubs is vast.

There are Lego Robotics clubs for different grades, adventure club, band, choir, gaming and coding, student council, intramurals, book clubs for different grades, and newspaper club.

The adventure club has had various activities such as hiking, rock climbing, snowshoeing, and dissecting

owl pellets at Mine Kill State Park. Representatives of the county youth bureau visited and led multiple team-building activities.

"I'm blown away by how much participation we have and the activities," Ms. Tebbano said.

Superintendent David Blanchard has also been impressed and hopes for more clubs next year, such as puzzles, karate, juggling, chess, and board games.

"I'm encouraged by it and can't wait to see where it goes," Mr. Blanchard said.

"I think you guys are knocking it out of the park."

Ms. Tebbano thanked the board for their support and funding.

"They're really taking advantage of it," she said of the students, "and the staff loves it too."

Mr. Blanchard said he really finds it encouraging that more than 300 students "are willing to extend their school day by an hour and a half. It's really significant."

The goal was to make school fun and students' skills and that has been accomplished, he added.

# All About Racing

**By Ed & Betty Biittig**  
News from BD Motorsports this week announced the race this weekend at Selinsgrove Speedway in Pennsylvania under new Selinsgrove promoter Stephanie Baker and the return of the STSS to the half-mile oval.

The series did not compete at Selinsgrove in 2022. Only one race has been held during the series' decade-long history at Selinsgrove and that came on March 20, 2021, with Andy Bachetti of Sheffield, Mass., taking the Modified victory and Grant Hilfiger of Canadensis, Pa., topping the Crate 602 Sportsman.

If you're planning on going please check the STSS website or Facebook page because the weather really doesn't seem to want to cooperate with the early season racing events.

A two-day storm and two feet of snow in some places in our area will certainly slow the opening of any tracks in this area.

Even with all the snow we turn our attention to ever popular Fonda Car Show at the ViaPort in Rotterdam, March 23-26.

The car show is a great time for race teams to show off their cars and paint schemes for the 2023 racing season and is great exposure

for all of the sponsors on the cars.

Those interested in displaying a car at the show, contact Jamie Page at (607) 760-0671 or by email jpage15@stnyrr.com. Move in time is Thursday, March 23 after 7:00 p.m. while move out time is Sunday, March 26 after 5:00 p.m.

If you plan on displaying a car at the car show you need to print and fill out the form at the link on the webpage and turn in the form when you arrive at the show.

Also if you haven't applied for your NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series license yet and wish to do so you can apply at the following link <https://license.nascar.com>

Every off-season, BD Motorsports Media LLC at Fonda Speedway and Utica-Rome Speedway offer a "Five-for-Four" special for Pit Area Season Passes. Purchase four pit area season passes, receive one free of charge for the 2023 campaign.

This promotion will continue through the Fonda Speedway car show only. These passes can also be purchased online on the Fonda Speedway webpage.

All NASCAR licenses, pit area, and grandstand passes will be available at the Fonda Speedway car show, Thursday, March 23 through Sunday, March 26

All divisions at the Fonda Speedway for the 2023 season are eligible to attend the car show with division sponsors for the 2023 season.

Also attending the Fonda Speedway car show will be the Mohawk Valley Vintage Dirt Modified Series (MVVDMS) with their "Vintage Alley".

One racer that will be at the Fonda Speedway car show will be Kirsten Swartz of St. Johnsville who will be displaying her new ride for 2023. Kristen will be moving up to Limited Sportsman this season and plans to race at Utica-Rome and Glen Ridge every week. "Mitch Poole offered me a ride, said Kirsten, and I finished fifth at Glen Ridge last sea-



Kirsten Swartz of St. Johnsville stands in victory lane at the final event at Five Mile Point Speedway after 72 years of racing at the 1/4 mile oval in the Southern Tier of NYS. Swartz will move up to Limited Sportsman in 2023. Facebook photo

son." This season she will be behind the wheel of the Poole owned, Limited Sportsman Teo chassis, No. 24. She will also continue to compete in her Slingshot at special events at Brookfield and Albany-Saratoga.

Kristen began her racing career in go-karts at the age of seven. Since then she has raced and won in karts and Slingshots at tracks all along the East coast and has many wins to show for her efforts.

In 2022 Kirsten put her No. 24 Slingshot in victory lane at the final race at Five Mile Point Speedway in Kirkwood, NY when the track closed its gates for the final time after 72 years of racing at the quarter mile track in the Southern Tier of NYS. Kirsten also won at Afton Motorsports Park in 2022 and had three wins at Glen Ridge in her Slingshot for the 2022 season.

Until next week please send all news and/or comments to [biittig@yahoo.com](mailto:biittig@yahoo.com)

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## Library News

### Middleburgh Library

3/20 - 6:00 PM - Library Board of Trustees Meeting - The public is welcome.

3/21 - 10:45 AM = Drop-in Storytime - Join Miss Terry for this fun, interactive storytime geared toward little ones

ages 0-5 and their caregivers! We will read books, sing songs and watch a short film based on our weekly theme. All children will go home with a coloring sheet and take home craft. No registration is required.

3/21 - 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.

3/21 - 1:00-4:00 PM - Mahjong. Join the group for some fun. If you don't know how to play, they will teach you.

3/20 - Crock-Pot Cook Off - Sign up now for our Annual Crock-Pot Cook-Off - Do you have a killer crock-pot recipe? Do you love making soups/stews, chili or something else in your slow cooker? Enter our annual crock pot cook-off and show off your skills! There are three categories you can enter: soup/stews, chili or other. A prize will be given for the winning recipe in each category. Registration required.

3/25 - 11:00-2:00 - Crock-Pot Cook Off - Join us for our annual Crock-pot Cook-off! Come and taste a variety of soups/stews, chili and other dishes and vote for your favorites. Tickets are \$5.00 for a tasting of the crock-pot dishes. Desserts are available by donation. Water is available for \$1.00 a bottle. This is a fundraising event for the Middleburgh Library. All proceeds will go to programs and materials for the library.

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.middleburghlibraryinfo.com](http://www.middleburghlibraryinfo.com) for future programs. Also, don't forget our Facebook page.

Display Cabinets - We have new displays in our foyer cabinets. Take a look. If anyone has a collection they would like to display in our cabinets, please contact us to set up a date.

### Cobleskill Library

Federal and State Tax forms are here! They can be found in the library lobby.

Library Trustee candidate information: The nominating petition forms are available at the District Clerk office and the Library for candidates interested in serving on The Community Library Board of Trustees. Petitions will need at least 25 signatures from voters residing in the Cobleskill-Richmondville School District. Petitions must be filed with the District Clerk by 5pm on April 17th. The election will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. There are four seats on the 2023 ballot: one one-year term, one three-year, and two five-year terms.

Thursday, March 16 at 5:30 pm Teen Advisory Board Help us make the Community Library a better place for teens! Join our new Teen Advisory Board and help the library choose new teen books, plan programs, and make our teen zone a fun space for teen patrons. Snacks provided. Open to 8th-12th graders (ages 13-18). For more information, email [clittle@mvlis.info](mailto:clittle@mvlis.info).

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

ested in presenting at a future program, contact Adult Services Librarian Don LaPlant at [cob-adult@mvlis.info](mailto:cob-adult@mvlis.info)

Saturday, March 18 at 11am Make a Recycled Seed Starter Get a head start on your garden and start some seeds! Participants will decorate a recycled container, fill it with soil, and plant a few seeds! Take them home, keep them in a warm, sunny spot, and give them water so they'll sprout! Once the seedlings are established, they can be transplanted to a larger pot or garden bed. Recommended for ages 4 and up due to small parts that could pose a choking hazard.

Friday, March 17 and 31 at 4pm Paws for Reading Join Nico, our favorite therapy dog, for reading and cuddles! This is a great, relaxed opportunity for kids to practice their reading with a friendly face. All ages welcome. No registration necessary.

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

Wednesday, March 22 at 1 Using the Libby App. Overdrive App users take note, the app will be discontinued in April. Overdrive is focusing on the Libby App which makes it very easy to borrow from the extensive collection of eBooks, audiobooks and magazines. All you need is your device, the Libby App and your Library card.

Thursday, March 23 at 5:30 PowerPoint Basics Interested in learning how to use PowerPoint or Google Slides for presentations? This quick-and-easy workshop will introduce the basics including slide layout options, animations, and transitions. The library can provide laptops to learn on during the workshop, or you can bring your own if you have one. Free of charge; no reservation required.

Tuesday, March 28 at 6pm Teen Video Game Night Stop by for some video game time on our new Switch! We've got multiple controllers and some great games for groups, so bring some friends along! Open to middle and high schoolers (ages 11-18).

Tuesday, March 28 at 6:00 pm The Short Fiction Workshop: This monthly writing workshop for teens and adults features writing prompts, exercises, and moderated feedback sessions where authors working on short fiction can practice

their craft, develop new skills, and get constructive input from other writers.

Thursday, March 30 Trivia Night@ the Library 6:30 pm. If you would like to be a 2023 sponsor, please contact the Library. Special thanks to The Friends of The Community Library for sponsoring the snack table.

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

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

Cobleskill-Richmondville Battle of the Books events are scheduled for April at Radez, Golding and the High School. We have copies of your books ready to be checked out. 2023 Battle of the Books is supported by The Friends of The Community Library and The Community Library.

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

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

Tuesday, April 4 from 3-5pm a representative from WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) will be at the library. The WIC program provides supplemental food, formula, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, health screenings, and referrals to other services to income eligible families. WIC serves pregnant women, postpartum women (breastfeeding and non-breastfeeding), caregivers, infants, and children up to 5 years old. Medicaid, SNAP (food stamps), and TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) confer automatic eligibility for WIC. If you don't have one of these programs, you could be eligible through your household income. Stop by the table for more information and to see if your family qualifies for WIC benefits.

Tuesday, April 18 from 3-7pm a representative from

Berkshire Farm Center & Services for Youth will be at the Library. Berkshire's mission is to strengthen children and families so they can live safely, independently and productively within their home communities. Berkshire will have information on becoming a foster parent. There are currently over 17,000 children in foster care in NY with more than 6,000 coming into care every year.

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

The Library continues to offer curbside pickup.

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

To receive Library News by email signup here <https://bit.ly/CommunityLibraryNews> Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter! It is easy to find age-appropriate programs on the event calendar visit <https://bit.ly/CommunityLibraryEvents>

**Schoharie Library**  
518-295-7127  
[www.schoharie.org](http://www.schoharie.org)  
Schoharie Library Hours: MTF 11am-6pm, Wed. 5-8pm, Thurs. 12pm-7pm, and Sat. 10am-2pm  
Note: Our NEW hours begin Saturday, April 1: Tuesday, 10am-8pm. Wednesday, 12pm-7pm. Thursday and Friday, 11am-6pm. Saturday, 10am-2pm. Closed Sunday and Monday.

Printmaking Classes with Maeve McCool: Thursdays, March 16, 23, and 30 and April 6. Learn to carve your design onto a printing block and print it on fabric or paper.

Knitcetera at the Library: Tuesday, March 28, 10:30am-noon. Embroider, sew, knit, anything goes!

Coding Club: Friday, March 31, 4:15pm. Youth Grade 5 and up are invited to attend Coding Club. Explore Hour of Code, Learn Scratch, play with our Dash Robot and much more. Last Friday of every month, 4:15 - 5:45pm. Please register at: <https://bit.ly/SHOCodingClub>

The Art of Ukrainian Pysanky: Saturday, April 1, 11am. Laura Boggs Gagnon will demonstrate the intricate wax, flame, and dye process of creating Ukrainian Easter eggs (Pysanky), and talk about the history and significance of the designs. All ages are welcome.

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# WAC's Exceptional Athletes Compete

The Western Athletic Conference Exceptional Seniors Basketball Game, played last Friday night at Berne-Knox Westerlo High School, pitted 12th grade players from the WAC Mohawk Division against seniors in the WAC Hudson Division, more or less. Galway and Notre Dame Bishop Gibbons were switched in the lineup to make the teams more even. The team in dark uniforms was comprised of players from Duaneburg, Fonda-Fultonville, Galway, Mayfield and Schoharie. The team wearing white uniforms was made up of players from Berne-Knox Westerlo, Fort Plain, Middleburgh, Northville, Notre Dame Bishop Gibbons, and Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville.

The switch was successful, the game was close and exciting, with the lead switching back and forth. Final score was 60 to 56, the dark uniform/WAC Hudson Division team (with Nate Burke of Schoharie) victorious over the light uniform/WAC Mohawk Division team (including Middleburgh's Troy Cammer).



Above left: Fouled while taking a third period shot, Middleburgh Knights' Troy Cammer sets up to sink two free throws. Photos By Scott Keidong  
Above: A leg out for a quick stop, Middleburgh's Troy Cammer prepares for a fourth period jump shot a split second ahead of defender Jackson Cusack of the Fonda-Fultonville Braves. Photos by Scott Keidong.

Left: Nate Burke of Schoharie jumps and shoots above Northville's Evan Tamulaitis in first period play of Friday's WAC Exceptional Seniors Game played at Berne Knox Westerlo High School.

Below: Middleburgh Knights' Troy Cammer -- playing on the Mohawk Division team, and Schoharie Indians' Nate Burke -- on the Hudson Division team, line up side by side for a couple foul shots.



## 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.

**March 22**

2023 Adult Grief Support Group  
Cobleskill United Methodist Church, 107 Chapel Street, Cobleskill, NY 12043  
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Helios Care adult grief support groups are free monthly drop-in groups open to all members of our community 18 and over. Groups are facilitated by staff specifically trained in grief and loss. Attendees have a safe and confidential place to focus on understanding the grief process, making sense of the strong emotions, and learning from other community members.

Groups are free and open to all adults. Please call (607) 432-5525 to register. Visit HeliosCare.org for more information and resources.

**March 25**

Antiques in Schoharie at Schoharie Central School, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**March 26**

Antiques in Schoharie at Schoharie Central School, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**April 13**

Speaking Grief, The Cobleskill United Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Cobleskill, NY 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

A Documentary on the Grief Experience followed by a Panel Discussion. Bring a bag lunch and participate in this screening and discussion. This is free and open to all - info: 607 432-6773.

**April 26**

2023 Adult Grief Support Group  
Cobleskill United Methodist Church, 107 Chapel Street, Cobleskill, NY 12043  
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Helios Care adult grief support groups are free monthly drop-in groups open to all members of our community 18 and over. Groups are facilitated by staff specifically trained in grief and loss. Attendees have a safe and confidential place to focus on understanding the grief process, making sense of the strong emotions, and learning from other community members.

Groups are free and open to all adults. Please call (607) 432-5525 to register. Visit HeliosCare.org for more information and resources.

**May 24**

2023 Adult Grief Support Group  
Cobleskill United Methodist Church, 107 Chapel Street, Cobleskill, NY 12043  
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Helios Care adult grief support groups are free monthly drop-in groups open to all members of our community 18 and over. Groups are facilitated by staff specifically trained in grief and loss. Attendees have a safe and confidential place to focus on understanding the grief process, making sense of the strong emotions, and learning from other community members.

Groups are free and open to all adults. Please call (607) 432-5525 to register. Visit HeliosCare.org for more information and resources.

**June 28**

**2023 Adult Grief Support Group**

Cobleskill United Methodist Church, 107 Chapel Street, Cobleskill, NY 12043  
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Helios Care adult grief support groups are free monthly drop-in groups open to all members of our community 18 and over. Groups are facilitated by staff specifically trained in grief and loss. Attendees have a safe and confidential place to focus on understanding the grief process, making sense of the strong emotions, and learning from other community members.

Groups are free and open to all adults. Please call (607) 432-5525 to register. Visit HeliosCare.org for more information and resources.

**July 15-23**

Sicity tour, small group 20 spaces available, extended to July 25 with Rome extension. [grouptoursite.com/rosemariekeller](http://grouptoursite.com/rosemariekeller) or call 800-438-7672 group #60918243

**August 5-13, 2023**

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

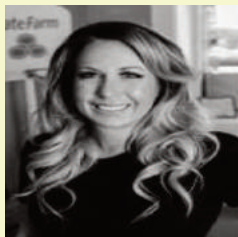
**August 6**

The Lion King at Proctors Theater. 1 p.m. \$40 per person. Limited tickets. RSVP with payment by December 12. Contact Rosemarie Keller at [kellerr22@gmail.com](mailto:kellerr22@gmail.com)

**September**

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

with one-of-a-kind art and architecture. From multicultural Palermo to breathtaking Taormina, each stop on this tour of Sicily reveals unexpected treasures. Visit [goaheadtours.com/ZOM](http://goaheadtours.com/ZOM) or call 800-597 0350



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## Donations Needed to Replenish the MCS Community Closet

MIDDLEBURGH - The Middleburgh chapter of the National Honor Society has begun a donation drive to replenish the Community Closet. The Community Closet is available to students needing essential supplies such as soap, pencils and gloves. Currently, supplies are low.

Donations for the Community Closet at being accepted at the elementary school. You may also drop off donations at these community partners:

Hubies Pizzeria, 325 Main Street, Middleburgh  
Middleburgh Hardware, 316 Main St, Middleburgh  
Valley Market, Route

30, Middleburgh  
Members of the Honor Society will pick up and sort the items.

The donation drive continues until March 31  
Email Amber Shultes, coordinator, with any questions at [amber-shultes@yahoo.com](mailto:amber-shultes@yahoo.com).

Community closet donations requests include:

Hand lotion (unscented, travel or smaller size)  
Underwear (assorted sizes, both boys' and girls', men's and women's sizes)  
Socks (assorted sizes, boys', girls', men's and women's sizes)  
Insulated gloves  
Insulated mittens  
Jr. size maxi pads  
Backpacks (unisex)

Chapstick  
Lunch boxes  
Water bottles  
Face soap  
Shampoo  
Conditioner  
Floss  
Mouth wash  
Body wash  
Washcloths/Puffs  
Hair brushes  
Combs  
Hair ties  
Detangler  
Men's deodorant  
Women's deodorant  
Small zip pouches for travel items  
Travel size tissues  
Hand sanitizer  
Size 4 or 5 boys' underwear  
Black leggings in child and adult sizes

## Family Day April 29 in Conesville

On April 29th 2023, Churches from across the Catskill-Hudson District of the United Methodist Church will gather in Conesville to celebrate Family Day 2023 from approximately 10:30-1:00.

This intergenerational event is open to everyone with no church affiliation required. A brief explanation of what to expect is included below.

Want to volunteer? We have stations that could use some adult help. Reach out to us and we will give you some options. Also, if you have an activity that you'd like to lead, we'd love to have you. Last year, we had a variety of stations created and led by people from all over.

Want to donate? This event does come with a cost. Materials are needed

for crafts, food for lunch, and prizes for games. Donations can be mailed to the Conesville Chapel c/o June Abrams - 133 Champlin Road, Gilboa NY 12076 or to your local church taking part in the event. If you would like to donate specific items, reach out to us here or on Facebook and we will let you know what we need [<https://www.facebook.com/ConesvilleUM-CNY>]

Can you help with advertising? Share this email with everyone you know. Find us on Social media (link above) and share the flyers. If you want to print our flyers and hang up around your town.

The Catskill-Hudson District covers a large area in New York and includes more than 100 churches. A full list of churches that are connected with our district can be found here: <https://www.nyac.com/catskillhudson>. While this

event is sponsored by churches from across the Catskill-Hudson district, anyone from anywhere is invited to attend! Our goal for this event is simple: connect families with God...and each other.

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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, 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](https://www4.schohariecounty-ny.gov/PdfFiles/Personnel/Applicat_679.pdf)

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The Mountain Eagle welcomes Letters to the Editor that are signed and under 600 words. Only one letter from the same author every four weeks will be published. The Mountain Eagle also reserves the right to edit letters for content and length and to refuse publication. Send letters to [mountaineaglenews@gmail.com](mailto:mountaineaglenews@gmail.com)

MY LITTLE HISTORY CORNER

# The Blizzard of 1888: "The Great White Hurricane"

By Angelique Piwinski

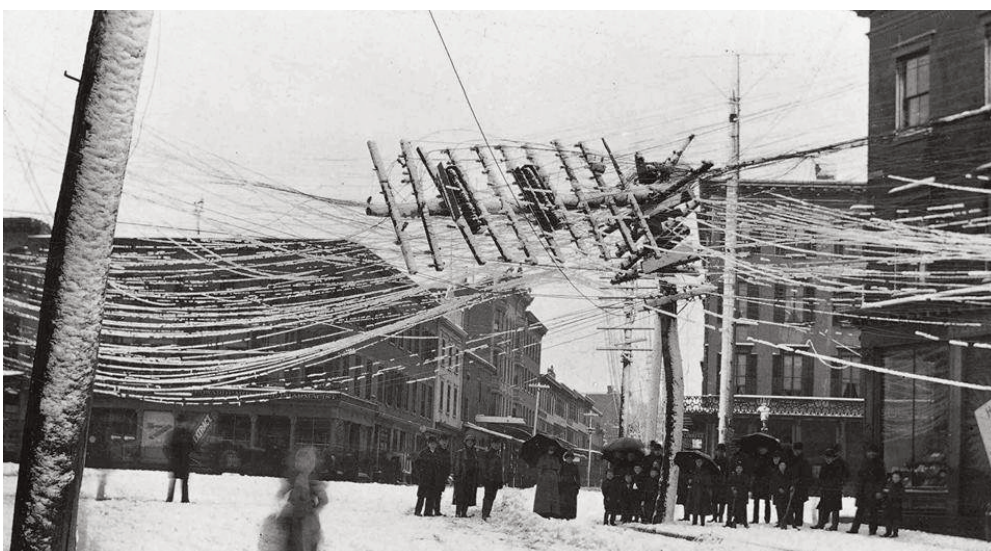
When you study history, sometimes you begin to wonder when, not if, history will repeat itself. One of the greatest blizzards of all time, the Blizzard of 1888 occurred from March 11 through March 14 of that year, 135 years ago.

The Great Blizzard of 1888 was one of the most severe recorded blizzards in the history of the United States. The weather preceding the blizzard was unseasonably mild with heavy rains that turned to snow as temperatures dropped rapidly. The storm began full throttle shortly after mid-

night on March 12, and continued unabated for a full day and a half.

The National Weather Service estimated this Nor'easter dumped as much as 50 inches of snow in parts of New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts, while parts of New Jersey had up to 40 inches. Most of northern Vermont received from 20 inches to 30 inches.

Albany received 46.7 inches of snow with 12-foot drifts and Troy received 55 inches. The place with the highest accumulation was Saratoga Springs with 58". Sustained winds of more than 45 miles per hour pro-



Above: Yonkers Main Street  
Below: Main Street, Catskill



Lower State St., Albany



Horses on Broadway in Yonkers

duced drifts averaging 30 to 40 feet over the tops of houses from New York to New England, with reports of drifts even covering 3-story houses. The highest drift of 52 feet was recorded in Gravesend, Brooklyn. The storm also produced severe wind gusts as high as 80 miles per hour that further increased drift heights. New York's Central Park Observatory reported a low temperature of 6° and a daytime average of 9° on March 13, the coldest ever for March in that place.

The storm paralyzed the East Coast from the Chesapeake Bay to Maine, as well as the Atlantic provinces of Canada. Telegraph infrastructure was disabled, isolating Montreal and most of the large northeastern U.S. cities from Washington, D.C. to Boston for days.

Railroads were shut down and people were confined to their houses for up to a week. In fact, even the New York Stock



Exchange was closed for three days. Remember, this was before gas engines and trucks. All snow removal was done by hand with shovels and horse drawn carts.

In New York, roads were impassible and rail travel was stopped everywhere for days. Drifts across the New York and New Haven rail line at Westport, Connecticut, for example, took eight days to clear. What this also meant is that supplies of food and medicine could not get through as well.

Fire stations were im-

mobilized, and property loss from fires alone was estimated at \$25 million (approximately \$800 million in today's dollars). Severe flooding occurred after the storm due to melting snow, especially in low lying areas like Brooklyn, which were more susceptible to serious flooding due to topography. Efforts were made to push the snow into the Atlantic Ocean. More than 400 people died from the storm and the ensuing cold, including 200 in New York City alone, as well as many pets found frozen in snow

drifts. Following the storm, New York City and other large cities began placing its telegraph and telephone infrastructure underground to prevent their destruction. Transportation gridlock as a result of the storm was partially responsible for the creation of the first underground subway system in the United States, which opened nine years later in Boston.

Much of this loss was due to surprise and unpreparedness. Here are some photographs that really tell the story. Unfortunately, I don't have any photos closer than Catskill and Albany, but you can imagine what our regional area looked like.

The first one is Lower State St. in Albany (photo from the Larry Hart Collection) and the next a photo of Catskill's Main Street. The third photo was taken on Broadway, Yonkers showing snow removal with horses and wagons (photo from my personal collection). The final one is a photo of a snapped electric pole on Yonkers, New York's Main St. (photo also from my personal collection) that really illustrates the number of wires that existed on poles at that time. As mentioned above, this was one of the primary reasons why the larger cities, after the storm had a major effort to put all those wires underground. A great lesson learned.

Coming up: the Third Article of my series about the Changing Face of Main St. Middleburgh.

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

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An Independent/Non-Denominational Church, 355 State Route 7, Richmondville,

### 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,  
**The Warnerville United Methodist Church**  
1615 NY-7, 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

### Our Lady of the Valley Roman Catholic Parish

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Virtual Mass available at Facebook.com/our LadyoftheValleyParish/  
Main Street at Wells Ave. Middleburgh

## Schoharie County Planning Board Public Hearing For The Proposed Highbridge Route 30A Development Project Opens On March 21st

SCHOHARIE - The Schoharie Economic Enterprise Corporation (SEEC) is sharing the announcement of the Schoharie County Planning Board public hearing event on March 21st at Town Hall, 300 Main Street beginning at 7:00 pm. The public is invited to attend the event and comment on the proposed Highbridge Route 30A development project.

Highbridge Development has proposed the project, which would include a 540,000 square

foot warehouse and office facility, a 4,800 square foot pad site for a convenience store with gas station, and a 2,625 square foot pad site for a fast-food restaurant on 48 acres of vacant land. Representatives from MRB Group will be at the Town Planning Board meeting to present the potential economic impacts of the project. They will also be available to answer questions from the public.

To help the public accessing information about the proposed de-

velopment, SEEC has created an easy to navigate webpage with key insights in the potential impacts, planning documents, studies, the links

to the complete set of materials submitted to the Town Planning Board. Visit [www.seecny.org/highbridge](http://www.seecny.org/highbridge) to review this information.

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518-827-3301  
Olv2009@midtel.net

### Evangelical Lutheran Church - Gallupville

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

### Grosvenors Corners United Methodist Church

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

### The Sharon Springs United Methodist Church

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

### Schoharie Reformed Church

258 Main Street Schoharie, NY 12157  
In-person Sunday Worship Service 10:00am for all ages. All are Welcome.  
Pastors Michael & Sherri Meyer-Veen

### Summit UMC

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

### Seventh Day Adventist

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

### Calvary Assembly of God

960 Mineral Springs Rd. 10 AM Sunday service.  
www.cagcobleskill.org

### First Baptist Church

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

### Schoharie United Presbyterian Church

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

### Lawyersville Reformed Church

209 Phillip Schuyler Road, Cobleskill 9AM service every Sunday  
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# Spirits High Despite Costly Leak at M'burgh Church

**By David Avitabile**  
**MIDDLEBURGH** - The huge red brick United Methodist Church has stood on Main Street in Middleburgh since 1875. In 2023, the pastor, parishioners, and the church face a huge obstacle. An expensive leak was discovered in a large fuel tank that was buried in the parking. The rear parking lot off of Clauverwie Road has been torn up and the repairs begin, but it will be months, and tens of thousands of dollars before the repairs are complete. Pastor Maryellen Moore is waiting for the latest cost estimated from the DEC, but it looks like the final costs will be more than \$100,000.

The tank was buried in the ground in 1969, Pastor Moore said. The tank, as well as a portion of the roof of the church, may have been damaged by the constant truck traffic and idling trucks during last year's detour necessitated by the new and larger culvert under in Main Street. "In addition to this, our recently mended flat roof over the double-door hall entrance was also disturbed and now we will have to get a new flat roof," the Pastor added. "We believe that even though the fuel tank and flat roof are old, the summer's construction - trucks idling directly over the tank and the heavy equipment coming and

going, ground shaking banging beneath the ground, that this may have contributed to the timing of both building breakdowns," Pastor Moore said. "We filed a claim for the spill, but since the tank was old and showed little rust holes, nothing will be given to help with DEC costs, additional HVAC help, and a new tank. "Not to mention, it is a 1,000-gallon tank, so we lost what we paid for." As the work continues, the final cost may not be known until the end of the year, she added. "The engineer says it might take nine months to even get the bill. (At the very least \$100,000). The DEC engineer estimated another two weeks of work. The will come the roof work. "We might need to focus on getting that roof repaired before all of this! While the DEC is working on the fuel spill, we have to find a way to repair the flat roof leaks!" Once visitors enter the rear of the church, the roof issue is apparent.



"It is tiring, emptying buckets of incoming water leaks and going on to the flat roof to shovel off water, snow, and ice!)" The fuel leak was discovered last year. "We found out about the fuel leak after a DEC engineer came to church because someone walking their dog could smell fuel along Clauverwie," the Pastor explained. "We didn't see or smell evidence of it here. We walked over to Best House, then the school. The next day they discovered it was seeping from the church underground, toward the culvert and creek. Now it looks like they've got it contained to the area be-

tween the church parking lot and Clauverwie." There was some positive news, Pastor Moore said. "But the good news and answer to my prayers is that it is cleared between Clauverwie and creek and contained here." Those interested in helping the church with its costs are welcome to contact the Pastor. "Donations would be welcome," she said. "We have great hopes for the future, and we are seeking greater ways to serve the community." Pastor Moore has started several new programs and events for the church since she came there and is seeking more ideas on

how the historic church can be utilized. The church is open for services every Sunday at 11:11am. The first Sunday of the month is Communion Sunday, the second is Show and Tell Sunday. The third Sunday is Breakfast Church, and the fourth is Coffee House Church with the JFF Trio. Lunch and book study will be at Mrs. K's on Main Street on Monday, March 20 at 12:30pm. The church hall will host an indoor garage sale on Friday, March 24 from 9am to noon, on Saturday, March 25 from 9am to 3pm, and on Sunday, March 26 from 8 to 11am.

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**Job Description**  
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The chosen applicant will possess strong leadership skills; thorough knowledge of governmental/fund accounting principles and procedures; the ability to plan, assign and supervise the work of others; good mathematical ability; thorough knowledge of computerized accounting practices; good knowledge of office procedures; and the ability to communicate to the public clearly and concisely.

**Qualifications:** At least one year of progressively responsible business management or municipality accounting experience preferred. District willing to provide training to the ideal candidate.

Salary is commensurate with experience; includes an excellent benefits package.

Please submit a letter of interest, resume, and three (3) professional references to Mr. Jack Etter, Superintendent by **Friday, March 24, 2023**. The anticipated start date for this position would be April 2023. Gilboa-Conesville Central School is a small, rural school district in a K-12 school building with approximately 300 students/80 employees in the Northern Catskill Mountains.

For more information about the District, please visit:  
<https://www.gilboa-conesville.k12.ny.us/o/gccs/page/about-us>.

The District does not discriminate in employment or in the education programs and activities which it operates on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, marital status, military status, sex, age, weight, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnic group, religious practice, disability (including but not limited to gender dysphoria) or predisposing genetic characteristic in violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 12111 et seq. known as the Americans With Disabilities Act or § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, New York State Human Rights Law, and The Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act of 2001. Gilboa-Conesville Central School District complies with applicable state and local laws governing non-discrimination in employment in every location in which the District has facilities. This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including, but not limited to, hiring, placement, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, transfer, leaves of absence, compensation, and training. Inquires regarding this non-discrimination policy may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator at Gilboa-Conesville Central School District.

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# Schoharie Prioritizes Snow Removal

**By Joshua Walther**  
 SCHOHARIE - The Schoharie Village Board moved their meeting date back by one day in order to avoid the heavy snowfall on Tuesday. When they did convene, they heard comments from two business owners about the state of snow removal on Main Street.

Bob Stevenot of El Taco Shack and Jennie Flagler of The Farmer's Beef and Brew both approached the Board during the public comment period to voice their concerns about the snow. Both of them claimed that the Village wasn't properly cleaning the parking stalls on the sides of the street, and thus their businesses suffered.

"We survive by customers," said Mr. Stevenot, putting emphasis on just how important the issue was. "We have no public parking. They want to park on Main Street."

Mrs. Flagler backed up the sentiment, saying that even though they have rear entrances, not every adjacent business shared that luxury, and so they've had to cancel

orders and catering services because the customers could not find parking.

Their concerns were first addressed by Mayor Larry Caza, who explained the snow removal process. He stated that the highway department can only remove snow between 3 AM and 6 AM, otherwise, they'd have to disrupt traffic.

Mayor Caza also made it clear that the Village was not obligated to clear the parking spots, saying "We remove snow as a courtesy to the businesses. There is no law saying that it's our responsibility. It's not under our purview."

However, not everyone on the Board agreed with the Mayor. Member Jeff Palmer, describing himself as "the odd man out," sided with Mr. Stevenot and Mrs. Flagler, saying "I really feel that it is the Village's responsibility."

As members bought into the idea of helping their businesses, they went on record to approve overtime for the highway department workers in the case of a

heavy snowfall that has to be cleared, and the crew will prioritize clearing out Main Street as much as they can.

However, the team is only three men strong, and so alongside searching for a fourth permanent member, the highway department will look for possible subcontractors in the case of an emergency.

Highway Superintendent Ken Bernhardt assured Mrs. Flagler and Mr. Stevenot that they would try to look after the businesses, saying "We'll do what we can. Your businesses are very important to us."

After the meeting concluded, the two owners were very pleased with how their concerns were handled, saying "The Board was very accepting of our statements, and we appreciate that very much."

# Four Middleburgh Residents to Run as Ticket

MIDDLEBURGH - Four Village of Middleburgh residents are announcing their joint-candidacy under a united ticket in the November 2023 village election.

Besides an open village Mayor seat (four-year term), there will also be two regu-

larly scheduled open village trustee seats (four-year terms), and one non-expired village trustee seat (two-year term) on the ballot this fall.

In addition to incumbent village trustee and appointed Deputy Mayor Timothy Knight of Main Street, who announced his candidacy for Village Mayor last October, the following residents are seeking office:

Incumbent Village Trustee Robert Tinker of Papoose Path will be seeking re-election to a four-year term as Village Trustee.

Village Trustee Amanda Fernandez of Main Street will be seeking election to a full two-year term as Village Trustee.

Planning Board Member

Kevin Young of Railroad Avenue will be seeking election to a four-year term as Village Trustee.

Unlike other races, Village Elections are non-partisan and candidates form their own independent parties. Trustee Knight and Mr. Young will be running under the Bull Moose Party banner, while Trustees Tinker and Fernandez will be competing on the Middleburgh First Party line. All four candidates are running on a ticket and support each other in the November 7 balloting.

If elected, they will join incumbent Village Trustee Sheryl Adams - who has two years remaining in her term of office - in collaboratively governing on the Village Board of Trustees.

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# Windham Weekly

A Section of the *Mountain Eagle*

Volume 8, No. 11 windhamweekly@gmail.com

FRIDAY, March 17, 2023

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## Lexington Town Looking At Modifications to Short Term Rentals

**By Michael Ryan**  
LEXINGTON - Legal beagles are howling for joy in Lexington where changes are proposed for the still-evolving Short Term Rental law.

Town board members, at a meeting last week, got a report from newly hired code enforcement office clerk Nicole Pursell and councilman Michael Barcone on the recommended modifications.

"We reconvened the original STR committee," said Barcone, who served on the panel that was charged with forming the regulations.

"We went over looser areas of law. What we found is that as the law has been operating, there have been little things that need clarification," Barcone said.

Lexington approved legislation in 2021 for multiple reasons after years of sometimes heated public debates and discussions.

Government leaders said an increasing number of complaints were being received related to STR's such as boisterous parties, hastily strewn garbage and erratic vehicular parking along

roadways. The most pressing problems were the absence of anything specific on the books to handle complaints and STR occupants likely not being the owners, making any kind of enforcement complicated.

A key element of the law established a requirement for every STR to have a readily accessible local property manager (LPM).

"Responsibilities of the LPM include assuring that all rules and regulations are met by guests including noise, parking and garbage disposal and shall respond to all complaints from the town or the public," the law states.

"Name, address and phone number of the LPM must be filed with the permit application to the Town," the law states, touching on another important element, mandating registration of all STR's.

When adopting the regulations, town officials emphasized they would be a work-in-progress, tweaking them if necessary. That time has come.

"It's not that anything isn't working," Barcone

said. "Several tickets have gone out for violations. The reality is some of the language needs clarification which is normal. There are gray areas.

"By having Nicole on board, it gives us a person to look at this closely. With the law in place, complaints have gone down with noise and garbage. We think it is working well. We think it can work better," Barcone said.

More fine-tuning will take place prior to the documents being turned over to town attorney Tal Rappleyea who will prepare them for public hearings, slated for this spring where additional tweaks may be made.

"So far, the biggest issue is some people not renewing [the mandated STR registration] in time," Barcone said, noting the waiting list for applying for certification is also a delicate subject.

The current STR guidelines are available on the town website. Some of the significant recommended adjustments are as follows:

—Recommendation: explicit language about updating contact infor-

mation. Recommended Language Change in the Law, Section 4;

Adding a subsection: M - When the Owner or Property Manager's contact information changes, including mailing address, the owner/property manager must within (5) business days provide written notice to the Town. The town will promptly update the owner's STR Registration Form.

—Reigniting the resident vs. non-resident cap [for STR's].

Recommendation: - A cap of a certain number for non-residents. No cap for residents. - To be considered a resident, must be on the voting rolls, and/or driver's license must reflect a Lexington address

—How often should inspections be happening (actually)?

Recommendation: An initial inspection should be done upon application. Random inspections will occur afterward, with more likelihood of an inspection after a prolonged period of time;

Inspection schedule will be similar to a De-

partment of Health inspection: "in the yellow," after 1-2 years and then "in the red" after 2-3 years?

Recommended Language Change in the Law: Section 4:A

"Every new STR must obtain a permit prior to commencing operation and ever current STR within the Town of Lexington must register for a permit from the Town Code Enforcement Officer (CEO).

"The CEO shall conduct an initial inspection after the receipt of a complete application of the following items and upon successful completion, the initial permit shall be issued. After a period of 1 year of lawful operation of an STR, the CEO may conduct random inspections to ensure compliance."

—Should a permit be issued per tax ID or per dwelling/structure?

Recommendation: Per Dwelling/Structure/Listing. Recommended Language Change in the Law: Section 4:B

"Permits shall be applicable to one dwelling only. If an owner wishes to rent multiple units or

structures, a permit must be obtained for each unique listing. Additionally, if the STR covers more than one tax parcel, the owner must obtain a permit for each utilized as an STR.

—How often should water tests be done? "Recommendation: An initial water test should be supplied upon application.

"Afterwards, tests should be done at least every 3 years, though with each annual renewal of the permit, an affidavit must be signed by the owner to attest to the water's potability.

Recommended Language Change in the Law: Section 4:A:i

"The applicant must provide a water test result of the potable water supply of the rented dwelling that complies with Subpart 5-1 (non-community water system) of the New York State Sanitary Code.

"Subsequent water tests shall be required at least every three (3) years, and an affidavit shall be signed by the owner that the water remains potable upon annual renewal of the STR permit."

## Jewett Approves Moratorium Extension for Sun-Powered Projects

**By Michael Ryan**  
JEWETT - Nobody is brawling and government leaders aren't pushing up daisies in Jewett although it might sound that way, at first listen.

Town board members, last week, approved a 6-month moratorium extension for sun-powered projects including solar farms.

The initial 6-month halt on accepting or reviewing any applications was put in place, last fall, letting officials "reconsider our current solar law and very possibly draft a new law that addresses all aspects of larger solar farms," town supervisor Greg Kroyer said at the time.

Jewett has solar regulation on the books, establishing kilowatt limits on smaller residential units while essentially prohibiting anything big.

"Currently, we don't allow anything that is not small scale," Kroyer explained in

a phone interview following the extension.

"We don't want [large solar farms] period, but we believe that might not fly if we got challenged. Everything is so solar [focused] now with the State they might overturn our local jurisdiction," Kroyer said.

"We will be fairly strict especially as far as decommissioning. Someone will have to put money up front. We don't want them going bankrupt and leaving us with a big solar field. It needs to be insured.

"These things have a life span. It has to be responsibly done and it has to be talked about in depth, what happens when the serviceable life wears out. We are trying to cover the town," Kroyer said.

Another concern is the visual impact on the rural landscape. "We don't want to inhibit residential use, to power off the grid," Kroyer said.

"We support green energy. We proved that, expanding our law [for kilowatt limits], but we don't want to become a provider for everyone else.

"They can be an eyesore. There are much better places than our scenic vistas," Kroyer said, also noting available acreage is disappearing for potential residential housing and and/or business creation.

"There is very little land left for development for the future of our town," Kroyer said, pointing to the significant presence of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection.

The town planning board has been handed the task of writing the revisions, realizing they won't be able to meet the original 6-month deadline.

"They have had a couple of subdivision applications that have required a lot of

attention. They are working off templates from a couple of other towns to prepare a final draft and they aren't quite ready," Kroyer said.

In other matters: —No blows were exchanged as council members continued taking steps in the long, bureaucratic process of have a center line "rumble strip" etched into Route 23A, following a request from local firefighters.

Volunteers from the Jewett Fire Department recently gave a petition to government leaders, asking for the pavement grooves as a safety measure.

That particular stretch of New York State road passes through four different towns including Hunter, Lexington, Prattsville and Jewett.

Kroyer presented the concept to officials in those municipalities who quickly signed on, stating, "Rumble Strips have been proven to

provide a significant reduction in fatal and injury crashes."

A formal request was forwarded to Greene County Highway Superintendent Scott Templeton who will now submit the document to the State Department of Transportation, hoping for approval.

"Will this be done next week? I doubt it," Kroyer said, stoically. "DOT will do what they do but we all agree this would be a good thing to do."

—Council members and highway superintendent Bob Mallory agreed to once again hold a townwide Clean Up, not charging residents to pick up certain types of trash.

There has been one Cleanup Day in the past.

Two have been tentatively scheduled; May 30, 31 and June 1 for spring cleans and September 5, 6 & 7 in the fall. More details will be available on the town website.

—No last rites were given when local leaders recently did their annual duty, retaking the constitutional Oath of Office, a mandated action.

The swearing-in ceremony is eerily called the "Undertaking of Municipal Officers," although no morticians or grave diggers are summoned.

Every town officer must adhere to the rule including the town supervisor, deputy supervisor, council members, town clerk, tax collector, highway superintendent and town justice.





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## LEGISLATURE STUFF

### Wishing on a Star

By Michael Ryan

CATSKILL - No one in the Greene County Legislature is opposed to a resolution calling upon Governor Kathy Hochul to give a gladiatorial thumbs-down to NY State Electric & Gas wanting more loot.

There is some historical contention about the original direction of the inverted fat finger during Roman times.

Back in olden days, a thumbs-up was apparently the bad sign, not the other way around, but either up or down, county leaders are collectively certain about their dislike of the proposed NYSEG double-digit rate increases.

And one lawmaker in particular, Michael Bulich (District 1, Catskill) made no bones about his belief the measure doesn't go nearly far enough.

The resolution moved easily through a Government Operations committee session, this past Monday evening, and was expected to similarly breeze through the board's full session on Wednesday night.

It appeals to the Governor and the NY State Public Service Commission to "dismiss NYSEG's rate hike request and to correct the billing problems before rate hikes are considered."

This is not the first time county lawmakers have questioned a utility company and their seemingly chaotic customer invoicing.

Last spring, a letter was written to the same Public Service Commission by county administrator Shaun Groden regarding the sudden doubling and tripling of bills from Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp.

"We understand that Central Hudson may have instituted a new software and/or billing system over the past few months, which seems to coincide with the time our phones started ringing with complaints," Groden wrote.

"The extreme increase in the cost of electricity by itself is more than enough to upset our constituents, but that is not their only complaint.

"Citizens are complaining about Central Hudson's "approximate" billing, re-

sulting in huge bills, plus others are not getting billed for several months, only to receive four or five enormous bills in a single day," Groden wrote.

"We are respectfully asking for an explanation as to the irregularities regarding billing, as well as better communication from Central Hudson to its customer base," Groden wrote.

The effectiveness of that appeal is dubious as the expense of Central Hudson's services has not eased and shows no sign of doing so.

A similar cry is now going out, hopefully not into the wilderness of corporate and political bureaucracy, as the latest resolution seeks a solution.

"NYSEG has requested a 34.9% rate increase for electric and 14.9% for gas customers which together would result in an annual bill increase of approximately \$240 for the average residential customer," the resolution states.

"Governor Hochul called NYSEG's rate hike request "outrageous and unacceptable" and urged her Department of Public Service (DPS) to "scrutinize every number and word of this proposal to protect New York families from unjustified and unfair rate increases.

"DPS staff experts have reviewed the NYSEG rate filings, and as documented in public records, testified to the many deficiencies and errors contained in those filings," the resolution states.

"Staff further stated that [NYSEG] has been vague and non-responsive to their questions, and that this is the second successive rate filing in which these issues have occurred."

The resolution states the, "Public Service Commission is undertaking an investigation of the billing practices of NYSEG based upon consumer complaints."

Lawmakers, therefore, want Hochul and the Commission to "protect the public interest by making sure [NYSEG] gets their billing straightened out and submit a proper, detailed rate filing before substantive rate hikes are even considered."

Copies of the resolution

are being sent to Assemblyman Chris Tague and Senator Michelle Hinchey and meanwhile, Bulich, even while supporting the demand, believes it is so much unproductive hot air.

"This is whistling in the wind. Even if they correct the billing, [prices] will still be high. Government will still be okay with that," Bulich says.

"They are going to increase the cost for electricity because of all this green energy crap. Using solar and the wind for energy is a farce.

"I'm not going to suggest solar and wind may not be options, progressing through the years, but we use electricity 24 hours a day. Solar only generates half the day," Bulich says.

"The truth is, when the cost per megawatt is figured in, it is three and four times more expensive than using fossil fuels.

"If it's not windy a windmill isn't doing anything. Let's say a company invests in a windmill. The windmill is a 30-year payback. The life span is 14 years with a lot of maintenance in-between," Bulich says.

"They're saying that somehow it will be cheap and affordable but it's not even close to producing what we need to power our economy. They're saying it will \$240 a year but it will be more than that realistically.

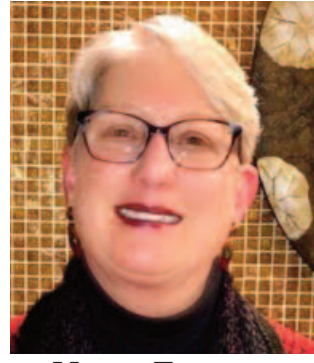
"To me, it's about all hands on deck. The problem is they are taking a ton of tax money and throwing it into so-called renewables. It is not a good use of our tax money," Bulich says.

Frank G. Hermance, 77, died on March 13, 2023 after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer. Born June 14, 1945 in Lexington, New York, he was the son of the late Ralph and Mildred (Van Valkenburgh) Hermance.

Frank recently retired from the Town of Lexington where he served as the Highway Superintendent for 12 years where he was known for being a honest, respected and resourceful public servant due to his love of the

By Lula Anderson

I decided to hold off my writing until Tuesday this week to see if the snow storm was really going to happen. Well, I guess the answer is YES. What a beautiful sight as I look out my dining room window. The spruce trees are bedecked with their mantle of snow and big flakes are making the world clean



Mount Tremper

Patricia "Patty" Ullmann, 72 of Mt. Tremper died peacefully at home with her husband at her side on the snowy Saturday morning of March 11, 2023. She was born Feb. 8, 1951 in Rotterdam, N.Y. daughter of the late Frank Holub and Charlotte Ferguson Holub.

Patty and Ed Ullmann were married for 46 years and resided together on the peaceful Miller Road since 1975. Patty was a spirited, kind and practical woman that worked from the heart and was a true friend to so many. Patty graduated from Schalmont High School and SUNY Cobleskill

Jerald Floyd Conine, 76, passed away January 31, 2023. He was surrounded by loving friends and family at the time of his passing.

Jerald was born March 2, 1947 in Stamford, to Hattie and Floyd Conine. He grew up in Prattsville and attended Gilboa Conesville Central School. Jerald served in the army in Vietnam after which he worked at the Power Authority. Jerald

## Frank Hermance

town where he lived his entire life. Before entering the political arena Frank drove a truck for various companies as well as school bus driver. With his love of cows Frank saw his dream of being a dairy farmer come true in the 80's and most recently raised beef cows until his death.

Frank was a loving husband; brother; father; grandfather and great-grandfather. Survivors include his sisters Yvonne (Wally) Michaels of

## Obituaries

### Patricia Ullmann

with a business degree.

Patty's career always centered around being of "service to others" and making a difference in the world. Her greatest passion was serving for over 20 years as a community educator for Planned Parenthood of the Mid-Hudson Valley. Patty was also Operations Manager of the internationally renowned Warm Mineral Springs Spa in North Port, FL, Spa Manager at the Emerson Resort in Mt. Tremper and most recently she was co-owner of the Wellness Rx Pharmacy in Tannersville, NY.

Patty is survived by her husband Ed, her brother Frank "Billy" Holub, his wife Kathy and daughters Michaela and Maddie and her brother David Holub and his daughter Kristen. Patty was most proud of being "Aunt Patty" to Peter Kraft and his son Nick, his wife Aimee and daughter Jocelyn, Richard Kraft and his

son Justin and his wife Emily and daughter Michelle, Kevin Kraft and his partner Oliver, Annemarie Bender and her son Christopher and "Special Aunt" to Braxton, Braeyelle, Jaco, Averly, Reese and Simone.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday March 17, 2023 at 11am at the St. Francis de Sales Church Main Street Phoenicia. Friends will receive on Thursday from 2 to 4pm and 7 to 9pm at the E.B. Gormley Funeral Home 87 Main Street Phoenicia. Memorial contributions may be made to Pharmacy For The Public Good (PPG) PO Box 211 Phoenicia NY 12464. PPG is the first nonprofit community pharmacy in America dedicated to the "spirit of Patty Ullmann". You may share a special memory, photo or condolence with the family on Patty's Tribute Wall at [www.gormleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.gormleyfuneralhome.com).

## Jerald Conine

loved many things including fishing, doing puzzles, camping, traveling to Florida, he loved the Yankees, and much more. He met his wife Virginia Gilham and they got married. After his wife passed he lived with his Step Daughter Carol Coss and her husband Dodd of Roxbury. There he became part of their family and he loved seeing all the young kids and picking on Carol's son and

daughters.

Jerald is survived by his sister, Beverly Hartwell and her husband David of Stamford and a brother-in-law, Charles Wycoff of Delaware, and several nieces and nephews.

Jerald is pre-deceased by his Wife Virginia Conine, his parents Hattie and Floyd Conine and his sister Arlene Wyckoff.

There will be no services at this time.

Saugerties, Nancy(Louie) Kizyma of Lexington, a brother Robert (Carrie) Hermance of Lexington, 3 daughters Michelle Jensen of Elizaville, Debbie (Gil) Beneway of

Germantown, Tracey (Tom) Callan of Waterford, 3 sons Frank Hermance of Warrington Pennsylvania, Robert(Elisa) Hermance of Tannersville and Michael Hermance of Lexington, 10 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren, a special

nephew(adopted son) Jonathan Morgan of Lexington as well as several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Frank was predeceased by his wife June Frazier.

Calling hours will be 2-4 and 7-9pm at Aston Basagic Funeral Home in Hunter, New York on Tuesday, March 21, 2023. A funeral service will be held at 11am on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at the Aston Basagic Funeral Home.

## Ashland Speaks

again. I have to finish up as there is always the fear of the electricity going out and the internet going out. I have my water ready in the house for flushing, and more for drinking and cooking. I have wood on the porch for heat, and my camp stove ready for cooking. Sometimes I feel like the farmers from the past who never left their farms from October

until April. But, on the other side of the coin, as I look out, I see someone has already played Good Samaritan and plowed out the top of my driveway so I can get out if needed. I am very fortunate to have people who care.

The week was supposed to be chock full of activities and I didn't know how we were going to fit in everything. Candle making for WAJPL was cancelled, my meeting in Catskill has been changed to ZOOM, and retina doctor has been rescheduled, now I just have the WAJ Drama dress rehearsal and dinner theater Thursday then UMC Corned Beef sandwiches on Friday. (my lights just blinked, gotta hurry).

Get well wishes to Pat Simmons, Denise Woodbeck, Leona Knox, Margaret Mulford, Brenda Rappleyea, Tom Bristol and Jon Todd. Sympathy to the family of Irene Partridge Cummings on the passing of her son. Bob Dylan sang I Get By With a Little Help from my friends—Now I get by with help from DEPENDS. Oh, how life changes.

AS I REMEMBER IT

A few weeks ago I wrote about camps in the area.

(Help please, what was the name of the camp on Bailey Road? ) I spoke of the Police Anchor Camp that was across from what is now the Windham Path and thought of Jay Newcomb who was caretaker for a time. He lived there with his wife and son, Don. His wife passed away and he soon remarried Evelyn Tompkins. At that time, no one really thought about going on a honeymoon, especially second marriages. A tradition at that time was a party (in the middle of the night) called a Horning, Skimmerton or Shivaree. A group of "so called" friends would sneak up to the newly weds house and lean on their car horns (horning), then start pounding on the door to wake them. So we did with Jay and Evelyn, but someone told them we were coming and no one was home. ( They snuck out and were hiding on the property watching us). Not to be outdone, we went the next night. While hearing the story, John and Jane Albert shared their horning on Main Street in Windham. Thanks, I think, Janice Hitchcock who arranged it. Big question, who brought the food???

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

## Local Worship Services

### Resurrection Lutheran Church

186 Main Street, Cairo, NY 12413  
(518) 622-3286 /  
[www.RLC.life](http://www.RLC.life)

Online Worship (after 8:15am)

Inside Worship (8:15am, 9:15am & 10:30am)

Sunday School & Bible Study (9:15am)

### Barnerville United Methodist Church

224 Shady Tree Lane Howes Cave

Sunday at 8:30 AM

### Greek Orthodox Church of the Assumption

State Rte 23 Windham, New York 12496

(518) 734-4631 [assumptionwindham@gmail.com](mailto:assumptionwindham@gmail.com)

### Hope Restoration Christian Fellowship

117 State Route 296, Windham

518-734-3826

[www.hoperestorationchurch.net](http://www.hoperestorationchurch.net)

Sundays 11:00 AM

Find us on Facebook

Tent Services begin June 26th

### Living Faith Community Church

54 Route 56, Maplecrest, NY

518-734-4275

Sundays at 10:30 am

Find us on Facebook

### Jewett Presbyterian Church

53 Church Street, Jewett, NY

518-424-2919

Sundays 10:00 AM

Find us on Facebook

### Mitchell Hollow Mission Church

893 Mill Street, Windham, NY

518-332-7669

Sundays at 11:15 AM

[www.Mitchellhollow.org](http://www.Mitchellhollow.org)

### Windham-Hensonville United Methodist Church

5296 Route 23, Windham, NY

518-734-4122

Sundays 11:00 AM

Find us on Facebook

### St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church

5188 Route 23, Windham

518-734-3352

[www.Sainttheresas.weebly.com](http://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

14464 Main Street Prattsville, NY 12468

518-299-3321

Website: <https://prattsvillechurch.com>

Sunday School for Pre-K through adult from 9-10 am

Worship Service 10:30 am till about 12 noon

### Prattsville Reformed Church

14630 Main Street, Prattsville, NY 12468

Phone: (607) 326-7101

Sunday Worship 11am.

Rev. Richard Dykstra

# Out Lexington Way

By Christine Dwon

Carol Constable got the best birthday present ever – a great grandson born on Carol's birthday, March 7. The proud parents of Wyatt James, 7 lbs 13 oz., are Cassandra Constable and Corey Laframboise of California. Cassandra is the daughter of Michael and Connie Constable. Everyone is happy and healthy!

Happy birthday to Nancy Albanese on Friday, March 17.

Celebrating a birthday on Sunday, March 19 is Kevin Aurigema.

Happy wedding anniversary on March 19 to Lori and Skip Dipold.

Wednesday, March 22 is Joyce Steiner's birthday.

Michael Falke's birthday is March 22.

Thursday, March 23 is Lynn Byrne's birthday.

Also celebrating her birthday on March 23 is Susan Falke-Turk.

Best wishes to all.

On March 10 and March 11, the Mountain Top Parish Churches – Kaaterskill UMC, East Jewett UMC, Windham-Hensonville UMC, Lanesville UMC, Lexington/West Kill UMC and Ashland Community UMC, delivered 84 bags of food to individuals, couples and families in all of the Mountain Top communities. Thirty people worked together to make this happen and some were involved with more than one part of the organizing, picking up supplies and packing and delivering the bags. Support of this project came from All Souls Church, the Platte Cove Community, individual donations and the balance from some church funds. Thanks to Jim's Great American for working with the organizers and thanks to the Platte Clove Community for making the cakes that were put in each bag. Many children also drew beautiful spring pictures for each bag. All the recipients were very appreciative of the gift and the visit. Thank you to the churches and community who made this Food Gift Project possible.

Friday, March 17 is the annual St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef Luncheon at the Windham-Hensonville UMC, Main Street, Windham from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch includes a corned beef sandwich, coleslaw, bag o'chips, dessert and a soda or water for \$12. There is free delivery available for orders of three or more in Windham-Hensonville. Pre-order or the day of the sale – call 518-734-4122.

Friday, March 17 is another Hensonville Hose Company's Fish Fry at the Hensonville Firehouse. These dinners are every Friday through April 7 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. You have a choice of fried fish, fried clam strips or chicken tenders, french fries or baked potato, coleslaw, dinner roll and brownie for \$15. To pre-order, please call 518-734-3040.

Please be aware the Burn Ban is from March 16 through May 14. Open burning is the single greatest cause of wildfires in New York State. To report a wildfire, call 833-697-7264.

Dinner Church Potluck will be held at the Lexington-West Kill UMC in Lexington on Friday, March 24 at 6 p.m. Story and discussion of the life and mission of Saint Patrick, hymn sing and fellowship. Please join us and invite a friend. Contact Pastor Amy if you have questions at 845-706-2296.

Saturday, March 25 is the Ashland Fire Department's Chicken BBQ. Take out only. Chicken halves are \$9, no reservations, first come, first served. Chicken coming off the grill by 12 p.m. All proceeds from this event will be donated to the family of Deputy Kevin Haverly, Greene County Sheriff's Department, E.O.W. 2/28/2017.

The Greene County Department of Human Services Senior Nutrition Program menu for the week of March 20 – March 24 is as follows: Monday—Sloppy Joes, corn, rice, tropical fruit; Tuesday—Chicken Dijon, California mixed vegetables, mashed potatoes, vanilla mousse; Wednesday—Sweet and sour pork, oriental mixed vegetables, white rice, fortune cookie with pineapple; Thursday—Hot turkey dinner with gravy, cranberry sauce, green beans, mashed potatoes, stuffing, chocolate cake; Friday—Lemon pepper fish, cabbage slaw, peas and carrots, O'Brien Potatoes, fresh fruit. The meal will be the meal that is delivered to all Greene County homebound meal clients. All persons over the age of 60 can receive a meal. Meals served at noon and suggested donation for each meal is \$4. Those wishing to receive a meal are required to call the respective location by noon, a day in advance. The number to call for the Senior Nutrition site at the Jewett Municipal Building, Route 23C, Jewett is 518-263-4392.

Greene County is seeking nominations for the annual Greene County Youth Awards (Youth of the Year, Youth Advisory Board Chairman's Choice Award and Greene County Department of Human Services Director's Award.) Please consider nominating a youth who you believe has made outstanding contributions in serving his/her community through leadership, knowledge, skill and/or service. From the nominations received, the youth will be evaluated by the Greene County Youth Advisory Board to determine this year's winners.

Nomination forms can be obtained from Greene County Department of Human Services. If you prefer, you can find a nomination form available on their web site: <https://www.greene-gov.com/departments/human-services/youth>.

Return nomination forms by mail to Greene County Department of Human Services, Attn: M. Murphy, 411 Main Street, Catskill, NY 12414; fax Attn: M. Murphy at 518-719-3798 or email to [mmurphy@discovergreene.com](mailto:mmurphy@discovergreene.com) with the subject: Annual Youth Awards. Any questions can be directed to the Greene County Department of Human Services at 518-719-3555. Deadline is March 31, 2023.

Lexington/West Kill UMC Trustees will meet after church services on Sunday, April 2 in the church hall.

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service, April 9 will be at 6:30 a.m. in the Lexington cemetery. A breakfast will follow in the Fellowship Hall, Lexington/West Kill UMC, Main Street, Lexington. Worship service is at 9 a.m. in the church.

Town of Lexington Fire/Rescue Company Ladies Auxiliary will meet Tuesday, April 11 at 7 p.m. in the Firemen's Room.

The next Administrative Council meeting for the Lexington/West Kill UMC is Wednesday, April 12 (please note date change) at 6 p.m. in the church hall.

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. Happy first day of Spring Monday, March 20!

# ASF's Winter Season End With Hartman Tribute Cup

WINDHAM – The Adaptive Sports Foundation (ASF) wrapped up its 2022-23 winter season on Saturday with its annual Ralph Hartman Tribute Cup and Dinner Dance.

The Ralph Hartman Tribute Cup is a special race down Windham Mountain's "White Way" that is open for all ASF participants who have taken both seasonal and daily lessons with the organization. It's a celebration of the accomplishments and the athletic abilities of all the ASF's adaptive athletes.

The festivities began at 10:45 a.m. with a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem, sung by ASF student and Hartman racer Anna Lazare. The parade of flags followed, a magnificent sight that features members of the ASF Race Team and Sliders proudly carrying the flags of different nations as well as an Adaptive Sports Foundation flag, as they ski down the race trail.

At 11 a.m., the first racer took off and the fun began. In total, 29 adaptive athletes took two runs down "White Way", finishing at the bottom with their family, friends and spectators cheering them on.

Some highlights included ASF Race Team member Patrick Carrol posting the best time of the day with an 18.76-second trip down the course, Jeffrey Resnick sliding across the finish line in the day's final run and all the smiles on all the athletes as they crossed the finish line.

After the race, the ASF hosted lunch in the Gwen Allard Adaptive Sports Center for all participants, volunteers and family members. After lunch, the ASF presented special service-time certificates to volunteers indicating milestone volunteer years. The organization also gave out 1st-place, 2nd-place and 3rd-place awards, along with (medals to the students who participated in that morning's race.

The Adaptive Sports Foundation recognized students who performed

admirably all season and put in 110% effort day in and day out with special awards. The Stu Smith Award, which is in honor of volunteer instructor Stu Smith who passed away in 2007, is given to a student (or students) who best exemplifies Stu's enthusiasm, good cheer and love of snow sports, was given to Nicholas Raio and Patrick Brown. The Robert "Buff" Donnelly Award goes to the student (or students) who demonstrate courage, determination and love for life, and this year's recipients were Ava McIntosh and Tristen Mulder.

The ASF also honored volunteers who went above and beyond all year with special awards. The ASF Rookie Volunteers of the Year for 2023 were Indoor Volunteer Heather Fitzpatrick and Ski Instructor Mark Kerpen. The Ralph Hartman Volunteer of the Year award was presented to Jake Finnegan and Judy Gorbeg. This year was the

first year the organization awarded the ASF All-Around Volunteer of the Year Award, which was given to Tom Devine, who not only is often out instructing students all winter, but is also very involved in the ASF's summer programs and ski instructing at Big SNOW American Dream.

For the first time since 2019, the ASF held the Hartman Dinner Dance, which was hosted by Seasons in the Windham Mountain Base Lodge. The Mardi Gras themed party was filled with dancing, singing, fun and celebration, an appropriate way to cap off an incredible winter season for the ASF.

The Adaptive Sports Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides profound and life changing experiences for children and adults with physical disabilities, cognitive disabilities and chronic illnesses through outdoor physical activity, education, support and community.

# March is National Nutrition Month

National Nutrition Month® is an annual campaign created 50 years ago in 1973 by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. During the month of March, everyone is invited to learn about making informed food choices and developing healthful eating and physical activity habits.

This year's theme is "Fuel for the Future." Eating with sustainability in mind is a tasty way to nourish ourselves during every phase of life and protect the environment. The WIC Program of Catholic Charities of Columbia and Greene Counties is offering some ideas for you to celebrate this 50th event.

As a family, commit to trying a new fruit or vegetable each week during National Nutrition Month®.

Give family members a role in meal planning and let them pick out different recipes to try.

Plan to eat more meals together as a family during National Nutrition Month®.

Explore food recovery options in your community. Donate to a food pantry.

If you watch TV, take

breaks during commercials to be physically active.

Practice mindful eating by limiting screen time at mealtime — including phones, computers, TV and other devices.

Try more meatless meals — choices like beans, peas and lentils are versatile plant-based protein sources that work in a variety of dishes.

Let everyone help with food preparation — a skill for people of all ages. If you have kids, there are age-appropriate tasks they may enjoy learning how to do.

Bring out the flavors of food by trying new herbs, spices, or citrus fruit like lemon or lime.

Learn more about the different types of food packaging and options for recycling in your area.

The WIC program offers nutritious foods and education to eligible families in Columbia and Greene Counties. If you are pregnant or postpartum, breastfeeding, have an infant or child up to age 5, you may be eligible for WIC. Call Catholic Charities of Columbia Greene Counties WIC Program to find out more, 518-828-9668 or 518-943-9082.

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# The Prattsville Scoop

**By Abby and Gabby**  
 PRATTSVILLE – Enjoy St. Patrick’s Day. Winter is still here, as we all know, we all snowed in. Seems like spring arrives later and later and the fall frost makes a delayed appearance each year. Mother Nature at work or just playing games? A small flock of robins were seen at bird feeders and then a few days later, we have a blizzard.

Update on one time residents – Artie and Irene Hill Sherman – who are now living in Tennessee. Artie has his health issues under control and the added benefit to that is he says he feels much better. Irene continues to keep busy around the family home with other members of their family being close by to keep them occupied. If you know Irene, you know she will not be sitting idle. A shout out “greetings” to all the Sherman family.

Conesville Fire Department will host a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 2, 8 – 11 AM, inclusive of Pancakes, Bacon, Sausage, Eggs, Coffee and Orange Juice. It will be buffet style and by donation. And to make it family friendly, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt beginning at 9 AM. Please bring your own basket to find over 250 eggs. Easter Bunny will be in attendance.

Sympathy to the family of Frankie Hermance of Lexington. He will always be “Frankie” to us regardless of his age. He was Road Superintendent of Lexington for years and was complimented for his good job. He will be missed.

Greetings go to Brenda Rappleyea of Windham, you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Want something to do later on in the Spring? Mark your calendar with the following:

New Netherland Marketplace, 1645: Living History Event

Saturday June 10th, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and;

Sunday June 11th, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Historic Huguenot Street invites you to a mid-17th century marketplace, where you’ll discover Indigenous, Black, and European representation sharing their craftsmanship and culture, and portraying life in 1645 New Netherland. Living historians portraying Dutch merchants, traders, and craftspeople will be offering demonstrations on leather and wood working, hearth cooking, tailoring, wampum making, blacksmithing, and more. The marketplace will also in-

clude displays of camp gear and furs, clothing, wooden bowls, and other items for sale.

Lenape and Delaware representatives will be returning to their ancestral homelands to portray the life of their ancestors and their economic relationship with the Europeans. Their camp will have ongoing open fire cooking, cordage making, bow shooting, flintknapping, arrow making, and hide tanning demonstrations throughout the weekend. Enrolled members of the five federally recognized communities will be present, representing their people and culture, and speaking about their communities today.

Sponsorship opportunities are available! For more information, contact the Development Department at hal@huguenotstreet.org or 845-867-0218.

This event is free and open to the public. Please register if you plan to attend: Register for “New Netherland Marketplace, 1645” Many families in our area can trace their heritage to the Huguenot Deyo Family.

Happy Birthday on March 18 to Kayleigh Wheeler. On March 19 it is Happy Birthday to David Irwin Jr., Mary O’Hara and Kevin Aurigema. On March 20 it is Happy Birthday to Sue Truesdell. Happy Birthday to Brittany Pruyon on March 23. On March 24 we wish Danyelle Ballard a Happy Birthday. It is that time of year again to wish Anita and Al Creazzo a Happy Anniversary on March 21.

Greene County Women’s League Cancer Patient Aid is hosting their 2nd

Annual Mother’s Day Craft Fair to

be held at the Historic Catskill Point, 1 Main Street, Catskill NY on May 6, 2023, 10am-3pm. Over 35

handcraft vendors, Chance Auction, 50/50 and food available. Any questions call 518-965-4998 or e-mail greenecountywomensleague@gmail.com.

Please send news to gurleyrv@gmail.com or call 518-299-3219.



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# County Health Rankings and Roadmaps

County Health Rankings and Roadmaps, completed by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, releases data each year to estimate the general health of residents in each county across the country. These rankings provide a “cookie cutter” approach to measuring health outcomes: defined as both length and quality of life in residents.

While this report may provide some insight for the health of counties across the United States, this approach cannot be applied equally to all counties. This is because counties can vary vastly in population size, amount of resources available, and geographical location.

For the year 2022, Greene County ranked #51 of the 62 counties in New York, in the lower 25% of the state. The goal of Public Health has always been to continue to prevent disease, promote and protect health, and provide education supporting healthy lifestyles.

Over the past 7 years, Greene County Public Health was able to do just that for its residents. In the year 2015, Greene County ranked #60 out of 62 counties. In that short time, the health of our residents gradually improved, moving Greene County up in the ratings by nine places.

While this information is valuable to both county officials and residents, much of this data has a significant lag time. The majority of data collected for these county rankings ranged from 2016-2020, before the start of COVID-19. While COVID-19 negatively influenced the health and wellness of the residents in our county, these effects were also felt across the state, country, and globe.

Several of the positive health benefits for residents in Greene County can be attributed to the Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), created specifically by and for each county in New York. The CHA provides insight to the health factors and needs in each county, while the CHIP gives each county an action plan to fill in the gaps of health programming needed in our community.

Greene and Columbia Counties are unique in that

one single plan was written to represent both counties. These assessments and plans were completed with the help of Columbia Memorial Health and Healthy Capital District. Through analysis of data from the Community Health Assessment, Greene and Columbia County medical and health professionals identified three health factors that have made the greatest impact on our community: Obesity/Diabetes, Substance Use Disorder, and COVID-19.

Some well-known programs supported by the CHIP are the Biggest Loser Contest, Greene Walks competition, medication and sharps drop boxes, and the promotion of COVID-19 vaccinations. For more information regarding Greene County’s CHA or CHIP, follow the link on our website: [www.greenegovernment.com/departments/public-health](http://www.greenegovernment.com/departments/public-health).

While efforts such as the CHA/CHIP are in place, Greene County still struggles with the effects of Social Determinants of Health (SDOH). SDOH are conditions in the environment where people are born, live, work, play, and learn; these affect the health, functioning, and quality of life in individuals.

Social Determinates of Health (SDOH)

- Physical Environment
- Safe Housing
- Reliable Transportation
- Access to Healthy and Affordable Foods
- Education
- Community and Social Context
- Healthcare Systems
- Health Coverage
- Provider & Support Systems Pharmacy
- Availability
- Food
- Food Security
- Early Childhood Education
- Social Integration
- Literacy & Language
- Chronic Stress
- Vocational Training
- Walkability & Safe Sidewalks
- Geography
- Higher Education
- Exposure to Racism, Violence, & Trauma
- Access to Culturally Appropriate & Respectful Care
- Parks & Playgrounds
- Quality of Care
- Economic Stability
- Employment Opportunities
- Steady Income
- Debt/Expenses
- Medical Bills
- Health Outcomes
- Morbidity - Mortality - Life Expectancy - Health Status
- Greene County Public Health Department, 2023
- Due to the geographical

size, location, and lack of funding and resources, many Greene County residents are impacted by restricted access to healthy affordable foods, places for free and safe physical activity, and healthcare coverage. These factors can affect the well-being of the individuals who reside in those areas.

While some factors are hard to change, such as the number of healthcare providers in the county, other factors have already positively affected the community. The health rankings from the 2022 report show that 23% of youths in Greene County were disengaged, meaning they were not in school or working. Just 4 years earlier, in 2018, approximately 41% of youths were disengaged. This rate improved drastically, likely due to a number of community programs put in place over the past few years. For example, the popularity of the Youth Clubhouses in Catskill and Hudson has continued to grow; engaging the youth in a community based, peer-driven recovery program that encourages positive peer, family, and community involvement.

Health Educators, Public Health Nurses, and Emergency Preparedness Coordinators from Public Health are very active in providing education and resources for our community members. Free health education lessons are provided in Greene County schools, libraries, senior centers, mental health facilities, and more. Topics taught by Public Health Staff including Tick-borne Illnesses, Lead Poisoning/Safety, COVID-19, Immunizations, Naloxone Training, and Stop the Bleed Training.

It is well known that Greene County, along with the rest of the country, is struggling with a Public Health crisis regarding substance use disorders and overdoses. Greene County Public Health Department, with the help of Kathode Ray Media, has created an online dashboard with live updates regarding substance use and overdoses in Greene and Columbia Counties. The purpose of this dashboard is to serve as one central location to provide citizens with up to date

information and resources available to individuals and their families. This information can be

found on their website: <https://www.columbiagreenaddictioncoalition.org/opioid-dashboard/>.

County Health Rankings and Roadmaps created the graphic below, detailing what factors are involved in measuring health outcomes in a population. Clinical care is defined as access to a variety of healthcare providers, full insurance coverage of adults and children, and an emphasis on preventative care. While clinical care is vital to the health of individuals, it only makes up for 20% of the factors that affect overall health outcomes. Social and economic factors, such as employment, education, and community safety, are measured to have a much greater effect on the health outcomes of a community than other factors. See the graphic below for more detailed

- information.
- Health Outcomes
- Health Factors
- Policies & Programs
- County Health Rankings model 2014 UWPPI
- Length of Life (50%)
- Quality of Life (50%)
- Health Behaviors (30%)
- Tobacco Use
- Diet & Exercise
- Alcohol & Drug Use
- Sexual Activity
- Access to Care
- Clinical Care (20%)
- Quality of Care
- Education
- Social & Economic Factors (40%)
- Employment
- Income
- Family & Social Support
- Community Safety
- Physical Environment (10%)
- Air & Water Quality
- Housing & Transit
- While Greene County currently sits in the bottom 25% of health outcomes in New York State, a variety of programs are in place, ready to transition our county after the severe impacts of COVID-19 and on to a more healthy and active lifestyle for all residents. Questions regarding health, wellness, county rankings, and more, can be submitted via email to [publichealth@discovergreene.com](mailto:publichealth@discovergreene.com).

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## BETTER THAN HEARSAY Stepping In It

By Michael Ryan

WINDHAM - It has been a while since I last sat and schmoozed with my old coot pals Jake and Gus, them being hunkered down with the plague and another winter and all, so I was delighted, hearing from them.

One of the chickadees that visits my bird feeder every day delivered a note saying the codgers wanted to talk about the Windham Path.

I liked the idea, seeing how the Path has become a source of - well, I'm not sure what you call it - so that's where we met up.

Jake was fit to be tied when I got there, stomping up and down in a patch of snow, sputtering deleted expletives. Gus was splitting a gut.

I'd never heard Jake cuss and I started laughing too until I noticed he was wiping some brownish (rhymes with "dog hit") off his boots.

"Why do gosh dang humans gotta' ruin every-

thing?" Jake said.

"Aw, quit yer belly-achin'. It matches yer L.L. Beans," said Gus.

Town officials have been dealing with complaints about dogs doing their business at the Path, and their disgusting masters leaving the mess for somebody else to walk in it.

There are also mutts running around loose, scaring folks. Serious thought is being given to banning pets altogether but they're giving it one final try, putting in special disposal cans, hoping that does the trick.

Three residents have volunteered to buy the poop bags and empty the pots the poop is put in, and meanwhile a different mishmash has popped up.

First a bit of background. The Windham Path opened 10 years ago, created by the Windham Area Recreation Foundation (WARF) on town-owned land.

Other than the local ski slope and the Cham-

ber of Commerce's annual "Autumn Affair," nothing draws more visitors than the Path.

A few weeks ago, WARF president Nick Bove and Board of Directors member Drew Shuster came before the town board, asking to form a public/private partnership for maintaining the Path.

The board said "no thank you" faster than Road Runner slipping away from Wile E. Coyote, and the discussion went downhill even faster when the WARF president showed deep displeasure over the decision.

"Sorta' like me steppin' in..." Jake started to say. "...a bed of roses," interrupted Gus.

Shuster asked council members a logical question, saying, "as a taxpayer, I want to know why you aren't open to a partnership. Why use taxpayer's money [for maintenance] if there is another option?"

Town supervisor Thomas Hoyt, speaking

for the council, replied, "I would advise you to budget your money somewhere else. We will maintain our property. End of story." The succinct response piqued my curiosity.

A story appeared here and as a followup, I emailed Shuster, saying, "it is my understanding that the town took over maintenance of the Windham Path some years ago after maintenance was not being done by WARF as agreed in a handshake, gentleman's agreement with the town."

"Is that accurate?" I asked Shuster. "Also, why is WARF coming forward now with this proposed public/private partnership? How would it function since an outside entity would be working on town-owned land?"

Shuster emailed back stating, "there was never any issue with WARF doing repairs on the path, the town was never unhappy."

"When Tom [Hoyt] became supervisor he had no interest in WARF working on the Path. He told Nick that the town would handle the maintenance on the Path."

"WARF has offered, many times, to do the repairs and pay for them and Tom has turned WARF down. We would like to handle the upkeep on the Path," Shuster wrote

"We have the expertise and desire to keep the

path in pristine condition. I can not understand why the town council wants to spend taxpayers' money when there is a better way without costing the taxpayers anything."

I then emailed Hoyt, saying, "the town has declined an offer from the Windham Area Recreation Foundation for a public/private partnership at the Windham Path."

"The town stated, 'we will maintain our property' but did not give a reason for declining the WARF offer. Is there a reason?" I asked.

Hoyt gave a verbal reply following a council session, last Thursday night, saying, "the town of Windham maintains the Windham Path."

My curiosity was likewise piqued by Shuster's email, seeming to indicate Hoyt was the inexplicable obstruction to the partnership, which is where Jake and Gus entered the picture.

It's hard to imagine what kind of a person spends hours digging through the minutes of town council meetings, but the geezers handed me one from May 23, 2019, dating back to when Robert Pelham was supervisor.

The official town clerk minutes state that councilman Ian Peters had toured the Path that same day, discovering that there are, "a number of maintenance/safety issues on the Path itself."

"Councilman Peters doesn't think there is any kind of maintenance agreement with the town vs. WARF vs. whomever."

"It is in the best interest of the Town of Windham to take care of the maintenance of the Path."

"Councilman Peters has a lot of photos showing no maintenance has been done. The town of Windham owns the property/easements; we will take care of the maintenance of the Path," the minutes read.

"A motion to approve that the highway [department] will take care of the Path maintenance was made by Councilman Peters, [seconded] by Councilman Stephen Walker, with all in favor."

"The highway crew will do a punch list of what maintenance has to be done to get the path back in better shape."

"Councilman [Wayne] Van Valin has spoken to a second homeowner that was using the Windham Path and they have noticed that the path is in need of maintenance," the minutes read.

Hoyt wasn't on the board. He took office in January, 2020. Peters, Walker and Van Valin are still on the board along with newcomer Kurt Goettsche, all carrying equal votes.

"Help me scrape this off, will ya?" Jake said, lifting his foot.

"Umm," said Gus. "Probably not."

### LOCAL HISTORY WITH DEDE TERNS-THORPE

## The Old Days - 1880s

This week's tidbits share a little of life on the Mountain Top back in the 1880s.

An 1882 Windham Journal said the Voss home at the head of Tannersville's South Main Street was now completed. (Their daughter, Molly Voss Smith, was Dawn Legg Plattner and Daryl's grandmother. She owned and operated Point Lookout on the mountain road above Kaaterskill Falls for about forty years. It was a busy restaurant and gas station and included small rental cabins tucked into the sides of the mountain). My husband always said Molly Smith had the smallest ice cream cones on this side of the Hudson River!

Another 1882 Journal discussed life for those men laying the Railroad tracks on route 214, the Notch Road. The Journal discussed dealing with the troubles of the cold weather and living in crowded conditions with over 50 men. Each man shopped and cooked his meals. When he shopped, he usually purchased ten pounds of meat, two ounces of pepper, a half lb. of lard, and one lb. of pork. They would try hard to make their food supply last at least a week or more.

Cock Fighting has been illegal in the United States since 2019, but in 1882 the Journal told about a cock-fight between Catskill and Hudson birds. Seven battles were fought; stakes were \$25 a battle (approximately \$900 today) and \$50 on the odd fight. Catskill won four of the seven matches.

March 16, 1882, W. J. said that the Jewett Centre

was being called "Fiddler's Corner." Interesting name!

That same year the paper said the new boat purchased for the Catskill Evening Line was to be named "Kaaterskill." It said no better name could have been chosen. (The Kaaterskill, a side-wheeled steamboat, was built in Athens, N.Y., by McGee and Van Loon. It operated from 1882 until 1914. It was also said to be a wooden paddle steamer)—Mariner's museum website.

The Journal said that the Railroad Company graded the grounds on the new road for a Railroad station. The Railroad's Executive Board did a great deal to help improve the property.

An 1883 Windham Journal discussed a Hunter Camp meeting on August 14, 1883. The paper said it seemed more like a social meeting, with at least forty people on the first day. A soprano singer, a base, and Miss Gussie Goodall were at the organ. Several attending Reverends gave sermons.

The Camp's formal organization had taken place on May 1 with the election of a Board of Trustees. The grounds, formerly known as Shanty Hollow, were one hundred and sixty acres, with another private purchase of one hundred acres. The last purchase lay between the hollow and the Stony Clove & Kaaterskill Railroad tracks. A road was built from the Village of Hunter to the Hunter Camp. The town (?) committed to cover the \$1000 cost of building a bridge across the

Schoharie. Each Reverend (Luthern, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Episcopal) said a closing statement with an interesting one on the non-use of tobacco. By the last day, Sunday, there were at least two thousand people on the grounds.

In 1884 F. Thurber (original landowner in Onteora Park) built a first-class road from Tannersville to his fine cottage one mile north of Roggen's Hotel (on the northeast corner of Main & Hill Streets). It said Tannersville had waited a long time for a man like Thurber. (W.J.)

That same newspaper issue tells us about a school exhibition at P. Gaffey's (an establishment on the old airport property at the corner of county route 16 and Elka Park Road). "Messrs. Dibbell treated us to some very nice singing."

In 1897, Frank W. Jones of Tannersville had his pension renewed, receiving an increase. (Times Union, Albany).

How fortunate that Justine Hommel, Jim O'Donnell, Rev. Fleming, and others were interested in beginning the Mountain Top Historical Society in 1973. Justine devoted her life to the area's history and brought the historical society to where it is today. She would be honored to see the number of people today who have a sincere interest in keeping the town and its people's history alive. Thank you, Justine.

Thanks for reading. Be well, and stay safe.

Dede Terns-Thrope/Town of Hunter Historian.

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## TRADITIONALLY SPEAKING BY PAT LARSEN Understanding what a READING can mean for you.” ....

As part of my bio, I've included reading sessions, as one of the key tools that I often use to facilitate opening a dialogue between my clients and myself that is often buried deep within them. Sometimes excavating someone's "story" requires working within what's called a "representation system" of how they learn and process best.



forward in a way that makes you comfortable. Sometimes, you might even realize that the direction or the problem wasn't as impactful as you thought. As, Glinda the good witch reminds us in the Wizard of Oz, "you've always had the power my dear. You just had to be reminded of that."

Hold on, before you turn the page. Maybe this is a new concept for you, why not give this idea a chance to be understood?

We learn, we process, we turn over to the details of how we live our lives from a few ingrained vantage points called our senses.

I, personally, use my visual senses to "see" situations as they are unfolding. Some have a keen sense of being able to "hear" messages clearly from all around them. I have worked with those who get a sense of what works best by using both methods, their sense of sight and sound.

Here's an example. The window of your car is rolled up, the radio is on and you see two people on the sidewalk talking. You can't hear what they're saying but you can get an idea that a heated argument may be taking place by the visual cues they're giving off.

Or you're at the grocers and in the next aisle you hear a conversation that's louder than what you

might expect in a public place. You don't have to "see" the parties involved to know if it's a chat between friends that's amicable or a dispute. That's your personal radar or what is known as your representation system. We all have a means of tapping in this.

Ok, I hope at this point you are starting to understand the value I place on "a reading" with someone.

Now if you imagine that you're the client, you're frustrated, or uncertain about a direction to take and you can't figure out what your next move is?

That's where a reading 'session' might be helpful. Here's how it works. You've experienced a setback from an injury or an illness. You want very much to get back on track, but you're so stuck in the story surrounding the issue, you can't even garner the motivation to move forward. Oftentimes, in just 1 or 2 sessions, you are able to tell your story, to be heard from your perspective, and to be helped to move

On occasion, it takes a bit more work on the part of the one who's seeking a solution. That's where a solid trusting relationship comes into play with the professional you have chosen to work with.

Some of the tools that are used for this purpose by professionals can include hypnotherapy, a simple quieting of the conscious over-thinking mind, that opens the doorway to the answers that lie within the subconscious state. In our sleep state, we tend to tap into that subconscious place. Doing so with some simple guidelines can help you achieve your goals and to overcome what you might perceive to be your limitations. All hypnosis is "self-hypnosis" led by a certified

professional who arms you with the tools to access your own answers.

In conjunction with a tool like hypnosis, I might tend to enlist the addition of journaling into a person's life especially if it's difficult to "verbally" open up. Do-

ing so on paper in a private notebook tends to open up the doorway for a person to then see in writing how their feelings match up to understanding of where a solution could lie.

Finally, I absolutely love using the images of my many "emotion" cards to lead to better understanding of a person's issues in that visual form.

Emotion cards, sometimes referred to as tarot or oracle cards, are nothing more than a way to bring a "story to life. To see...struggles, joy, celebrations, heart aches etc.

Think about the messages of a fairy tale as they are played out in a movie or in an illustrated book. Same principles as with the visual cards that help with a message that you can apply to yourself and your issues. Feeling, Seeing, Hearing (as in a love song or favorite bedtime song that you sing to a child, can be the very key to opening you up to a better understanding of living your best life.

If you're still curious or have more questions, please give me a call.

Some of the common problems that I'm asked

about relate to

Weight loss and smoking. I just would like you to keep this in mind if that is the issue at hand for you. Weight issues are such a broad category that are not a simple solution to tackle. There is no pill, no crazy amount of exercise or rabbit food that even together would help you to achieve your goals. Often I ask...what have you been "waiting" for? A play on words. When someone is ready to let go of or release extra weight, they need to also be ready to do the emotional work, not just the physical stuff and to reduce food intake. Ask me how I know that is a fact and I'll share my story.

As for smoking, it's the same as weight loss, it takes the motivation of wanting to get healthier, the desire to let go of the habit that often rules one's life, the piece of the "puzzle" that creates the need for the cigarette and then being ready to let that crutch go. Fully understanding, that you'd have to replace it with a significant value you'd then place on your life for yourself. I wish there was a magic wand for both of these issues.

So whether you pursue some of the tools I suggested, or grab a self-help book on Amazon, it still all comes down to this.

Is it time for you to make that lasting change for yourself through some of the suggestions I made? Think about it and let me know if I can help.

Pat Larsen, lives in Greene County, with her husband Chris, and her pups, Lily and Gabbey. Among her passions is being a Fitness Instruction to Baby Boomers and Seniors, Ladies and Gents, at the Shamrock House in East Durham, two mornings a week.

Pat teaches educational programs as well to help her community to achieve their goals to live their best life at any age. She is a certified clinical hypnotherapist serving her community.

With access to the medical community through professional contacts she is able to bring solutions and alternative therapy options.

As a syndicated columnist, she reaches many with her insightful writing. Please contact Pat at 518-275-8686 or via email [emaielpelarsen5@aol.com](mailto:emaielpelarsen5@aol.com)

## CCC in the Catskills Presentation

Thursday, April 6, 7pm - "CCC in The Catskills"

Diane Galusha, author of Another Day, Another Dollar: The Civilian Conservation Corps in the

Catskills, will give an illustrated talk on that subject for the Mountaintop Historical Society Thursday, via Zoom. To register please email [emaiilmthsdirector@mthso.org](mailto:emaiilmthsdirector@mthso.org) or call 518-589-6657

The presentation will provide background on the Depression-era program for unemployed young men

and will offer details on the operation and accomplishments of the four principal camps that housed them in the Catskills region: Boiceville, Tannersville, Margaretville and Breakabeen.

The CCC's aims were to provide jobs to young men and veterans, assist their struggling families and at the same time conduct conservation projects to reverse decades of environmental degradation, improve public lands and develop parks, trails and campgrounds for public enjoyment. Projects ranged from trail building

and tree planting to erosion control and insect eradication. North Lake, Devil's Tombstone, Woodland Valley and Beaverkill State Campgrounds in the Catskill Park were developed with Corps labor. Area CCC camps operated for from six months to several years between 1933 and 1941.

Diane Galusha is the author of several books of local and regional history and is the president of the Historical Society of the Town of Middletown in Delaware County.

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# Cirque Mechanics To Perform Zephyr: A Whirlwind Of Circus At The Orpheum Performing Arts Center

Hunter - Catskill Mountain Foundation presents Cirque Mechanics "Zephyr: A Whirlwind of Circus" at the Orpheum Performing Arts Center in Tannersville, NY on Sunday, March 19 at 2:00PM.

Cirque Mechanics, although inspired by modern circus, finds its roots in the mechanical and its heart in the stories of American ingenuity. The shows, rooted in realism, display a raw quality, rarely found in modern circus, that makes their message timeless and relevant. The stories are wrapped in circus acrobatics, mechanical wonders and a bit of clowning around.

Inspired by the power of the wind, "Zephyr: A Whirlwind of Circus" is a theatrical circus show featuring a rotating windmill as its centerpiece – and harnessing human power to generate an energetic acrobatic experience.

Tickets can be purchased online at [www.catskillmtn.org](http://www.catskillmtn.org) or by contacting the box office via email at [boxoffice@catskillmtn.org](mailto: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 pur-

chased 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](http://www.catskillmtn.org).

## Election in Tannersville

TANNERSVILLE - Following up on our recent reporting, Tuesday's race is between current mayor, Dr. Lee McGunnigle and David Schneider.

Incumbent David Kashman and political newcomer Dylan Legg, the son of Hunter town councilman Raymond Legg,

are running unopposed for the trustee positions.

McGunnigle, in public service 24 years, faces a stiff challenge from David

Schneider, a local businessman who, if voted in, would be holding an elected office for the first time.

Schneider, in a surprising turn of political events, gained endorsement from the Democratic and Republic Parties in recent local caucuses, leaving McGunnigle to form the Truth & Integrity Party for a Day.

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

## VFW POST 1545 – WINDHAM, NY WEEKLY UPDATE

Our post is getting ready for spring as we have ordered the new flags that we will be placing on the veterans graves at the local cemeteries.

This year we will be assisted by the Windham Rotary who have volunteered to remove the old flags and put new American flags on the grave. The Rotary has been a partner with Post 1545 many times and it is so important to have organizations working together for our community.

This brings me to the reason we place flags on all the graves of veterans. All veterans will be honored for their service not just VFW members.

All veterans served our country whether or in combat or not; all veterans also wrote a blank check made payable to the United States of America for an amount up to and including their life.

All gave some, some gave all. We honor their service.

I have a sense that our



country's population is bringing back patriotism. More and more I hear "Thank you for your service."

[It matters] for veterans to have someone acknowledge the sacrifice a veteran did for our freedom; especially Vietnam veterans who took a big shot from the citizens upon our return home.

I bring this up as the VFW District 3 NY is holding a Gold Chevron dinner honoring student participants in the Patriot Pen and Voice of Democracy contests.

WAJ students participated and reading their essays showed the direction of the students' patriotism.

The school had so much to do with the participation and this year our Post honored Melissa Palumbo as "teacher of the year" and will be hon-

ored at the dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn.

WAJ should be proud of the faculty for teaching patriotism. We salute the administration and all the teachers at WAJ for their teaching the students the reason our country has provided freedoms that so many countries will never realize.

This week I would like to highlight member James Scarey. Jim served proudly as a United States Marine. As you know, Once a Marine – Always a Marine. Jim served a tour in Vietnam.

Jim is our Jr. Vice Commander and has held many officer positions over the years. Jim is also a member of the Windham Police force, Hose Co. #1, and the ambulance department.

Jim keeps serving our community proudly as he did as a member of the USMC. We salute his service to our country, our Post and the community.

Marc Farnillette – Quartermaster VFW Post 1545

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## BETTER THAN HEARSAY

## Not a Stroll Through the Shire

By Michael Ryan

HUNTER - Trying to unravel the political situation in the village of Hunter is not unlike the Lord of the Rings and Samwise Gamgee untangling Frodo Baggins from that nasty spider web in the belly of Mount Doom.

The two hobbits, getting to Mordor, throwing the Ring of Power into a river of lava and forever vanquishing the Dark Lord, seems like child's play compared to the drama surrounding next week's election for mayor.

Voters head to the polls on March 21, choosing between the current mayor Michael Papa and former mayor Alan Higgins, who appointed Papa.

Higgins left the post, last year, to take a job as superintendent of the village Public Works Department but now wants the mayoral job again.

Both men were recently interviewed in this column, pulling no punches about the other guy, each freely tossing around the word "bullying" to describe different people and situations in village government.

It is hard to sort through everything being said to get at the facts and now village code enforcement officer Carl Giangrande has resigned, accusing Papa of "writing

his own rules to take advantage of the position he is in."

Giangrande has also served on the village planning board for eight years. He was recently not reappointed and claims the reason is bogus, causing him to quit as CEO.

He gave his notice on March 6, effective March 30, and shared a copy of a statement he made, on March 13, at a village meeting.

Giangrande, in a phone interview on March 13, provided some details on what he claims is the source of his non-reappointment, and the issues surrounding a planning board review of a container home.

"I met all the requirements of the building code and zoning law, then the mayor pulled out a moratorium at the last minute," Giangrande said.

In his statement, Giangrande wrote, "evidently I have stepped over a line. At the January meeting, I very deliberately defended the independence of the Planning Board and integrity of my office."

"At the February meeting I was summarily dismissed from the Planning Board. When asked for an explanation for my dismissal Mike Papa cited a "conflict of interest,"

Giangrande stated.

The alleged conflict of interest would come from his being the CEO and a planning board member but Giangrande begs to differ, stating;

"This was particularly vexing because when I was asked to assume the position of [CEO] 3 years ago...I distinctly remember addressing the "compatibility of office" issue with both our [then-village attorney] Larry Gardener as well as the attorney at the New York Conference of Mayors."

Giangrande provided copies of correspondence from the State Attorney General's Office regarding the same issue, noting, "they begin with the sentence, 'the positions of village planning board member and code enforcement officer are compatible.'"

Giangrande claims he has been given two different reasons for his non-reappointment, saying, "first I was told it was a conflict of interest. Then [Papa] changed his story and said my term had expired."

"I have not yet received an official response on the matter from our current village attorney. I am left with no other explanation for my removal beyond the obvious," Giangrande says.

Planning board mem-

ber recommendations are put forth by the planning board chairperson and must be approved by the village board.

Papa, in a phone interview following the March 13 village meeting, said, "we did not have the option to reappoint Carl because, on the advice of the village attorney, Carl's position [as CEO] was a direct conflict to his voting position on the planning board."

Papa says that village attorney Tal Rappleyea advised, "you can't be your own boss. That was the basis of [Giangrande] not being reappointed."

Going into more detail, Papa said, "we were told about this six months ago by the village attorney" after discovering that required planning board reappointments had become lax over the years.

"Like everything else that is like this in the village, they weren't kept up with," Papa said. "Carl's appointment and everyone else's had already expired."

"It was recommended that everyone be reappointed. The appointments remained the same, barring Carl's, based on the advice of the village attorney that Carl's position was a direct conflict."

"I didn't say that. The village attorney said that."

There can be more than one piece of legislation that exists around [the question of conflict of interest]. It could be open to interpretation," Papa said.

"There is nothing retaliatory. You have to follow the advice of counsel. I don't do anything without consulting our attorney," Papa said.

Not satisfied with that explanation, Giangrande says, "I have also been on the Greene County planning board [as the representative] from the village of Hunter."

"It is a requirement that we have to be reappointed every three years. To my knowledge, my term is not expired," says Giangrande who also serves as CEO for the village of Tannersville and towns of Lexington and Jewett.

Asked about the timing of his public statement, a week before the election, Giangrande stated, "as a rule, I deliberately avoid involvement in the political fray."

"It would be inappropriate for a public employee and village official to weigh in on an election. But given that I've abdicated that role, and given that this is, after all, where my wife and I reside, I can safely and without fear of retaliation share my thoughts."

"The notion that Mike

Papa can roll into town and give basically what amounts to an "American Carnage" speech about our beloved village and proceed to tout "he alone can fix it" is a little too much for me to stomach.

"From everything I've witnessed, this guy is making it up as he goes along and that puts our village at risk," Giangrande said.

Papa, asked if he had a response to Giangrande's strong comments, said, "if you want to print that as a reputable newspaper, you can do that."

"If you want to do the investigation of the facts, that's the opinion of a very small group of people. Our village is in dire straits. Our municipal infrastructure is a disaster."

As for the timing of Giangrande's public statement, this past Monday night, Papa said, "maybe this is part of a political movement. Who knows? I guess that would have to do with his relationship with the prior administration. I am trying to take the high road."

Giangrande and Higgins have both reportedly resigned from their village positions, respectively, effective at the end of March, having up to thirty days to rescind those official departures.

## MESSAGE OF HOPE BY SISTER CHIRYA

## Memory of Water

Everything in existence vibrates. Vibration is energy. Vibration travels through water, says Dr Masaro Emoto, born July 1943, a Japanese author known for his research and claims that water has the ability to retain memory. 'Water responds to human consciousness; it reflects human thoughts.'

It shows us what we can't visibly see.' Emoto's research proves this power. Thoughts and words were directed at water droplets, then frozen and put under a microscope. As the drops start to unfreeze, the images reflect our emotions and become beautiful or ugly depending on whether words or thoughts are + or - ! Negative emotions such as 'You fool' made ugly crystals! Positive emotions, 'I love you', created beautiful crystals.

In one of his experiments, samples of tap water from Tokyo were collected and small drops of this water transferred to small dishes and frozen. After 3 hours no crystal formed, just an ugly blob! Then he gathered a small group of participants, adults and children, to encircle this water sample and speak - "Thank you water. We love you water. We will take good care of you water." Secondly, they were instructed to silently direct these thoughts to the water for the same period of time. As this small group prayed over the water, the ugly blob began to change. Looking through the microscope it was forming beautiful crystals. They were amazed!

One child commented, 'I felt we had become one and I could pray for the water.' Emoto also proved this change can be achieved through prayer, music or by attaching written words, even names or pictures of people to a container of water. This also works with matter. Take 2 bowls of cooked rice and give negative thoughts to one and positive thoughts to the other. Try it yourself. After a short time the rice in the negative bowl turns brown and smelly while the positive one remains mostly unaffected.

Water in some cases produces beautiful hexagonal crystals, the life force of mother nature; in other cases it produces distorted or no crystals at all. Anything in tune with mother nature manifests as a beautiful hexagonal structure. Anything not in tune does not. What is water trying to tell us? Water collects negative signals from people and the environment and becomes devitalized. Computers, TV, hard rock music, microwave oven, cell phone all form negative crystals. The absence of hexagonal crystals is a sign the life forces have been compromised and have lost their energy.

'I think this is the message of water, what it is telling us. It is important for the water around us to be living and to produce only beautiful hexagonal crystals to help us remain healthy.' For example, a 10 year study showed people who drank only hexagonal water reversed aging, lost weight and strength-

ened their immune systems.' Make your own hexagonal water. Simply send your pure loving thoughts to your container of water. Even better, connect your thoughts to God and visualize the vibrations of this spiritual Light and power revitalizing your water. Then before drinking water remember to bless it. The concept of holy water is not unique or current. It has been going on for a few thousand years.

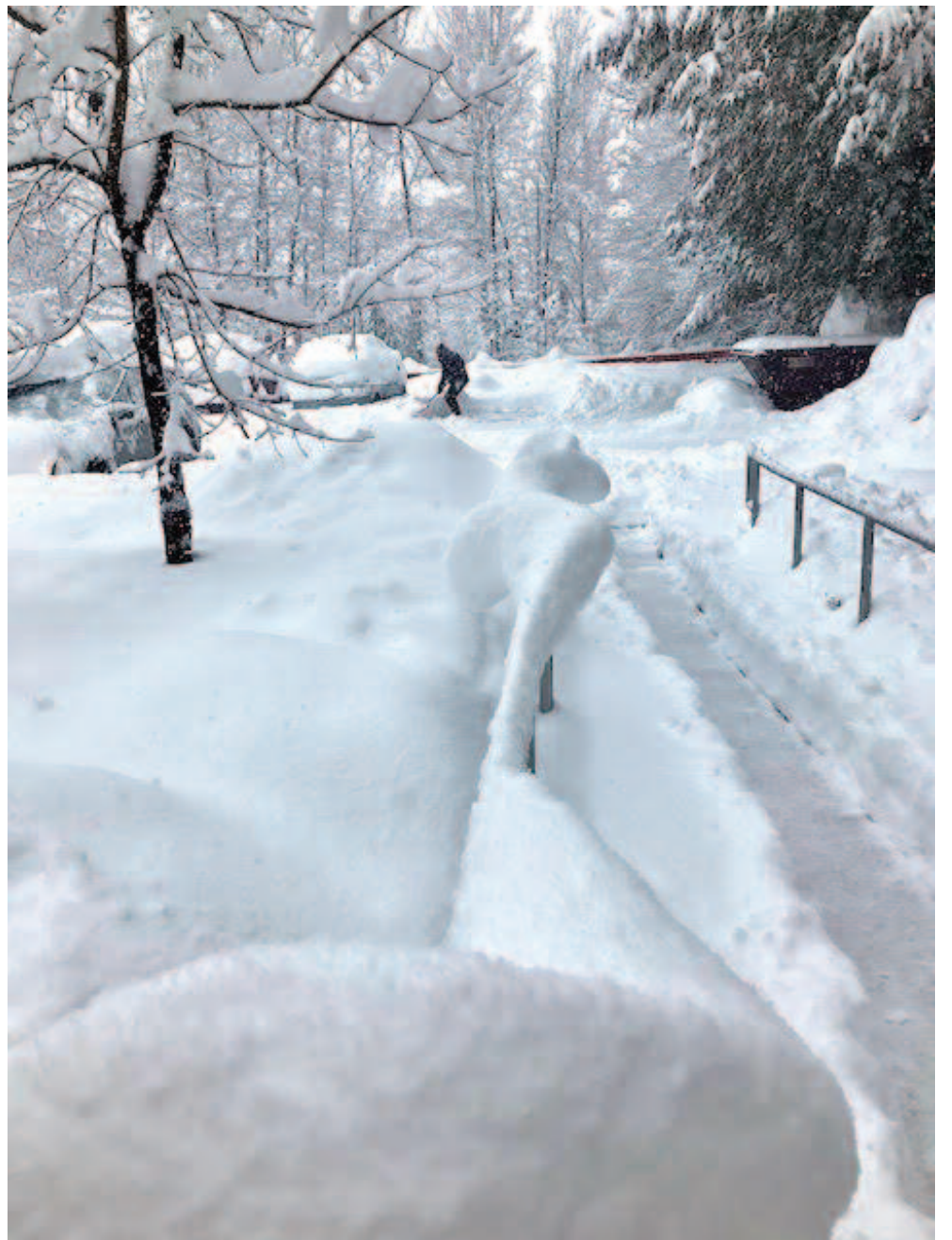
Our thoughts are the primary creative forces in our life. Use them consciously and awaken a whole new life of power and opportunity. By thinking, speaking and acting with the intention of peace towards water, water brings peace to the self, our bodies and the world. In the same way by giving blessings, good wishes and seeing positive qualities of others, our thoughts and feelings empower others and create an energy of love and acceptance. Remember to bless the water you drink; it will light up the cells of your body. If thoughts can transform water, imagine what our thoughts can do to our bodies. At least 70% of our body is water!

<https://youtu.be/FTID-Na2WVvka> or Golden Drops : <https://youtu.be/Y3V4bPQ427w>

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## Winter Arrived Late!



Sister Chirya sent us the scene from Haines Falls this week. It was the snowiest week of the year!

## LLC Formation

**Notice of Formation of Domestic Limited Liability Company: Follow Through Landscaping, filed on May 3, 2022; 137 Souer Road, Stamford, NY 12167. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at 137 Souer Road, Stamford, NY 12167. Any lawful activity.**

THE TAPESTRY BY DR. DEBORAH HERODES

## Mamas Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to Be Cowards On Being an Example

There was a time when this might have meant having your children stand up for themselves, and although this still is important, it is equally as important for your children to stand up for others, who are unable to do so for themselves. Bullying, whether online, or in high school, middle school, elementary school, or on playgrounds, or in children's groups, is alive and well. Many parents ignore the pleas of their children when they come home from school with tales of bullying, because they believe it is all part of growing up; "stand up for yourself" or "ignore it" are the "go to" helpful or not so helpful comebacks offered to hurting kids. Other parents have a tough time dealing with any criticism of their children, even by other children, and go off the deep end with calling parents, principals, superintendents, and the like.

So, where is the balance? How do we teach our children to be brave against bullies, yet comfortable enough about themselves to know that what others say has little to do with who they are and who they will become? We know the answers, but in this world of nastiness, where "Mean girls," is the norm and politics is full of high-powered bullies, who do our children look to for clues of how to behave? The answer of course, is you.

Although we are all used to political slamming, it seems that the past six or seven years have been increasingly mean and laced with deceit. Our society has become so complacent about untruths by those, who we choose to represent us, that there is no wonder why our kids, who also see, hear, and read the slams on social media and on television, are confused about how to behave. They see famous adults making fun of handicapped people, making childish faces at cameras to pick fun at other candidates, allowing dangerous battlelines to be drawn and crossed in the name of a better democracy, and, perhaps, worst of all, putting

fear in the minds of Americans that not listening to them will be the undoing of the American dream. This same fear is also felt by powerful political supporters, even though they know how wrong it is to follow the fold, for their own preservation. We, as adults, do not seem to be able to stand up to bullies (and we do not even know them,) and support those who are afraid to do the same because of possible blow back from their friends. Surprisingly, we elect them again and again. How are children supposed to learn right from wrong, and truth from lie, and courage to stand up for what is good, if we, as adults, cannot do any of these things? Silence is not always golden, especially when people are being hurt daily and led down a dangerous path of collusion.

Most recently, we have seen political figures deny the Sandy Hook massacre, and take this horrific lie to the streets to gain votes of those who want to believe that absolutely everything reported is untrue, unless it is the "Big Lie." Choosing to stand with those who are absent of character, to support any political party, is a scary step, but one that millions choose to follow, despite indecent behavior and despite looming lawsuits because of a lifetime of cheating and lying. Political chums, although privately condemning actions, are too afraid of losing their seats to react to bullies, and those who do, stand alone, as those kinds of people we want to be surrounded by in a world of deceit. Long live Liz Cheney for her courage. I cannot imagine the pain of the bereaved parents from the Sandy Hook disaster, who were bullied by a non-believer, because it gained the naysayer press coverage. Where is the American outrage? Complacency reigns supreme.

Imagine inventing your own resume, before running for a political office, and winning that office. Why someone would do this is a symptom of what many Americans have come to

expect and accept. It took several months to unseat this person, and, in fact, he was rewarded for his misbehavior by being placed on powerful committees. If our kids were privy to this outrageous deed, what can they think of the adults that are supposed to be making decisions, about their lives, at the highest level in our country?

What is everyone so afraid of? Are we afraid to tell the truth or expect the truth? Do we want our kids to think that it is okay to say what they want, when they want, to anyone, about another? Imagine your child hearing one friend rooting for the "hanging" of another friend. UNBELIEVABLE! And yet, somehow, we have all forgotten the fear of insurrection day, the fear of the pandemic (if we believed it was real,) and the unavailability of vaccines (even though they were available,) because sulking was more important than helping the states to distribute life-saving measures. With the most powerful man in the world behaving like a bully and frankly a spoiled child, who has an aversion to the truth and a dismissive rule, with friends who do not agree with him, what can we expect?

I have been waiting for a few years now to see what our Congress would do to regain some respect. Unfortunately, the same old names continue to support deceit and cruel human behavior, in favor of their own necks. There will be a reckoning, as there always is but I just hope I am alive to see it. It will be reported in history books, as a time in American history when the population lost sight of what they were about, in favor of money and in favor of a twice impeached President.

Courage to stand up for what is right is hard. Often, one loses friends because of the candor that is needed, but one needs to stand up under pressure and teach his/her children that all the bumper stickers they read that say, "Be Kind," and all the awards they win in

*Story Continues on D3*

A CONVERSATION ABOUT

## Maple Syrup

Maple Surple. That's what we called the syrup we lavishly poured on our pancakes when we were children. As adults, we call it "how come it's so expensive?" We are fortunate in that we live in one of the larger production areas of the world. With enough motivation, many of us can actually make our own supply. All it takes is a sugar maple, some specific hardware, and the means to boil down the sap we harvest from said maple. Bear in mind that it takes about forty gallons of sap to make a gallon of syrup. Hence the expense; it takes a lot of fuel (usually wood) and time. A caveat here, before the purists chime in... the amount of sugar in the sap varies and determines the number of gallons needed, which can be as little as 21 gallons. The more you get involved the more technical it can get. I'm dealing in generalities here.

There is an entire mystique about maple syrup, and upstate New York is one of the five main production areas in the world. Canada stands at the pinnacle, with more than seventy percent of the world's production. So while we are accustomed to driving around the area and seeing an almost comical variety of containers dangling off trees, most of the rest of the world would think this very exotic. New York State is second in production in the country, after Vermont. Maine, Wisconsin, Michigan, New Hampshire and Pennsylvania are also significant commercial producers of maple products. But anywhere there are sugar maples and the appropriate spring weather people will be tapping their trees.

Sugar shacks abound in our area, as do sugar bushes. We've heard these phrases probably all our lives without much thought. A sugar shack is the shed in proximity to the trees where the sap is hauled to boil down. Usually the shack is an enclosure for the vat that holds the sap and for



the heat source. Sap needs to be boiled down and this is a time consuming process. The Native Americans (who invented this whole thing) taught the first settlers their process and the rest is history.

Tracey Testo of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties visited the Nature Calls podcast to talk about maple sugaring. You can listen to the episode at <https://cccolumbia-greene.org/gardening/nature-calls-conversations-from-the-hudson-valley/episode-eight-maple-syrup>. You can also pull the episode (#8) up on youtube or ask Alexa for it!

Climate change is being watched very carefully by maple growers as the trees must have minimum temperatures and particular day/night temperature fluctuations for the sap to flow at appropriate levels. Years with poor conditions will, of course, result in smaller production, which will raise prices. Canada has the most dramatic events concerning syrup. In 2012 there was a heist of three thousand tons (or tonnes as they spell it), worth \$18 million. They take syrup very seriously in Canada. The OPEC of maple syrup (Quebec Maple Syrup Producers or QMSP) holds an emergency reserve. They

had to release over five million gallons in 2021 into the market to meet demand. It had been a poor weather season in Quebec, where most sugaring happens in Canada.

Another problem for forests where great numbers of sugar maples are grown (sugar bush, to you) is the local deer. They are browsing the understory where the new baby maples are trying to become the next generation and creating future shortages of mature trees to tap. The relatively new science of Agroforestry is addressing the problem with such things as deer enclosure fences and planting saplings with protections against the deer.

So "Maple Surple" isn't just a free thing the Native Americans shared from the forest. It has become an industry even while it is something we can go outside and participate in, whether as observer or harvester. It's a wonderful way to time travel if you're a history buff and always a wonderful culinary treat unique to our part of the world.

In March, many Cooperative Extensions and farms hold open house demonstrations. Look at the NY website at this link for some ideas. <https://taste.ny.gov/event/maple-weekend-2023>.

THE CATSKILL GEOLOGISTS BY PROFESSORS ROBERT AND JOHANNA TITUS

## Opus-40 – Part Two – A Quarry and Its Fractures

During the last two weeks we have ventured down to the bottom of Harvey Kite's Opus 40 quarry and took a look at its stratigraphy. This week let's look around and see something else down there and find out what it means. Take a look at our photo. That person is standing on the very bottom of the quarry. There, below her, are some very prominent structures. They are very straight and very vertical fractures in the rock. There are a lot of them, and they are all parallel to each other. There is an obvious pattern here and, as we have long been saying, when a scientist sees a pattern, he or she knows that Nature has presented us with a problem that needs to be solved. What are these structures? You might guess that these fractures are geological faults but they are not; geologists actually call them joints.

So, what's the difference? Well, for starters, faults are usually single fractures which are rarely vertical. They don't have sets of parallel fractures. Faults form when there is a push within the bedrock. That push results in a fracture as one mass of rock is shoved past the other. That's accompanied by an earthquake so faulting can be really exciting. The most famous of the world's numerous faults is California's San Andreas Fault. There the Pacific crustal plate is pushing against North America.

But faults are different and there is a lot more to their story. It's easy to see the joints we first referred to but look carefully and you will see another set of joints in the back, a few left-to-right joints, and those are at 90-degree angles to the first set. Then there is the surface that the woman is standing on.



That's another joint; this one is horizontal and parallel to the stratigraphy. So there are three sets of joints, each of them at 90-degree angles to the others. That first set

is the primary set and then there are secondary and tertiary joints. This is getting pretty complex, isn't it?

Joints like these occur as the result of stresses

building up within the bedrock. As we understand it, this begins when one crustal plate, like Africa, collides with another, like North America. A great deal of compression builds up but rocks seem to be pretty good at resisting that compressive stress. They are squeezed but not much else happens. It's when the compression stops that things get interesting. Rocks are stable when squeezed, but not when the pressure is released. They begin to expand and they can't handle that. They fracture into joints, whole sets of them. There are, typically, three sets of them, the three we spoke of above. The most prominent set is the primary set. Those are the obvious ones in our photo. These Opus 40 primary joints had an approximately northeast-to-southwest orientation. It seems that they formed when the African crustal

plate approached from the southeast. A collision occurred and the bedrock was compressed. Then Africa "bounced" off of North America and drifted back to the southeast. That was the moment when all these joints formed. There were no significant earthquakes but we guess there were some very loud cracking sounds.

It's quite a story. Those inconspicuous fractures speak to us of a great continental plate collision. And, they point in the direction of that event. Harvey Kite brought these fractures to light when he worked in his quarry. We wish that we could have shown him all this. His art and our science work so well together.

Contact the authors at [randjtitus@prodigy.net](mailto:randjtitus@prodigy.net). Join their facebook page "The Catskill Geologist." Read their blogs at "the-catskillgeologist.com."

D2  
**LEGAL ADVERTISING**

**Shoveling Notice - Windham**

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

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

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

**Budget Hearing - Lexington Fire District**

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

**Snowplow Notice - Windham**

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

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

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

**LLC Notice**

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

**LLC Notice**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY; Name of LLC: JSB CONCRETE, LLC; Date of filing: Feb 1, 2023; Office of the LLC: Albany Co.; The NY Secretary of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at James Bouton, 2600 Vega Mountain Road, Roxbury, NY 12474; Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LLC**

MINIMALLY INVASIVE TREE REMOVAL, LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 09/08/22. Office in Schoharie Co. SSNY designated Agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at 1881 Western Ave STE 180, Albany, NY 12203. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

**LLC Notice**

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

**LLC Notice**

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

**LLC Notice**

Notice Of Formation Of Domestic Limited Liability Company; Name Of Llc: GILBOA EGG BARN LLC; Date of filing: 02/07/2023;

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Notice Of Formation Of Domestic Limited Liability Company; Name Of Llc: GILBOA EGG BARN LLC; Date of filing: 02/07/2023;

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

**LLC Notice**

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

**Public Notice**

Notice is hereby given that license, number 2204552 for on premise beer, cider, liquor and/or wine has been applied for by George E. Maltese to sell beer, cider, liquor and/or wine, at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 36 Main Street, Stamford, NY for on premises consumption.

George E. Maltese, The Dinner Plate

**LLC Notice**

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

**LLC Notice**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Notice of Formation of Massage By Beth LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2022-07-18. Office location: Greene County. United States Corporation Agents, Inc. designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to United States Corporation Agents, Inc.: 7014 13th Avenue Suite 202 Brooklyn NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

**LLC Notice**

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

**LLC Notice**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY; Name of LLC: JSB CONCRETE, LLC; Date of filing: Feb 1, 2023; Office of the LLC: Albany Co.; The NY Secretary of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at James Bouton, 2600 Vega Mountain Road, Roxbury, NY 12474; Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

**LLC Notice**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY; Name of LLC: JSB CONCRETE, LLC; Date of filing: Feb 1, 2023; Office of the LLC: Albany Co.; The NY Secretary of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at James Bouton, 2600 Vega Mountain Road, Roxbury, NY 12474; Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

**LLC Notice**

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY; Name of LLC: JSB CONCRETE, LLC; Date of filing: Feb 1, 2023; Office of the LLC: Albany Co.; The NY Secretary of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at James Bouton, 2600 Vega Mountain Road, Roxbury, NY 12474; Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

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Office of the LLC: Delaware Co.; The NY Secretary of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 380 Wyckoff Rd, Gilboa NY 12076; Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

**LLC Notice**

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

**LLC Notice**

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

**LLC Notice**

Notice of Formation of Domestic Limited Liability Company: Follow Through Landscaping, filed on May 3, 2022; 137 Souer Road, Stamford, NY 12167. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at 137 Souer Road, Stamford, NY 12167. Any lawful activity.

**LLC Notice**

Notice of Formation of Domestic Limited Liability Company: Financial assistance for this activity is made possible by a grant from the: New York State Homes & Community Renewal Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program

**Public Notice - Bids Wanted**

Sealed bids for supplying No. 2 Fuel for the period June 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024 to locations in Greene County Government will be received by the Greene County Legislature until 1:30 pm on Thursday April 6, 2023 at which time bids will be opened and publicly read.

**Public Notice - Bids Wanted**

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The Board of Fire Commissioners of the Stamford Joint Fire District, in the Towns of Kortright, Harpersfield, Stamford, Gilboa, Jefferson and Village of Stamford, Delaware and Schoharie Counties, New York (the "Fire District") on October 18, 2022, and a Proposition therefore has been approved by the qualified voters of the Fire District voting thereon at a Special Referendum at the Special Election held on December 13, 2022. The validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Fire District is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of the law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this resolution were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within 20 days after the date of such publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution of the State of New York.

**SUMMARY OF BOND RESOLUTION**

The following is a summary of a bond resolution adopted by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Stamford Joint Fire District (the "Fire District") on October 18, 2022 and a Proposition therefore has been approved by a majority of the qualified voters of the Fire District voting thereon at a Special Election held on December 13, 2022. The proceeds from the sale of the obligations authorized in said resolution shall be used for the specific purpose of undertaking a capital improvement project consisting primarily of the following: the replacement of the roof on the fire station at 111 Main Street in the Town of Stamford, as substantially described in the Negative Declaration issued by the Fire District and dated October 18, 2022, such project to include any original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, site work and ancillary costs required for such purpose, at an estimated maximum amount of \$500,000. Said bond resolution authorizes the financing of such project, through the issuance of serial bonds in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 of the Fire District, and delegates to the Fire District Treasurer, the chief fiscal officer of the Fire District, the power to issue said bonds and to authorize the issuance of notes in anticipation of the sale of such bonds. The period of probable usefulness is 15 years. A copy of the resolution summarized herein is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Office of the Stamford Joint Fire District Clerk, located at 111 Main Street, in the Town of Stamford, New York.

**Notice of Bond Bids Wanted**

A. PROJECT 1. The Windham-Ashland-Jewett Central School District invites sealed bids to be received for the 2022 Capital Improvements Project.

Prospective bidders are invited to submit their stipulated sum bids, including applicable Alternates and unit prices, for work described in general as follows:

**A. CONTRACT NO. 4 - ROOFING**

1 Kattleville Road, Suite 9 Binghamton, New York 13901

b. IBI Group 59-61 Court Street Binghamton, New York 13901

c. Builders Exchange of the Southern Tier-East 15 Belden Street Binghamton, New York 13903-2159

d. Syracuse Builders Exchange 6563 Ridings Road Syracuse, New York 13206

e. Mohawk Valley Builders Exchange, Inc. 10 Main Street Suite 202 Whitesboro, NY 13492

f. Construction Contractors Assoc. 330 Meadow Avenue Newburgh, New York 12550

g. Construction Data News 251 Salina Meadows Parkway, Suite 180 Syracuse, NY 13212

6. Each bidder must deposit a bid security in the form of a Bid Bond, Certified Check, or Cashier's Check payable to the Owner in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the Base Bid amount.

7. The Owner reserves the right to award the contract within forty-five (45) calendar days after the actual date of the receipt of the bids. No bidder may modify or withdraw their bid within forty-five (45) calendar days after the time and date specified for the receipt of bids.

8. The Owner reserves the right to waive any irregularities or informalities in the bid forms or during bidding procedures, and the right to reject any or all bids.

9. Project sites will be available for bidders to inspect proposed work areas from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM on weekdays by appointment with John Mattice, phone number (518) 965-1507.

**Public Notice - Middleburgh**

Please take notice that a Public Hearing will be held for the Village of Middleburgh April 3, 2023 at 7:15pm at the Municipal Building at 309 Main Street, Middleburgh, NY at 7:30pm to discuss: Adjusting Water and Sewer Debt Redemption Charges taking effect as of May 1, 2023. By Order of the Village Board of Trustees.

**Public Notice - Roxbury**

The Roxbury Central School District will be holding public hearings on the Annual Budget on March 8, March 22, and April 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM prior to the Board of Education meetings.

**Public Notice - Stamford**

The Village of Stamford Board of Trustees will hold their annual meeting on Tuesday, April 4th, 2023 at 6:30pm.

On Tuesday, April 18, 2023 the Stamford Village Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing at 6:45pm relative to the 2023-2024 Water/Sewer/General Budget. The regular Board of Trustees meeting will be held at 7:00pm.

**Public Notice - Middleburgh**

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received until 1:00 PM., March 24, 2023, at the Village of Middleburgh Offices Attention: Village Clerk, located at 309 Main Street, PO Box 789, Middleburgh, NY 12122; at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for the Village Hall - Interior & Exterior Repairs Project.

A pre-bid conference will be held for this project on Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 1:00 PM at the Village of Middleburgh Village Hall 309 Main Street, Middleburgh, NY 12122. Bidding contractors are strongly encouraged to have an authorized representative of their firm attend the pre-bid conference.

Bids will be received for the Single Prime Contract Project consisting of the following prime contracts which covers the Village Hall - Foundation Stabilization & Interior/Exterior Repairs:

Interiors/Exterior Repairs Contract Foundation Stabilization Contract Foundation Stabilization & Repairs of the Existing Village Hall must be completed by September 8, 2023.

**CONSTRUCTION**

The project shall be substantially complete in accordance with Document 00 21 13 and Section 01 10 00 for all work as indicated on the Contract Documents.

The Owner will receive sealed stipulated sum bids from qualified bidders at the Windham-Ashland-Jewett Central School District Office, 5411 State Route 23, Windham, NY 12496 until 11:00 AM Local Time, on April 6, 2023, at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud.

**Contract Documents**

Documents can be accessed for viewing at <http://www.ibigroup.com/projects-for-bid> and then click on "Obtain Documents". The system will then connect to the printer's website. "Register Now" (free) to obtain valid username and password. The system will E-mail you a username, password, and link back to the portal for viewing the project.

Bidders who register as a plan holder may acquire the bidding and contract documents using the following options:

Documents are available to view for free.

Documents may be downloaded for a non-refundable fee.

Printed portions of the documents may be purchased for a non-refundable fee.

Viewing online or the payment of a non-refundable fee to obtain the plans and specifications through downloading or printing is optional. The fee is NOT a deposit and will not be refunded. To obtain a complete printed set of plans and specifications a prospective bidder may make a deposit of \$100.00 by certified check or money order made payable to the Windham-Ashland-Jewett Central School District for each set. All prospective bidders using the deposit method, upon returning the first complete set of plans and specifications in good condition within thirty (30) calendar days after the date of award of contracts or rejection of bids, they will be refunded the full amount of their deposit for the first set of plans and specifications. For the return of any additional sets of plans and specifications within thirty (30) calendar days after the date of award of contracts or rejection of bids, they will be refunded the full amount of their deposit for one (1) set of plans and specifications less the actual cost of reproduction of the plans and specifications.

For printed portions of the documents or download, the fee is dependent on the size of the documents.

5. Copies of the Contract Documents may be examined at the following offices:

TamCo Management Group, LLC

**SEEKING**

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

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

ARKVILLE - Summer helper; part time, weekends. Some heavy lifting and porting. May through October. Call

**REAL ESTATE**

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

1 Kattleville Road, Suite 9 Binghamton, New York 13901

b. IBI Group 59-61 Court Street Binghamton, New York 13901

c. Builders Exchange of the Southern Tier-East 15 Belden Street Binghamton, New York 13903-2159

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Interiors/Exterior Repairs Contract Foundation Stabilization Contract Foundation Stabilization & Repairs of the Existing Village Hall must be completed by September 8,

**LEGAL ADVERTISING**

that a budget vote by the qualified voters of the Middleburgh Central School District shall be held on Tuesday, May 9th, 2023, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 8:00 PM at the Middleburgh Library, 323 Main Street, Middleburgh, New York. The Proposition to be voted on is as follows: SHALL the Proposition be approved authorizing the Middleburgh Central School Board of Education to levy taxes annually in the sum of \$176,397.35 and pay over such amount to the trustees of the Middleburgh Library Association annually until such authorization is changed. AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that

a trustee vote will be held to elect 2 (two) trustees to the Board of Trustees of the Middleburgh Library Association to serve for a term of three years to succeed Carolyn Foland and Cora Forslund. Petitions for Trustee seats will be available on February 21st, 2023 and must be completed with required signatures and returned by March 21st, 2023 during normal library hours. FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots will be obtainable between the hours of 1:30 PM and 8:00 PM on Mondays, 10:00 AM and 8:00 PM on Tuesdays, and Thursdays, 10:00am and 5:00 pm

on Wednesdays and 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM on Saturdays from the Library Staff. Completed applications for absentee ballots must be received by the library at least seven (7) days prior to the vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before election if the ballot is to be hand delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots must be received by the library staff no later than 4:00 PM on May 8th, 2023. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available at the library between the hours mentioned above. Any qualified voter may challenge the acceptance of the ballot of any person on such list, by making his/her challenge and reasons therefore known to the Inspector

of Elections before the close of the polls. AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the qualified voters of the Middleburgh Central School District shall be entitled to vote in said annual vote. A qualified voter is one who is 1) a citizen of the United States of America, 2) eighteen years of age or older, and 3) a resident within the Middleburgh Central School District for a period of thirty (30) days next preceding the annual vote. The library may require all persons offering to vote at the budget vote to provide one form of proof of residency pursuant to Education Law, Section 2018-C. Such a form may include a driver's license, a non-driver identification card, a utility bill or a voter registration card. Upon offer of proof of residency, the Library may also require all persons offering to vote to provide their signature, printed name and address.

**Public Notice - Jefferson**  
The Financial Audit of the Town of Jefferson is complete and has been filed with the OSC. It is available for public review in the Town Clerk's office.

**Public Notice - Roxbury**  
The Roxbury Central School's 3rd Budget Presentation and Board of Education meeting that was scheduled for Wednesday, April 12, 2023 has been moved to Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

**The Tapestry, Continued from D1**

school about being a good citizen and a friend to all, are really important. Teach your children well folks, because we need leaders in the future who are honest, who are fair and who have the courage to stand up against those who want power for themselves, with little regard for others. We need people to stand up for humanity and work night and day to make our world a better place to live,

not one full of fear and hatred for our friends and neighbors. Having the courage to recognize truth, despite pressure, and having the courage to stand up for oneself and for others, who have been trampled into submission because of fear must be learned at an early age. Let's give our kids the tools they need to make their schools a more pleasant place to learn, by being examples of goodness.

**Bushel Hosts a Death Café March 26**

DELHI — Bushel is pleased to host Delaware County's first Death Café, facilitated by the Upper Catskills Natural Burial Association. This event takes place on Sunday, March 26, 2-4 pm, at Bushel located at 106 Main Street, Delhi. It is free to attend with a suggested \$5 donation. A Death Café is a group-directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives, or themes. It is a discussion support or counseling session. Death Café is designed to be a respectful space for community members to share their questions, curiosities, fears, beliefs, and stories about any and all aspects of death. For more about Death Cafés, please go to the official Death Café website, deathcafe.com. The discussion will be led by Anna Rutenbeck, a co-founder of the Upper Catskills Natural Burial Association. Refreshments will be provided. This event will include mature discussions on death and dying and is most appropriate for ages 16+. Please register in advance on Bushel's website, www.bushelcollective.org/ev

Anna Rutenbeck is one of the founders of the Upper Catskill Natural Burial Association and Project Coordinator at the Otsego County Conservation Association. She is passionate about environmental conservation, accessible science education, and alternative death care. She lives in Cooperstown with her partner, dog, and two cats. The Upper Catskill Natural Burial Association is a regional nonprofit with the goal of starting a natural burial cemetery in the Upper Catskill region of New York State, as well as bringing accessible death education to our community. The UCNBA was founded in April of 2022 by Bob Brzozowski, James Mills, Karen Palmer, and Anna Rutenbeck. The UCNBA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. BUSHEL is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, volunteer-led, mixed-use space dedicated to art, agriculture, ecology, and action. It is located at 106 Main Street in Delhi. For more information, go to bushelcollective.org.

**Career & College Fair**

The Delaware County Counselor's Association will host the annual Delaware County College and Career Fair from 9-11 a.m., Wednesday, April 12th at SUNY Delhi in the Clark Field House. The College and Career Fair will feature representatives from more than 50 colleges, technical schools, local employers, and the military - all under the same roof! This is a great opportunity to meet and connect with admissions and career representatives. For more information about the Delaware County Counselors Association College and Career Fair and to receive the complete list of colleges that will participate contact Jefferson Central School at 607-652-7821, ext 119.

**Guilty Plea in DWI Case**

DELHI – Leigh F Murray, 39, of Patterson, New York, appeared in Delaware County Court on March 13, 2023, and pleaded guilty to one count of Driving While Intoxicated, a Class D Felony. Murray appeared in Delaware County Court and was arraigned by the Honorable Judge Rosa, Acting Delaware County Court Judge, on a Superior Court Information charging one count of DWI. After being arraigned on the SCL, the defendant pleaded guilty. Prior to pleading guilty, the defendant admitted that on November 26, 2022, she was driving over the posted speed limit on State Highway 17, in the Town of Hancock, after having consumed 2-3 vodkas. The plea was entered pursuant to a

negotiated disposition, wherein it is anticipated that the defendant will be sentenced to 6 months' incarceration and then 5 years of felony probation supervision. The probation terms will require that the defendant not consume alcohol and engage in any recommended substance abuse treatment. Acting District Attorney Shawn Smith stated, "I commend New York State Trooper Marc Tyson Vixama for his work on this case."

**Spring & Summer Are Almost Here!**

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**Sheriff Announces New Promotions**

Delhi – On March 10th, 2023 Delaware County Sheriff Craig DuMond announced the recent designation of Deputy Sheriff Kyle Karcher to the position of Corporal. The designation is effective immediately. Corporal Karcher is a 9-year veteran of the Sheriff's Office, having joined in 2014 as a lateral transfer from the Village of Sidney Police Department. Corporal Karcher attended the Otsego County Law Enforcement Academy, graduating in January 2012 as an MPTC (Municipal Police Training Council) Certified Police Officer. Corporal Karcher is currently one of the two deputies assigned to the



Sheriff's Office Canine Division, where he and his canine partner Eli patrol the communities of

Delaware County, conduct drug sweeps of participating Delaware County School Districts, as well as participate in community events to actively engage the public with K-9 Eli. Sheriff DuMond remarked that "Corporal Karcher's new responsibilities will primarily include supervision and case management of the agency's road patrol deputies. With this designation, Corporal Karcher has assumed a considerable degree of responsibility as a first line supervisor and I am confident in his abilities to serve the Sheriff's Office and the people of Delaware County honorably."

**Two Sworn In**

DELHI - Sheriff Craig DuMond announced the promotion of two long time Delaware County Sheriff's Office Correctional Officers, Corey Bene and Michael Ferraro to the positions of Corrections Sergeant. Both promotions are effective March 5th, 2023. Sergeant Bene, a 19-year veteran of the Sheriff's Office will directly supervise Correctional Officers assigned to his shift, as well as oversee a variety of daily activities within the Correctional Facility. Sgt. Bene's experience, knowledge and attention to detail will serve him well in



his new responsibilities. Sergeant Ferraro, originally hired in 2010, left the agency for a brief period of time before being re-appointed as Correctional Officer in November of 2020. In June of 2021, he was promoted to Corrections Corporal. Sergeant Ferraro's previous experience as a Corporal and, as the Jail Intelligence Officer has helped to prepare him to assume

his new responsibilities as Sergeant. Speaking on the promotions, Sheriff DuMond remarked, "I am proud to make these appointments. Both Sergeants are highly capable and well deserving of these promotions. As Sergeants, these members will provide crucial supervision to further our primary responsibility of maintaining a safe and secure correctional facility for both employees and incarcerated individuals. I have the utmost confidence in their abilities, and know they will make the Sheriff's Office proud."

**FreeDailyCrosswords.com**

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**ACROSS**

- 1) Oktoberfest instrument
- 5) Oscar presenter's take
- 9) Rye grass disease
- 14) Burden
- 15) Diamond Head locale
- 16) New Zealand native
- 17) What "if tree falls in forest" has
- 20) Parthenon's site
- 21) Made a memo
- 22) They're put in food
- 23) Sign for the superstitious
- 25) No, in a circle
- 28) Hardly ordinary
- 29) Brass or bronze, e.g.
- 31) Campus VIP, slangily
- 33) Like fairy-tale dragons, eventually
- 34) "But will it play in \_\_\_?"
- 35) No longer in existence
- 38) "Play something else!"
- 39) Broadcast
- 40) Colors crudely
- 41) Middle ear bone
- 42) Bagpiper's headwear
- 45) It may be spotted in a tree
- 46) Excessive criticism
- 47) Make a silhouette
- 49) The best
- 52) Marinara and bechamel
- 53) They're cast over the ocean?
- 57) Overly full
- 58) Floor
- 59) VIP in the UAE
- 60) Door fasteners
- 61) Piquant flavor
- 62) Baglike structures in animals

**LOST IN TRANSLATION** By Dennis E. Mitchell

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
14				15				16							
17			18					19							
20								21							
22								23	24		25	26	27		
28								29	30			31	32		
								33				34			
								35	36			37			
								38				39			
								40				41	42	43	44
								45				46		47	48
								49	50	51		52			
								53	54			55	56		
								57				58		59	
								60				61		62	

**DOWN**

- 1) Beefsteak or cherry
- 2) One way to stand
- 3) Plumb tucked out
- 4) Positive attribute
- 5) Some deliveries
- 6) Shake one's tail
- 7) "Caught you!"
- 8) Ambulance item
- 9) Discharge
- 10) One may be on its last leg
- 11) Comedian Whoopi
- 12) Valuable find
- 13) "Whether \_\_\_ nobler ..."
- 18) Asthmatics' needs
- 19) Huge amount of bricks
- 23) Gallimaufry
- 24) Western state
- 26) X or Y, in math
- 27) Swedish rug
- 30) How workaholics often work
- 31) Place for a statue or a hero
- 32) Large crucifix
- 33) Arrogant one
- 34) Land of the alpaca
- 35) Chew like a rat
- 36) Some eye doctors
- 37) Many a "Li'l Abner" character
- 38) Tokyo, pre-Tokyo
- 41) Greenest around the gills
- 42) Port on Commencement Bay
- 43) Acid found in vinegar
- 44) Partners of Mmes.
- 46) \_\_\_ Tuesday (Mardi Gras)
- 48) Game essentials
- 50) Hard to comprehend
- 51) Front and back
- 52) Belted out a tune
- 53) Burning remnant
- 54) Living Nativity sound
- 55) Airport stat.
- 56) Woman's hairstyle

EDITORIAL

# Crucial Thoughts

It's election season. Yes, it's still not November, but there are some key village elections coming up. The paper has content about all of them, but there are two that really strike my interest.

The first is the race in Stamford. Mayor Bob Schneider has worked tirelessly to try and improve the Queen of the Catskills, and in many ways, it's paid off. I've liked the village of Stamford since I was a kid, and here we've seen a number of new business openings and events over the past four years.

Trustee Jim Kopp has set up a great series of music in Veterans Park and he and the mayor (as well as the other trustees) have been able to work together to get Stamford moving in the right direction.

I have found Bob to be meticulous in working with a number of agencies and community groups, including the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation. The Foundation and its leadership have been a great blessing to our area, and I am grateful that the mayor sees that. Furthermore, Mayor Schneider and his team have been able to aid the development of a new business group. Stamford is beginning to blossom and I want to see that continue.

Mayor Schneider has earned another four years in office—and I say that as a former mayor myself.

\*\*\*

I know that the election in Fleischmanns is contentious, and the circumstances are certainly unique. I also realize that our paper has a responsibility to cover what is happening—and what will happen next week with great detail. This has put the paper in a position that whatever I write below is likely to make no one happy, but I'll do my best with what I know.

There's no real simple way to thread the needle here. I like Sam Gil personally and I'd like to know more about Elizabeth Hughes and her platform.

There's no blank check in Fleischmanns. I want to make sure that every legal vote is counted for the good of the community. Last week I wrote that I wanted to make sure that balloting is done correctly, and I stand by it.

Voting is a sacred right—both the balloting and the counting and I hope that all eligible voters come out next Tuesday in Stamford, Tannersville, Fleischmanns, and Hunter.

- Matthew Avitabile  
Publisher

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## RUSTY AND LILA BY BILLY SHEARS



For more information or about syndication, contact Mr. Shears at shearswm@protonmail.com. For more Rusty and Lila visit Billy's website PunkCartoons.com

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## WHITTLING AWAY WITH DICK BROOKS

# Home and Garden

I don't know why it fascinates me but it does. It's kind of like coming upon a bad accident while motoring about. I always say a quick little prayer for the safety of those involved but I've got to look even though I don't really want to. It's like that with The Home and Garden Channel. I know watching it is going to raise my blood pressure at least 10 points and I know I'm going to wind up yelling at the TV even though I know it won't do any good but I just have to. I guess its all part of having been a teacher for a century and a half. I've spent most of my adult life fighting stupidity and I hate to see it winning and there's more stupidity to be found on that channel than in any other place in our universe—outside of Washington.

Watching a young couple living in a house that they can't possibly afford unless they're either bankers or bank robbers discussing a renovation of their outdated 1990ish kitchen and making the statement that because of the hard economic times we're in, they're only able to budget \$85,000 for the project has me chewing on the arm of my recliner. Another couple turned down a house they were looking at because the master bath didn't have his and hers sinks. Still another couple was looking into adding a guest suite for company. By this time, Telly, our canine companion had retreated to the kitchen where the sputterings of his loving father were muted enough to get a decent nap.

I flipped the channel to The Food Network and watched a pot of sauce bubble until I was my calm and reasonable self again. Maybe I'm turning into an old curmudgeon? Maybe it's just the way these folks were raised. I grew up in a three bedroom farmhouse, sharing

a bedroom with my two brothers and a bathroom that was the only one in the house and used by all six members of the family. Somehow we managed to stay uncluttered and clean enough to go out in polite society.

The house we live in now was built in 1840 and I don't know where we're going to put the entertainment room or the home office. The downstairs bathroom used to be the pantry. It's not large enough for his and hers sinks unless one of the sinks could double as a toilet but it serves its purpose. Like all houses of its age, there aren't enough closets or electrical outlets but all in all I really can't think of much I'd change or renovate except maybe the closet situation. We did redo the bathrooms and updated them probably spending less than the Home and Garden Channel designers charged to look at a similar project on the telly. One of the major decisions we wrestled with was did we put in a new bath tub or go with just a nice shower stall. We opted for the tub with a shower. Really, that was yielding to peer pressure, neither The Queen nor I have taken a bath for years. On occasion, she will go have a soak but I haven't taken a bath for

twenty or so years which may explain why nobody stands downwind of me. I like showers-- I can shower, shave, brush my teeth, buff my follicly challenged head, dress and be out the door before the tub would be filled up enough for a decent bath. The tub has those sandpaper strips stuck to the bottom so you can't slip which aren't the nicest things to sit on and when the bath is done, you still have soap on you making me want to take a shower to get rid of it. I do miss turning the faucets on with my toes though.

I would like to do away with my closet. It's crowded, dark and I can't always find what I want. I think I'm going to replace it with a wall of doorknobs. Doorknobs are the best know places to hang things from. Three or four rows of doorknobs on a plain wall would be great, a lot easier than hangers and you could see everything. I think that's a great idea, maybe I'll send it to The Home and Garden Channel.

Thought for the week— A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul. George Bernard Shaw

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

Whittle12124@yahoo.com

**LOST IN TRANSLATION** By Dennis E. Mitchell

1	T	U	B	A	2	S	W	A	G	3	E	R	G	O	T		
4	O	N	U	S	5	O	A	H	U	6	M	A	O	R	I		
7	M	I	S	S	8	I	N	G	A	R	T	I	C	L	E	S	
9	A	T	H	E	N	S	10	N	O	T	E	D					
11	T	E	E	T	H	12	O	M	E	N	13	B	A	R			
14	O	D	D		15	A	L	L	O	Y	16	P	R	E	X	Y	
17					18	S	L	A	I	N	19	P	E	O	R	I	A
20	G	O	N	E	T	O	T	H	E	D	O	G	S				
21	E	N	C	O	R	E			22	A	I	R	E	D			
23	D	A	U	B	S	24	I	N	C	U	S	25	T	A	M		
26	O	W	L		27	F	L	A	K	28	T	R	A	C	E		
29					30	I	D	E	A	L	31	S	A	U	C	E	S
32	A	B	S	E	N	T	E	E	B	A	L	L	O	T	S		
33	S	A	T	E	D		34	S	T	U	N		35	E	M	I	R
36	H	A	S	P	S		37	T	A	N	G		38	S	A	C	S





# The Catskills Chronicle

Serving the Central Catskills • A Section of *The Mountain Eagle*

Rip Van Winkle

Volume 8, No. 11

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FRIDAY, March 17, 2023

\$1.00

## Accusations Fly At Fleischmanns Forum

*Voter Enrollment Is Key Concern For Some Village Board Candidates*

**By Mike Martin**

**FLEISCHMANN'S** — A public forum for candidates in the upcoming Village of Fleischmanns elections to explain their positions turned contentious several times during the two-hour event held March 12.

The forum at the Skene Memorial Library was attended by mayoral candidates Elizabeth Hughes and Sam Gil as well as Trustee candidates Stewart Cohen, Miguel Martinez-Riddle, Todd Pascarella, and Yvonne Reuter. There are two Trustee positions on the ballot. Mr. Cohen and Mr. Gil both currently serve as Trustees.

In a nasty turn of events, Mr. Cohen accused Elizabeth Hughes of being connected to several individuals who broke out windows in the Bnai Israel Synagogue last year. This sparked a strong refute from Ms. Hughes and Mr. Cohen countered by speaking in an aggressive and loud manner.

Jon Frank, who served as the moderator for Fleischmanns First, the community organization sponsoring the

forum, had to speak forcibly to halt this dispute and restate that this type of exchange was unacceptable. He noted that this was a question-and-answer forum, not a debate.

Despite this admonition, Mr. Cohen continued arguing before Mayor Winifred Zubin stepped in and declared the meeting out of order. This confrontation caused an angered response from many people in the audience.

### Getting personal

This exchange was not the first accusatory comment that Mr. Cohen seemingly directed at Ms. Hughes during this event. He also spoke in a hostile manner to the public when pressed on his responses on other topics.

Once order was restored, Mayor Zubin asked all the candidates for their response to the issues of zoning and the potential dissolution of the village government.

Mr. Martinez-Riddle who served on the Zoning Board, said he feels most zoning laws are overbearing and would favor in removing most of them. As to dissolution, he said he's not in favor of it and noted that, if dissolved,



Among the candidates running for the Fleischmanns Village Board are, from left, Stewart Cohen, Miguel Martinez-Riddle, Elizabeth Hughes, Yvonne Reuter, and Todd Pascarella. Missing is Sam Gil. They attended a Candidate Forum on March 12.

Fleischmanns would be moved to the bottom of any funding opportunities.

Ms. Reuter said she also opposes dissolution as it would cause residents to lose all control over their future. She spoke in favor of careful zoning revisions.

Mr. Cohen and Mr. Gil both said they agreed with all comments made by Ms. Reuter.

Mr. Pascarella stated that he's opposed to dissolution, but noted that if it did come to a vote again, he just wants to be assured it is done fair and above-board.

Ms. Hughes said she

is also opposed to dissolving the village government. Regarding the current village zoning law, she reminded everyone that she was on the Zoning Review Committee and still feels there is a need for careful and wise zoning changes.

The forum got underway with Mr. Frank asking each candidate for some biographical information, starting with the two candidates running for the village's top post. Current Mayor Zubin has served two years and not seeking re-election. Ms. Hughes was first to speak stating she has a family and is a three-year village

resident. She indicated that her strength is perseverance.

Since relocating to Fleischmanns, Ms. Hughes has served on multiple committees including the Children's Committee and the Zoning Review Committee. If elected, she said priority projects would be updating parking regulations and the Maxbilt Theatre restoration.

Next to speak was Sam Gil. He reported that he's a 19-year resident and raised his family here. He is a local business owner and a current Trustee.

Mr. Gil addressed the division within the village and said Fleisch-

manns is a community and residents need to work together, not against each other. His primary focus is to make the village business-friendly and listen to the needs of all business owners.

Yvonne Reuter was the first Trustee candidate to speak. As a longtime resident and member of Fleischmanns First, she recounted her love of the village and her desire to see it survive and thrive. She was born here and returned after retirement.

Among her community service work, Ms. Reuter cited her **continued on E4**



### Collision Course

Slick conditions on Dimmick Mountain Road in the Town of Middletown resulted in four vehicles becoming involved in an accident shortly after 8 p.m. on Friday, March 10. No injuries were reported. Volunteers from the Arkville and Fleischmanns Fire Departments assisted at the scene. — Contributed photo

## Middletown Seeks 'Land Swap' To Locate Workforce Housing

### Staff Report

**MARGARETVILLE** — Middletown Town Board members have authored a letter asking the NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to consider a "land swap" that would hopefully pave the way for workforce housing development.

At its March 8 meeting, board members signed off on a letter addressed to the DEP's land acquisition personnel requesting that the city consider trading a

portion of property along county Route 38 in Arkville for a 14.5-acre town-owned parcel at the end of the roadway. The town has considered utilizing its land for housing, but the slope of the land presents an obstacle. A deal for the housing developer to purchase an adjacent parcel owned by Hanah Country Resort had been proposed, but stalled.

The portion of DEP land the town is requesting in the trade is

a short distance away (essentially across from the Catskill Recreation Center) and would provide an easier building site. The DEP parcel under consideration exceeds 100 acres but the town is seeking only an amount equal to its 14.5 acres. Because the town and DEP parcels share a border, if approved, the swap would actually be a lot line adjustment.

To bolster its case, the town solicited letters of support from **continued on E3**

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# Letters

## Candidate Breached Public Trust

To the Editor:  
Stewart Cohen should be removed from office and should not hold office again.

Putting aside some unforgivable behavior that Mr. Cohen visited upon his former neighbors (who left the village due to well-documented harassment), let us look at the recent spate of slander that he has visited upon other village residents.

Mr. Cohen is no stranger to slandering village residents. For example, he accused one resident of harassing the synagogue on Main Street and also of using antisemitic slurs against Rebbi Horowitz. These accusations were not only false but also despicable and in themselves anti-Semitic as they were aimed at a member of a different Jewish congregation. She protested this slander, and the whole incident is well-documented. To date, he has not apologized to her. However, at the recent village meeting he did pat himself on the back for bringing her a cup of hot chocolate at an event. Small comfort after being falsely accused and in such an untoward and unfair way.

Recently, Mr. Cohen has been at it again. At an event organized by the non-profit group Fleischmanns First (for the benefit of the public to meet candidates for office), Cohen accused one of the candidates of inciting violence against the Main Street synagogue. A little background: There had been two incidents of brick and rock throwing in and around the village. The rocks and bricks were thrown at the synagogue on Main Street and at the Middletown office. The police found the teen culprits, none of whom were from the village. Mr. Cohen, with no evidentiary support nor any plausible reason, chose to accuse the female candidate of inciting violence, seemingly to discredit this candidate. The audience objected to his statement, but he carried on.

When I arrived for

the monthly village meeting this past Monday, I overheard Mr. Cohen telling outgoing Mayor Zubin that a resident had stolen a sign (the sign in question being on the owner's private property for over 35 years). His exact words were "she stole that sign." This accusation was based on nothing but his opinion. He demanded that the village sue her and take the sign and make it village property. But the Mayor replied that such a lawsuit was unwise and not the best use of funds. Nevertheless, he made a scene during the meeting regarding the sign, again throwing out accusations and demanding a bill of sale. The audience objected. Video available for those who might be interested.

To accuse these women (and it is interesting that the recipients of his slander are females who dared speak up for themselves), without any evidence and in public forums in his capacity as a member of the Board of Trustees, is despicable and disrespectful to the office that he holds. It is a BREACH of the public trust.

As the daughter of a career military man, who served four years in Vietnam, I find Mr. Cohen's behavior an affront to the rule of the law, good governance, the democratic process, and the quality of life in this village. As a child of the military, I was raised to respect the flag, to respect local authority, to be vigilant in the protection of our freedoms, and to call out those who make a mockery of our democracy. Mr. Cohen mocks us all when he stands before the public and makes baseless accusations in order to discredit others and to deflect the truth of own shocking behavior.

I debated writing this letter because I risk becoming the next of his targets. But my father didn't raise me to run away from a fight.

**Christine Panas,  
Fleischmanns**

## Village Election Questions Linger

To The Editor:  
When, at Sunday's Fleischmanns Candidates Forum, I asked current trustee who is running for re-election Stewart Cohen what he promised the tax-exempt religious bloc in return for getting him elected, he said he "didn't understand the question."

But Bill Birns jumped in from the audience to say that this group (whose voter registrations were cancelled by the Delaware County Board of Election but who have re-registered) had some

grievances against the village.

So while much remains murky, this much is clear (and a matter of public record): Stewart Cohen and Sam Gil owe their election to the Fleischmanns Village Board of Trustees to the absentee voter bloc.

One wonders then why Miguel Riddle-Martinez, who is running on the same ticket, would risk his reputation by associating with candidates over whose heads hangs the cloud of illegitimacy.

**V. Szerko,  
Fleischmanns**

# Flora & Fauna At Gallery 1053 Exhibit

FLEISCHMANN'S — 1053 Gallery in Fleischmanns is pleased to present Flora and Fauna, an exhibition of 26 artists who work in and around the Catskill Mountains of New York or who engage the regional biodiversity in their art-making practice.

Curated by Ryan Steadman and Haley Mellin, local biodiversity is a focus of this group show. 1053 Gallery is located in the town of Fleischmanns in the Catskill Mountains, an area with a history of environmental recovery and storied forests and watersheds. The exhibition will run from March 17 through May 7, with a public reception on May 7.

### Benefit art

Proceeds from the exhibition will support land conservation through the artist-run nonprofit Art into Acres.

Ranging in medium, the works all engage flora and fauna, terminology defined as the plants and animals in a region or time, and collectively referred to as biota. Detailed species and habitat renderings

by Isabella Kirkland, Tiffany Bozic, Haley Mellin and Angela Rose Voulgarelis depict the natural world in the human era.

Works by Chris Martin, Ryan Steadman and James Fils-Aime look at the human species in the context of its surroundings. The human and nature interface comes into focus with works like Brian Caverly's Untitled Stool, 2020-2022, carved from trees that fell near his home upstate and new pieces by Emily Pettigrew, Lisa Sanditz and John Garcia that are embedded with cultural or built structures.

### Reclamation

Some works feature reclamation. In Six Phases of Forest Procession (for the Budding Bird Blind), 2020, David Brooks investigates how the natural world cannot be divorced from cultural concerns. The sculptural models exhibited depict phases of forest succession (a process by which a forest moves through expansion and reduction).

Participating artists include: Tiffany Bozic, David Brooks, Brian



*This work by Loie Hollowell is among the pieces to be displayed at the Flora and Fauna show at Gallery 1053 in Fleischmanns.*

Caverly, Dan Colen, Sarah Rose Sharp, Michael St. John, Ryan Steadman, Uman, Angela Rose Voulgarelis and Ryan Wallace.

The gallery is open Friday and Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday noon-4 p.m. and by appointment. For information, please call 845 254-3461 or visit: 1053gallery.com

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## Fleischmanns Village Board Candidates List Concerns, Goals For Campaign

By Brian Sweeney

**FLEISCHMANN'S** — On the ballot in the Village of Fleischmanns election on March 21 will be the position of mayor and two seats on the Board of Trustees. Two candidates are seeking the mayor's post and four candidates are in the running for the board. Candidate profiles follow.

### Mayoral candidates

Samuel Gil and Elizabeth Hughes are vying for the position of Village of Fleischmanns mayor in the March 21 election. Mayor Winifred Zubin has declined to run for a second term. Candidate profiles follow.

A resident of Fleischmanns for more than 20 years, **Sam Gil** is the owner of Sam's Country Store.

A current member of the Village Board of Trustees, he also serves as Deputy Mayor.

During his tenure, Mr. Gil cited among the board's accomplishments: reopening of the Village of Fleischmanns Community Pool, paving of Lake Street and Breezy Hill Road which had been severely damaged.

If elected Mayor, Mr. Gil listed the follow priorities: to continue fixing and maintaining roads in the village to a good state of repair, and "Following in the footsteps of current Mayor Winifred Zubin in providing unparalleled service, pride and honesty to the residents of this community."

He added, "I would like to nurture and improve the beautiful Village of Fleischmanns that we all call home!"

**Elizabeth Hughes** works as an IT consultant for Itineris NA. She has been a full-time Fleischmanns resident for three years.

She previously ran

for a Village Trustee position in the last two elections.

Ms. Hughes said her desire to run for Mayor is a simple goal of bettering the village.

"I am inspired by my friends and neighbors in the village who have such passion for the community," she stated.

Asked about challenges facing village government, she remarked, "The biggest obstacle is certainly the unscrupulous and illegal voting practices."

If elected, Ms. Hughes said she would strive to continue many of the projects started by Mayor Winifred Zubin, including the theater restoration, village beautification and zoning law reform.

"What I want is a village that is both a great place to live and a mecca for tourists," Ms. Hughes noted.

### Trustee candidates

**Todd Pascarella** is among four candidates running for two seats on the Board of Trustees that are to be filled in the March 21 election.

An 18-year resident of Fleischmanns, Mr. Pascarella is the Executive Director of the Catskill Revitalization Corporation, which owns and maintains the Delaware & Ulster Railroad in Arkville and the 26-mile Catskill Scenic Trail.

Mr. Pascarella entered public service in Fleischmanns in 2009 when he served as Trustee/Deputy Mayor for three years, then as Mayor for another three years from 2012 to 2015. He later filled in as Village Clerk for six months.

The candidate said he was originally inspired to run for office in 2009 because of both a sense of responsibility and opportunity to help shape the environment in which he and his wife

were raising their family.

"I wanted our children to have a positive experience growing up in Fleischmanns as my wife did before them. My focus was on improving the Village Park and encouraging investment downtown so that other people would see the same opportunity that we did and be drawn to raise their own families or start their own businesses in Fleischmanns," Mr. Pascarella explained.

In 2011, after the tragic flooding resulting from Hurricane Irene, he called that the rest of his time in office was spent helping rebuild the devastated village.

He noted that Fleischmanns has seen steady improvements over the course of the past dozen years since the historic storm.

"We see downtown starting to thrive again like it hasn't in decades. The work is far from done however, and the threats to our future are more serious than ever. I am running now for Trustee to help protect the residents and business owners in our village," he stated.

Mr. Pascarella said the biggest issue in the upcoming village election, is unfortunately, the election itself. He pointed out past two elections in Fleischmanns have been decided not because the winning candidates articulated a better vision or demonstrated competency on given issues, rather the election outcome has been manipulated by scores of absentee votes from people registering to vote claiming their "residences" as motel rooms, tax-exempt houses of worship,

summer cabins, and non-existent addresses.

In many cases, he pointed out, the same names and addresses that the Board of Elections purged from the voter roll last year are back again this year.

"Many of us in the village are blowing the whistle right now in hopes that officials at higher levels of government who have the resources and authority to step in and get to the bottom of the corruption will finally do so. If elected I will most certainly work to restore integrity and trust in our local elections because until this is cleaned up, unfortunately, no other issue really matters that much," Mr. Pascarella explained.

Asked about his vision for Fleischmanns, Mr. Pascarella commented, "The Village government needs to do everything it can to support the entrepreneurs on Main Street who right now are investing in revitalizing our historic downtown."

He said the village also needs to protect the taxpayers and residents who make Fleischmanns their true home. Mr. Pascarella related that business owners on Main Street who are here already and those currently preparing to start businesses need to know they can count on a stable and competent village board that respects the commitment and investment they have made in living and working and paying taxes in Fleischmanns.

"Most residents have completely lost trust in the village board. It's time to elect new leadership that will begin to build that trust back up again," he concluded.

**Yvonne Reuter** is one of four candidates in the running for a pair of open Trustee seats

on the village board.

A native of Fleischmanns, Ms. Reuter recalls "having the privilege to see it in its glory days."

She initially studied accounting but soon realized she didn't want to sit at a desk. This decision led her to pursue a career in interior design which kept her on my feet doing what I loved. After retiring, she returned to Fleischmanns and has devoted her energy to community endeavors.

Ms. Reuter has served on the Fleischmanns Zoning Board of Appeals for more than three years and been an active member of the Fleischmanns First community support organization for 15 years. She has also been one of the primary organizers of the Memorial Day Street Fair for more than a decade.

"Over the years I have been involved in many activities to enrich the community such as children's Halloween events, stream and village clean-up, the Maple Festival, Christmas float creation for the Margaretville Holiday Parade, house tours, and village beautification," she noted.

Ms. Reuter added, "The love of my village is what has inspired me to run for Village Trustee, plus the faulty voting by some people who don't have a stake in or care about our village."

She said her vision is to make Fleischmanns thrive through the encouragement of new businesses and the restoration of the historic Maxbilt Theater.

"The theater is the kingpin of our community and its reopening with cultural, music, theater and local events will help make our village a destination," Ms. Reuter stated.

Trustee candidate **Miguel Martinez-Rid-**

**die** has been a Fleischmanns resident for the past decade. The seeds of his decision to run for a seat on the village board were planted early in his tenure.

"When I moved to the village full-time 10 years ago, the chance to serve arose quickly. We were recovering from Hurricane Irene and the elected officials who had worked through that period were exhausted.

His first foray into community service was serving as a member of the Fleischmanns Zoning Board of Appeals, which he has done for six years. He also served as an assessor for the Town of Middletown. He is currently on the boards of directors for the Historical Society for the Town of Middletown and the Catskill Recreation Center in Arkville, where he is a member of the Executive Committee.

His career locally includes working for year with the Roxbury Arts Group and managing weddings at the Spillian retreat in Fleischmanns.

"As a village trustee I would look through a fair and balanced lens, with a strong regard for the local residential community and encouragement for the amazing businesses on Main Street and Route 28, as well as new ones to come.

Mr. Martinez-Riddle is originally from Park Slope, Brooklyn. He said while many village residents divide themselves into factions, my unique position helps me to rise above the negativity, and see connections. I love my diverse community, and will fight for positivity at all moments," he commented.

**Stewart Cohen** is seeking another term as Trustee, but did not respond to the candidate survey by press time.

## Middletown Seeks 'Land Swap' To Locate Workforce Housing

**continued from E1** Senator Peter Oberacker and Assemblyman Chris Tague. These letters were received and will be included with about 10 other letters from organizational leaders and local elected officials, with the town's correspondence to the DEP.

The town's letter states, in part, "The lack of affordable housing is a major problem across our country. In the Town of Middletown, buyers and renters are constantly stymied by the shortage of available housing opportunities. Our town board has been exploring avenues to create housing. However, buildable parcels are scarce."

The letter also notes,

"The DEP's parcel is quite flat and would provide an ideal location, with ample space, for a housing development. In exchange, the DEP would be able to protect a parcel adjacent to the East Branch of the Delaware River, a vitally important watercourse that empties directly into the Pepacton Reservoir. Our board feels this would be a very viable project. Furthermore, it's likely that some DEP and CWC staff who work at your Arkville office would benefit from access to this housing."

In discussing this proposal, Middletown officials agreed that the lack of houses and apartments is a huge detriment to the area. It

was pointed out in board discussions that the lack of accommodations presents a huge hurdle for local schools, the hospital, and virtually any business looking to add staff.

In other business at its March meeting, the board unanimously passed Local Law No. 1 of 2023 which authorizes a Real Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers.

Board Member Nelson Delameter, who also serves as the Margaretville Fire Chief,

said the 10 percent tax exemption is viewed as a retention benefit rather than a recruitment tool. He pointed to the dwindling number of volunteers in all fire departments and said the exemption would have a negligible impact on tax revenues.

Mr. Delameter said eligibility requirements for the exemption are still being worked out. He said it's important that the county and every municipality that adopts this law follows the same standards that volunteers need to meet to qualify.

The board also passed a resolution acknowledging the NYS Department of Health for considering input from watershed communities and incorporating those comments into the Revised Filtration Avoidance Determination. The resolution cites the Revised FAD as a "reasonable compromise to assure the continued protection of New York City's water supply while recognizing the needs of watershed communities."

Key among the Revised FAD is the city's agreement to reduce the overall goal of its Land Acquisition Program from 300,000 to 200,000 acres. This decision was based on research conducted by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine in 2020 that studied the watershed program and determined the need to end the core land acquisition program because of its limited benefits on preserving water quality in upstate reservoirs.

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# Here's The Scoop

## A Page-Turner

By Brian Sweeney

A few weeks back I detailed my surprise reaction when it was revealed that a good friend — of a certain age — had recently completed viewing the entire series of *Twilight* movies. My only knowledge of these movies was that they involved vampires. And they were geared towards a “younger” demographic. Apparently, that wasn't the exclusive audience.

In reality, it's good to keep up with what folks in other age brackets are doing. Keeps you youthful. In theory. Towards that end, imagine my surprise when my friend presented me with a gift over the weekend. A copy of the first *Twilight* book!

This present was offered in response to him being featured in that column. Even though he was not mentioned by name, folks in the know recognized who I was writing about, and word quickly spread. As a result of this exposure, his phone was “blowing up” — as they say — when the column was published. I won't get into whether the comments were positive or negative.

### History lesson

Back to the book. This gesture was quite unexpected and appreciated. I wasn't even remotely offended when the gift-giver divulged that he obtained the book at a very reasonable price, given that it was first released 17 years ago. Heck, I usually have to pay people to let me mention them in this space.

Anyhow, as a general rule, I stick to crime novels as my source of reading entertainment. I've read many. A few I even remember. Fiction or non-fiction, doesn't really matter. Once, when I was discussing this pastime, someone asked who was my “favorite” serial killer? That's not a question one often hears. At the risk of gaining some sort of weird reputation, I responded, “I guess it's Captain Crunch. With crunch berries, of course.” I haven't enjoyed it in years, but that was a killer cereal when I was growing up.

### Check it out

Which brings me back to my recent gift. I'm not sure of the *Twilight* plot, but I do know vampires are a big part of the action, so I'm guessing there's some gore involved. Guess I'll have to read the book to find out for sure. Interesting idea.

Now we come to the part I didn't reveal to my friend. I won't be able to get to the book any time soon. If you're a baseball fan, you realize the new season starts in just a few weeks. At that point, my reading is pretty much limited to box scores.

### Safety first

Some (my wife, in particular) would refer to my love of Fantasy Baseball as an obsession. Some (my wife) would be correct. I guess I enjoy the competition without having to worry about a huge injury risk. Sure, I perform my share of forehead slapping when one of my players has a bad night, but I've never gotten to the point where I've suffered a concussion.

As a general rule, “playing” Fantasy Baseball is a much safer activity than actually stepping on the field and risking all sorts of unpleasant ailments.

In all honesty, I have mellowed over the years with my commitment to Fantasy Baseball. I've even tried to set aside some time during the season for reading things other than box scores. Come to think of it, I may be able to check out that *Twilight* book. After all, if it's mostly about vampires, so there must be bats involved. Basically, it sounds like a fantasy story about baseball.

# Accusations Fly At Fleischmanns Forum

continued from E4

role in organizing the highly successful Fleischmanns Street Fair for the past 15 years. Looking ahead, she also indicated her support of bringing the Maxbilt Theatre back to life. Ms. Reuter also addressed her desire to bring business back to the village and through that, increasing the tax base.

Mr. Martinez-Riddle has lived in Fleischmanns for the past decade, relocating from Brooklyn. He formerly served as an assessor for the Town of Middletown and spent more than a year as program manager for the Roxbury Arts Group. He noted the amount of division within the village and feels that listening to residents, business owners is the first step toward unifying Fleischmanns.

### Former mayor

Mr. Pascarella is an 18-year Fleischmanns resident. He previously served as Mayor and Deputy Mayor during the Hurricane Irene flooding that devastated the village. He is currently Executive Director of the Catskill Revitalization Corporation, which owns and maintains the Delaware & Ulster Railroad and the Catskill Scenic Trail.

Explaining his reasons for running, Mr. Pascarella cited his great deal of government and leadership experience. Key among his concerns is the election process. He stated that about one-third of the voter roll from the last election turned out not be legitimate Fleischmanns residents. Mr. Pascarella said he's worried about the effect this will have on trust in future elections and the democratic process.

Mr. Cohen is a current Trustee running to retain his seat. With a civil engineering background, Mr. Cohen said his focus is on infrastructure and sewer projects. He said he has worked with the Department of Transportation on descriptive signage on Route 28 to promote Fleischmanns' attributes such as dining, lodging, and an EV charging station. He feels village residents are passionate about their town and wants to make Fleischmanns a destination.

When Moderator Jon Frank opened the forum to questions from the audience, he made it clear this was

not a debate, but rather a forum for the public to ask specific questions of the candidates.

One of the first questions, and most controversial, concerned the illegal voting as alleged during the last election and the role the Delaware County Sheriff's Department played in investigating this issue.

Ms. Hughes responded that the Sheriff's Department only provides investigation involving research and address verification. Using the information gathered, she said it's up to the Delaware County Board of Elections to determine eligibility. Ms. Hughes stated her feeling that only people listing their primary residence as Fleischmanns should be allowed to vote in village elections.

In a related question, it was asked which candidates in the last election gained the most votes from the large number of absentee ballots that were cast. Mr. Cohen responded that all the candidates received absentee votes.

Mr. Gil stated his opinion that there was no benefit for anyone. After a resident noted that two candidates — Mr. Gil and Mr. Cohen — benefited most from the absentee ballots in last year's election. He was then asked, “Didn't you benefit by getting elected as a Trustee?” Mr. Gil responded that being a Trustee is not a benefit.

### Why run?

In a follow-up question, Mr. Gil was asked if being a Trustee was not a benefit, why was he running? He responded that everybody needs to stop focusing on division and just work on items benefiting the village.

The mayoral candidate was also asked about the large number of “friends” who voted in the last election and listed his property as their address. Mr. Gil responded that they were friends of his from New York City and even though their names are still on the voter rolls, they would not vote this time.

Another audience member stated they feel like some people on the village board act like they own the village government. Mr. Pascarella responded that everybody “owns” the government and everybody has a chance and responsibility to participate.

Another issue of concern was raised when a resident questioned the parking zoning problems in the village stating that the parking is limited and not business friendly.

Mr. Cohen was first to answer by saying the original proposed zoning revision related to parking that was voted down by the board last year was “nonsense.” He went on to claim the revisions proposed were three pages long, and the Trustees reduced it to a half-page and it was passed as modified.

Ms. Hughes countered that she was on the Zoning Revision Committee initiated by Mayor Zubin. She refuted Mr. Cohen's statement by adding that she drafted the zoning parking revision and it was only one page. She added that the proposed revision was summarily rejected as submitted by the Trustees without explanation. Mr. Gil commented that the original proposed revision required more study.

The next question posed was resiliency, and what would the candidates do to prepare the village for the next major weather-related disaster?

Mr. Pascarella emphasized the need to learn from the past. He said rebuilding needs to be implemented with consideration that there will be future disaster events and development needs to be undertaken with that fact in mind.

### Take steps now

He added that the village was lucky in that most of Main Street is situated above the flood plain. The Trustee candidate said it's also important to take timely advantage of funding and other assistance from government agencies after emergency declarations.

Ms. Hughes said it's important to assess the status of the electric grid and shore up any problem areas, paying particular attention to susceptible tree that can get knocked down and lead to power outages.

Mayor Zubin posed a question regarding the candidates' thoughts about enhancing the village.

Ms. Reuter stated that, working with Fleischmanns First, she is no stranger to devoting time to the village. She feels one key issue is getting more and

better signage on Route 28 giving visitors advance notice of Fleischmanns and its attributes.

Mr. Cohen agreed and added that he was currently working with the Department of Transportation to add signage indicating attractions in Fleischmanns such as dining, lodging and EV charging.

Mr. Gil said he would reach out to residents more and work on raising monies for future projects.

Mr. Martinez-Riddle agreed with the others about needed signage and he thinks zoning revisions are an issue. He expressed the opinion that he was not in favor continuing on the re-birth of the Maxbilt Theatre.

In her reply, Ms. Hughes said she would devote time to zoning, parking and seeking grants for infrastructure improvements. Hughes added that closer relationships with non-profits is essential. She expressed support for reviving the Maxbilt Theatre, but conceded solid decisions are needed on how to move the project forward.

Mr. Pascarella said he would support businesses and foster better communication in the village. He said the village needs to form partnerships to move the Maxbilt Theatre forward.

### What's your legacy?

A question was posed to all as to what is one thing you want people to know about you?

Mr. Martinez-Riddle said since he was little, it has been ingrained into his being, to leave each place better than when you found it.

Helping implement community gardens and making the village more attractive are key areas of focus for Ms. Reuter. She also feels the Maxbilt Theatre can become key attraction.

The theatre project is a priority for Ms. Hughes and she would like to be known as part of the board that gets it moving forward.

Mr. Gill is big on youth activities and wants to get a basketball court built.

Mr. Pascarella said his focus is affordable housing and attracting young families to the village.

Voting will be Tuesday, March 21 from noon-9 p.m. at the Skene Library.

## Margaretville Village Races Are Uncontested

MARGARETVILLE — The Annual Election for Officers of the Village of Margaretville will be held March 2 between the hours of 12 noon and 9 p.m. in the village offices located in the Gottfried Building at 773 Main Street.

All candidates are incumbents are running

without opposition. Mayor John Hubbell is seeking another two-year term at the helm of the village.

Sarah Hubbell and Iris Mead are the only candidates who filed petitions for two Trustee seats. The terms are for two years.

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MARGARETVILLE — MTC Cable (MTC) announces broadband speed increases to its most popular residential and business packages effective April 1.

Download speeds will more than double for many of the MTC broadband service packages including the Turbo-100 Package (100 Mbps download / 15 Mbps upload) which will be upgraded to the new Turbo-250 Package (250 Mbps / 20 Mbps) and the Turbo-200 Package will be transitioned to the Turbo-500 Package (500 Mbps / 25 Mbps). Broadband service offerings up to 1-Gbps are also available for residential customers.

### Business boost

Business customers will see speed increases from 100 Mbps / 20 Mbps to 300 Mbps / 25 Mbps and from 200 Mbps / 25 Mbps to 600 Mbps / 30 Mbps respectively.

In addition, dedicated broadband services for business customers requesting symmetrical download / upload speeds up to 10-Gbps are also available.

"Having access to high-capacity, reliable broadband services is

an essential part of our daily lives and for the continued prosperity of our rural communities", said Glen Faulkner, General Manager, Margaretville Telephone Company. "Broadband utilization continues to experience tremendous growth primarily driven by increasing work-from-home opportunities, remote schooling, telemedicine advances, and a variety of new streaming / entertainment services."

### Proactive step

Mr. Faulkner noted "the average household today has over 19 Wi-Fi connected devices all competing for a piece of the broadband pipe in the home. In a proactive step, MTC is increasing broadband speeds to the home in an effort to mitigate any potential congestion issues and ensure the best possible customer experience."

Over the past year, MTC has made significant investments in both its cable television and fiber-optic networks to increase the capacity and network resiliency to stay ahead of the ever-increasing broadband demand. With this new equipment and circuit capac-

ity in place, upgrading the speed offerings to the individual customer represents the next step in this upgrade process. In addition, MTC will soon be introducing new service enhancements for the wireless (Wi-Fi) technology in the home offering greater wireless throughput, automated wireless interference reduction, and security / protection upgrades.

### About the company

The Margaretville Telephone Company was founded in 1916 and is proud to offer a "family of services" to over 9000 customers throughout the Central Catskill region of New York.

Making the transition from offering the legacy telephony services in the past, MTC has expanded services to keep everyone connected with fiber-based high speed internet, cable television, telephone services and a suite of business class services.

MTC is an employee-owned company which fosters a local, community minded approach to business keeping the customers we serve connected to their communities and beyond.

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Stamford NY 12167  
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**EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
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Delhi, NY 13753  
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Sunday Mass, 10 am

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**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MARGARETVILLE – NEW KINGSTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
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5177 County Hwy 6  
New Kingston NY 12459  
Sunday Service 9.30 am.  
Tel: 845-586-4567

**PRATTSVILLE REFORMED CHURCH**  
14630 Main Street, Pratts-ville, NY 12468  
Phone : (607) 326-7101  
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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, March 17

1053 Gallery in Fleischmanns is pleased to present Flora and Fauna, an exhibition of 26 artists who work in and around the Catskills Mountains of New York or who engage the regional biodiversity in their art-making practice. Curated by Ryan Steadman and Haley Mellin, local biodiversity is a focus of this group show. 1053 Gallery is located in the town of Fleischmanns in the Catskill Mountains, an area with a history of environmental recovery and storied forests and watersheds. The exhibition will run from March 17 through May 7, with a public reception on May 7. For information, please call 845 254-3461 or visit: 1053gallery.com

## Saturdays & Sundays, March 18, 19, 25, & 26

New York State producers will participate in Maple Weekends on March 18-19, March 25-26. 10 am to 4 pm each day at most locations. Check your planned destination for any exceptions. Visit: mapleweekend.nysmaple.com

## Friday & Saturday, March 24 and 25

A Special exhibit Farms, Farmers, and Farming: A Tribute to Local Agriculture at Longyear Gallery in Margaretville will run from Friday, March 24-Sunday, April 23. An Opening Reception will be held on Saturday, March 25, from 3-6 p.m. Longyear Gallery is located at 785 Main Street, Margaretville. For information, please call 845 586-3270 or visit: longyeargallery.org. Hours are Friday-Sunday from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

## Through March 19

Longyear Gallery of Margaretville is pleased to announce the opening of "Members' Late Winter Group Exhibit," a new group show featuring the art of all Longyear Gallery Members. The exhibit will run through Sunday, March 19. Information at: longyeargallery.org, or call 845 586-3270. Longyear Gallery located at 785 Main Street, Margaretville.

## Thursdays, March 30-May 4

Writers in the Mountains (WIM) presents Ekphrastic Poetry: A Jump Start from Other Art Forms and Everyday Objects, a six-week long workshop with Sharon Ruetenik, March 30 - May 4. The class will be held online Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. To register, e-mail writersinthemountains@gmail.com. To register online, visit writersinthemountains.org. Class fee is \$125. Registration deadline is March 23. Class limited to ten students.

## Wednesdays, April 19-May 24

Writers in the Mountains (WIM) presents Just Hit Send: Submitting to Literary Journals, a six-week long workshop with Sally Simon, April 19 - May 24, 2023. The class will be held online Wednesday from 4 to 6 pm. To register, e-mail writersinthemountains@gmail.com. To register online, visit writersinthemountains.org. Class fee is \$125. Registration deadline is April 12.



## Green Light

The Halcottsville St. Patrick's Day Parade returned on March 12 after three years off as a result of the pandemic. Participants and spectators welcomed the event — cheering on the marchers and enjoying a pancake breakfast at the firehall.



Naturally, it was a day for wearing green at the Halcottsville St. Paddy's Day Parade. Or, as in the photo at right, pink, too. — Contributed photos



**FARMS, FARMERS, AND FARMING: A Tribute to Local Agriculture Plus Members' Group Show** Friday March 24-Sunday April 23, 2023  
 Gallery Hours: Fri/Sat/Sun & Holiday Mondays 11am-4pm  
 Opening Reception Saturday March 25 from 3-6

"There was a time not so long ago when most people lived on farms. Rain and snow; dirt and seed; birth, death and unceasing labor; the joy and struggle of making a living off the land. These things defined - still define - those who keep the rest of us alive. We celebrate this honorable profession and acknowledge the legacy of farms and farmers, past and present." - Diane Galusha, local historian



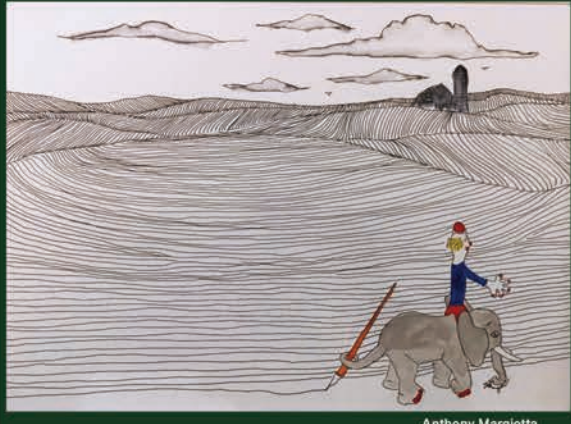
Richard Kirk Mills



Lesley A. Powell



Gail Freund



Anthony Margiotta



Deborah Ruggiero

SCAN FOR CURRENT SHOW



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# POLICE NEWS

**DELHI** — Delaware County Sheriff Craig S. DuMond has announced the arrest of a Margaretville resident.

On Monday evening, February 20, Sheriff's Deputies responded to a harassment report in the Village of Margaretville. During the course of the investigation, the complainant advised that 51-year-old Melissa Hull of Margaretville contacted her via telephone and made threats. The suspect also came to her residence in a confrontational manner and made additional threats. The complainant advised Deputies that she was fearful of Melissa

Hull because of her previous interactions with her.

At the conclusion of the investigation, patrols submitted a criminal summons request through the Town of Middletown Court for the charge of Harassment in the 2nd degree.

The Town of Middletown Court had issued a Criminal Summons for Melissa Hull.

On March 10, Deputies subsequently arrested Melissa Hull for 1 Count of Harassment in the 2nd degree, a violation of the New York State Penal Law. An order of protection was also issued against Melissa Hull ordering her

to stay away from the complainant.

Hull was processed and released on a Criminal Summons and is to appear in the Town of Middletown Court at a later date.

### Suspended license

Sheriff DuMond has announced the arrest of a Blandon, Pennsylvania resident for driving with a suspended license.

On Sunday night, March 12, Sheriff's Deputies conducted a traffic stop on Main Street in the Village of Delhi after observing a vehicle without functioning taillights. The driver of the vehicle was identified as 48-year-old

David Gensler of Blandon, PA. A check of Gensler's license revealed that his driving privileges in the State of New York had been suspended.

Deputies subsequently arrested Gensler and issued him traffic tickets for Aggravated Unlicensed Operator in the Third Degree, an unclassified misdemeanor, as well as Unlicensed Operator and No/Inadequate Tail Lamps, both violations in the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law. Gensler is scheduled to appear before the Town of Delhi Court at a later date to answer the charges.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### FOR RENT

**MAIN STREET OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE** available. Prime turn key location in the Village of Fleischmanns with 640 sq ft., onsite parking, storage, and creekside access. \$900 per month, includes utilities. Please call Village Clerk @ 845-254-5514.

**HOUSE FOR RENT** for able-bodied person who can remove snow from church steps & walks and perform lawn care for church & parsonage, 5 BDRM, KIT, DNG RM,

LVG RM. \$850 per month, first, last & 1 month security deposit, Roxbury Methodist Parsonage, Tom Hinkley, Treasurer 607-435-8837

### HELP WANTED

**HELP WANTED** - Part-time mechanic. Tires and Service. B&D Motors, 885 Main Street, Margaretville 845 586-3253. D9TFC

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

# LEGAL NOTICES

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

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

**PROPOSAL NO. 1-23**  
Rental of Construction Equipment

Proposals shall be submitted on bid forms which are available for inspection and obtainable at the Town Clerk's Office, 42339 State Route 28, Margaretville, NY 12455. Forms can be obtained electronically by e-mailing a request to [middtwn-clerk@catskill.net](mailto:middtwn-clerk@catskill.net). Detailed specifications are contained in said forms.

Proposals must be filed with Patricia Kelly, Town Clerk, 42339 State Highway 28, Margaretville, NY 12455 on or before 10:00 AM, prevailing time, Tuesday, April 11, 2023, in a sealed envelope, plainly marked on the outside at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids may be mailed to Town of Middletown c/o Town Clerk, Po Box 577, Margaretville, NY 12455 and to be received on or before 9:00 a.m., Monday April 10, 2023.

The successful bidder will be promptly notified after the Town Board Meeting held at 6:00 p.m., April 12, 2023 and must be prepared to enter into a contract for said item(s) or services in conformity with the information in the proposal.

The Town of Middletown reserves the right to reject any and all bids submitted.

By Order of the  
Town Board:  
Dated: March 8th, 2023  
John W. Biruk  
Superintendent of  
Highways  
Town of Middletown

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 103 of the General Municipal Law, sealed bids will be received by the Town Board of the Town of Middletown, at the office of the Town Clerk, located at 42339 State Route 28, Margaretville, New York on or before 10:00 a.m., April 11, 2023, at which time they will be opened. Bids may be mailed to the Town Clerk, PO Box 577, Margaretville, NY 12455 and to be received on or before 9:00 a.m., April 10, 2023.

All bids shall be accompanied by a non-collusive

bid form. Envelopes shall be marked with each bid item and bids for each item should be in separate envelopes. The Town Board reserves the right to reject any and all bid items. All bids must meet or exceed bid specifications and be good for 30 days. Any bid specifications may be picked up from the Town Supt. of Highways located at 111 Fair Street, Margaretville, New York.

The Town Board will accept or reject bids on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at their regular Town Board Meeting.

The items that bids are requested for are the following:

1. Price per gal. for No. 2 fuel oil and dyed kerosene for heating fuel oil blend, to be delivered to the Town of Middletown garage and Town Hall on automatic delivery during the months of November 2023 thru April 2024. Delivery shall be made every (2) weeks. Bid shall be open to Fire Districts, Villages, and Public Libraries in the Town of Middletown. These entities shall have (30) days to accept bid after bid award by the Town.

2. Price per gal. for 7000 or more gallons and price per gal. for 7000 or less gallons, for ULSD diesel fuel, kerosene for blend w/diesel, and Winterized fuel with cold flow additives to be delivered to the Town of Middletown garage as requested in our present tank, also specs for diesel fuel should include pour point, additives and mixture used for summer and winter before we receive fuel. Bid shall be open to Fire Districts and Villages in the Town of Middletown. These entities shall have (30) days to accept bid after bid award by the Town.

3. Gasoline unleaded, minimal octane rating 89 to be delivered to the Town of Middletown as requested. Bid shall be open to Fire Districts and Villages in the Town of Middletown. These entities shall have (30) days to accept bid after bid award by the Town.

4. Hauling of materials from Schoharie, Oneonta, Davenport, Prattsville, Gilboa, Ashland, Middleburg, Howes Cave and Bloomville per material size (4a, 4b or 4c) per ton or per yard. Bid shall be open to Villages in the Town of Middletown.

These entities shall have (30) days to accept bid after bid award by the Town.

4a Size - sand to heavy

stone fill

4b Size - 2 to 8 ton stackable wall stone

4c Size - 2 to 8 ton slope stone (rip-rap)

5. Magnesium Chloride. In 50 lb. bags and 2,000 lb. bags with valves, also state delivery price.

6. Grit. All material supplied under this shall meet the specifications included in Section 703 of the NYSDOT spec. Bids shall be by the ton or by the yard. Bids shall be open to Villages in the Town of Middletown. These entities shall have (30) days to accept bid after bid award by the Town. The gradation shall meet the following gradation:

Sieve Size	% Passing by Weight
3/8"	100
#4	80-100
#50	0-15
#200	0-3

Bidders must meet or exceed specifications and must meet all O.S.H.A. and M.S.H.A. safety regulations. Proof of Workmen's Compensation insurance must be provided. Certificate of Liability Insurance of \$1,000,000 with the Town of Middletown named as additionally insured must also be provided.

By Order of the  
Town Board:  
Dated: March 8, 2023  
John W. Biruk  
Supt. of Highways  
Town of Middletown  
MR17C

### MEETING CHANGE

The Margaretville Central School Board of Education Meeting scheduled for March 15, 2023 has been moved to Wednesday, March 22, 2023 At 5 pm due to the inclement weather.

MR17C

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Resumes encouraged but not required.



## BOWLING NEWS

ARK BOWL & BBQ WOMEN'S LEAGUE • Stats for 3/9/23

Team Name	W	L	High Game
Spillian	60	24	Jessica Watson 186,
ROI	49	35	Sue Wixon 180,
Better Late Than Never	47.5	36.5	Amanda Goodchild 177
JK Tinting	47.5	36.5	
JM Lawncare	45	39	<b>High Series</b>
Bye	0	40	Jessica Watson 499,
			Sue Wixon 474,
			Birgitta Brophy 421



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# Getting Out There

By Peter Manning

## Hamlet Hike – Livingston Manor

It's fun to poke around these Catskill hamlets on foot and see any number of historical layers exposed in the landscape. Like a geologist you can date and piece together various strata, establish a rough sequence of events, and then try to put the story in motion to envision how it unfolded. Yet, you'd really have to poke around Livingston Manor to find the trail to Round Top. Chances are you'd be looking for it because someone mentioned it to you, or you happened to see it online.

Although I had hiked this trail with my two sons, somehow four years had elapsed, so finding it the other day was a bit of a refresher course. But once we started hiking up the steep climb behind the Presbyterian Church and into the Orchard Street Cemetery, it all came back to me.

Reaching the trailhead and looking to the right over the cemetery, I reflected upon how these eternal resting places also offer peace and quiet to those who venture into them as part of a walk. And how cemeteries were the places people originally went to in some of the big cities to relax and step into nature. Looking to our left, the short loop trail begins with new-looking sign and a very old set of stone steps that lead directly into the young forest.

After a light ascent, the steeper path on the left goes up past the bone of the ridge to the ledges. Friend Chris and I go right and climb gradually past an assortment of outcrops, then take the extension to the summit of Round Top. Yes, another Round Top. There are at several others across the Catskills, along with Cator Round Top and Cairo Round Top, with the latter above the hamlet of Round Top in Greene County. Seems like a lot. But if we consider all the mountains in the Catskills that could've been named Round Top, we're doing just fine.

Still, beyond just naming these bumps for their shape, the term does seem to be part of a regional vernacular. Perhaps even to the point of being a common name to replace "mountain" or "hill" in certain instances. Can it keep company with other Catskill vocabulary – clove, vly, or binnekill? If you were able to ask Rip Van Winkle for directions back in the day, might he have re-



Finnegan and Asher Manning on the trail in 2018.

plied, "The best huntin' grounds are up past that thar round top."

Dropping down the trail in the wet snow we reach the south facing ledge that overlooks the Manor. From this vantage point, the compact size of the built environment is well defined as it is cradled largely by natural surroundings. This relationship is encapsulated on the welcome sign in the center of the hamlet: Small Town - Big Backyard.

The phrase also efficiently captures much of the town of Rockland's history and sense of place. With Livingston Manor and Roscoe being destinations long renowned for world-class trout fishing, mountain resorts, campgrounds, and miles of hiking trails, the town resides at a key gateway to the Catskill Park – and has about 80 percent of its area inside the blue line. Both Round Top, as a hamlet hike, and the Catskill Park as a regional backyard are part of an unfolding story that can be guided by visions of the future.

In 2019, the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Feasibility Study was completed to help envision how a continuous recreational trail from Summitville to Livingston Manor can be created. Within this span of more than 30 miles, there are currently four sections of trail completed and anchored in hamlets: Parksville (1.3 mi.); Liberty (2.5 mi.); Hurleyville to South Fallsburg (5.4 mi./ 3.5 ADA compliant); and Woodridge to Mountandale (4.4

mi.). These linked hamlets are also known as Trail Towns, a name developed by the Progress Fund, who was part of a 2022 conference hosted by the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance and Sullivan Renaissance to advance the regional vision.

Just as these separate pieces of completed trail strengthen the possibility of fully realizing the vision, the study is quick to point out how adjacent resources, including the trail to Round Top, can complement and be connected to the main datum (needed signage notwithstanding).

Though Trail Towns are often affiliated with rail trails, the term is part of the larger family of similar planning and regional economic development concepts that revolve around reinforcing destinations and nearby resources through common themes and physical linkages, e.g. greenways, water trails, hut-to-hut hiking trails, and inn-to-inn cycling tours.

### Grand plans

The Greater Catskill Region Comprehensive Recreation Plan (2020) envisions and begins to set forth scenarios for creating trail towns across the Catskills by improving connections to the regional hiking trail system. The plan identifies potential trail town networks, including Livingston Manor and Roscoe, and it suggests criteria for the formation of these networks. The plan also promotes the suitability of the "base camp" model for the Catskills, meaning that hikers would complete a loop, returning to the starting hamlet and possibly including other hamlets along the way.

Long-distance routes across the region are also possible, and some overlay trails already traverse the region. With so many trails already established, we are looking at the maps to see how the trails and the hamlets fit into the larger concept of regional connectivity. Much like looking back into the past and trying to figure out what happened in a landscape, envisioning the future calls upon similar interpolation and imagination to see what can be. While plans help us outline the chapters, it's up to us to guide the narrative together and be the story to realize the whole vision.

*Peter Manning is the Executive Director of the Catskill Mountain Club. To learn about CMC events, membership, and projects please visit catskillmountainclub.org.*

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**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

<b>3/17 Fri</b>	6:00PM - Citizen News Bureau - Lori Fairbairn brings you the Weekend Weather report for the Catskill Region. 6:30PM - Fleischmanns Election: Candidate Forum - Candidates for Mayor and Trustee take part in a forum prior to the election on Tuesday, March 21st. Video recording provided by The Reporter in Delhi, NY. 7:00PM - Mostly Folk with Artie Martello - A St. Patrick's Day Special. Artie's guest for this show is Mick Hanly, one of Ireland's singer songwriters and entertainers. He has recorded 11 albums and holds two National Entertainment and two Hot Press of the Year awards. 7:30PM - WARK Community TV Archives - WARK's Christine Cardone visits the All American Old Time Circus on its visit to Arkville. 8:00PM - Music on the Delaware - Tune in for a pre-recorded concert with fiddler Pat Reynolds playing a selection of Irish dance tunes. Now based in Clinton, NY, Pat has been playing fiddle since childhood, first in New York, then in the west of Ireland.
<b>3/18 Sat</b>	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 - Jeff and Moe are still enjoying some warmer weather as their hikes in the Shenandoah National Park. John them as they enjoy a 4-mile round-trip hike that follows the Appalachian Trail from the Panorama Parking Area in the park. 7:00PM - Focus on the Arts - Elizabeth Mami talks with Mary Ann Glass. Mary Ann brings an elegance and spiritual quality to all she creates. Using various mediums, she enhances and manipulates her work into something profound. She is Co-Curator at Gallery 40 in Poughkeepsie. 7:30PM - Solid Waste Management Center and Compost Facility - Jezz Harkin talks with Tyson Robb about the compost facility. 8:00PM - CabaRadio - Tune in to see the most recent performance as recorded at the Pine Hill Community Center. Guests include: Lee Jackson, Margaret DiBenedetto, Bruce Balmer and Dave Holden.
<b>3/19 Sun</b>	6:00PM - Grocholl Homestead - In this episode, Ashton shares her tips on crocheting and shares how to start your seeds for your garden. 6:30PM - Fleischmanns Election: Candidates for Mayor and Trustee take part in a forum prior to the election on Tuesday, March 21st. 7:00PM - WARK Community TV Archives - The Dictionary Game. Michael Finberg hosts two teams of four as they try to stump each other with "trick definitions". One of the four definitions is correct. Tune in for the fun! 7:30PM - The Sonny Rock Show - Join Sonny as he visits with Sean Doolan, a magician from Magic on Main in Windham. 8:00PM - The Catskill Center - Jezz Harkin talks with Jeff Senterman, Executive Director, about the Center and funding from New York State. 8:30PM - Mountain Athletic Club - The 2023 season for vintage baseball is coming soon to Delaware County. Members of the Mountain Athletic club talk about Vintage Baseball and give an overview of this nostalgic sport in the local area.
<b>3/20 Mon</b>	6:00PM - Weekly Weather Forecast - Lori Fairbairn brings you the Weekly forecast for the Catskill Region. 6:30PM - Fleischmanns Election: Candidate Forum - Candidates for Mayor and Trustee take part in a forum prior to the election on Tuesday, March 21st. Video recording provided by The Reporter in Delhi, NY. 7:00PM - Mostly Folk with Artie Martello - A St. Patrick's Day Special. Artie's guest for this show is Mick Hanly, one of Ireland's singer songwriters and entertainers. He has recorded 11 albums and holds two National Entertainment and two Hot Press of the Year awards. 7:30PM - Downstaters - Jess & Beth learn that if you want to take out the trash you've got to play by the rules. 8:00PM - The Lived Experience of SUD/Addiction A panel of community members who have experienced addiction and are now living in recovery, share their stories at the 2022 Catskills Addiction Coalition Community Action Summit, April 8, 2022.
<b>3/21 Tue</b>	6:00PM - Delaware County News Update - Julia Marks and Matt Avitabile bring you the latest news from the Delaware County Region. 6:30PM - WARK Community TV Archives - The Dictionary Game. Michael Finberg hosts two teams of four as they try to stump each other. 7:00PM - The Hiker Trash Husbands - Jeff and Moe are still enjoying some warmer weather as their hikes in the Shenandoah National Park. 7:30PM - Focus on the Arts - Elizabeth Mami talks with Jenny Rosenzweig, Executive Director of the Roxbury Arts Group about the upcoming events at the Headwaters Arts Center in Stamford, NY. Particularly the latest exhibit "The Bold and the Beautiful". 8:00PM - Chamber Connects - Ray Pucci talks with NYS Cannabis Control Board member Jen Metzger about the work accomplished by the Office of Cannabis Management and the timeline for future action. 8:30PM - Harm Reduction: The Foundation of Building Recovery-Friendly Communities.
<b>3/22 Wed</b>	6:00PM - Grocholl Homestead - In this episode, Ashton shares her tips on crocheting, and shares how to start your seeds for your garden. 6:30PM - Focus on the Arts - Elizabeth Mami talks with Lindsay Comstock, current curator of 1053 Gallery on main in Fleischmanns. 7:00PM - WARK Community Television Archives - WARK's Christine Cardone visits the All American Old Time Circus on its visit to Arkville. 7:30PM - Solid Waste Management Center and Compost Facility - Jezz Harkin talks with Tyson Robb, Solid Waste Coordinator, about the compost facility. 8:00PM - Mountain Athletic Club - The 2023 season for vintage baseball is coming soon to Delaware County. Members of the Mountain Athletic club talk about Vintage Baseball and give an overview of this nostalgic sport in the local area. 8:30PM - The Sonny Rock Show - Join Sonny as he visits with Sean Doolan, a magician from Magic on Main in Windham.
<b>3/23 Thu</b>	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's guest is Bill Scorzarì, who has transformed his life from being a New York Trial Attorney to full-time musician. 7:00PM - Downstaters - Jess & Beth learn that if you want to take out the trash you've got to play by the rules. 7:30PM - The Catskill Center - Jezz Harkin talks with Jeff Senterman, Executive Director, about the Center and funding from New York State. 8:00PM - CabaRadio - Tune in to see the most recent performance as recorded at the Pine Hill Community Center. Guests include: Lee Jackson (Musician and Poet), Margaret DiBenedetto (Author), Bruce Balmer (Musician) and Dave Holden (New York State DEC Licensed Hiking Guide).

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# The Cobleskill Herald

Serving Cobleskill, Sharon, Esperance, and beyond • A Section of the *Mountain Eagle*

Volume 8, No. 11

cobleskillherald@gmail.com

FRIDAY, March 17, 2023

518-763-6854

\$1.00

## Huge Success for Sharon Springs Fire Dept. Fundraiser

**By Alexis Pencar**  
SHARON SPRINGS - The Sharon Springs Fire Department hosted their 29th Steak Dinner Fundraiser at the Firehouse on Beechwood Road in Sharon Springs on Saturday, March 11th at 4:00 pm. With 500 tickets pre-sold at \$35 a person, and some

still buying at the door, the Sharon Springs Firehouse was loaded with friends and family from all around to support an outstanding cause! While waiting for tables, it was hard to pass by a chance in the 50/50 raffle! Two youths from the Ames Fire Department really

helped to drum up raffle ticket sales. Overall the raffle raised an additional \$260! Once called, diners were brought to their table for a delicious steak dinner complete with sides, drinks, and a whole table of desserts to choose from too! The steaks were all

cooked over the Firehouse Fire Pit behind the Sharon Springs Fire Department. Christopher Tague, 102nd District Assemblyman, his Wife, and Son, all enjoyed dinner and a friendly atmosphere. Assemblyman Tague is a strong benefactor to the community and its endeavors.

There were other local Fire Departments supporting their neighbors like Ames, Fort Plain, and more! The event was made possible with help from so many in the community, especially the Sharon Springs Rescue Squad! Organizers of the event said, "it was a fantastic

evening and as always we are blown away by the community support". This was the 29th running of the event after a 3-year gap post-2020. The evening was more than well received with the community truly grateful for the gathering!  
*More on Page F3.*



*Happily posing in the Sharon Springs Fire Engine before enjoying a delicious dinner!*



*This Fire Engine is for all ages! Future female Firefighters in the making!*



*Kids from the Ames Volunteer Fire Department did a great job selling raffle tickets before dinner!*

### 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.

#### Schoharie - Board of Supervisors Meeting

The Schoharie County Board of Supervisors will be holding its monthly meeting today - Friday, March 17th - at 9:00 AM. Meetings are also available for viewing afterwards on the SCHOPEG website.

#### Richmondville - Village Board Meeting

The Richmondville Village Board of Trustees will be holding its monthly meeting on Monday, March 20th at 6:00 PM at the Municipal Building on Main Street.

#### Cobleskill - Board of Education Meeting

The Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School Board of Education will be meeting on Monday, March 20th at 7:00 PM at the Golding Middle School Library. Meetings are also available for viewing afterwards on the SCHOPEG website.

#### Cobleskill - Village Board Meeting

The Cobleskill Village Board of Trustees will be meeting on Tuesday, March 21st 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 PM., SCCASA hosts Family Recovery Support Group Meetings facilitated by Maggie Jackman Pryor, a Family Support Navigator, and Tom Moran, a Peer Engagement Specialist and Recovery Coach at 349 Mineral Springs Road.

#### CRCS Board of Education Petitions Available

Nominating petition forms for residents interested in running for a seat on the Cobleskill-Richmondville Board of Education will be available at the District Office beginning on Monday, March 6th. The District Office is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Petitions with the signatures of at least 25 qualified voters must be received by the District Clerk by 5:00 PM on Monday, April 17th.

#### OFA and The Gathering Place Offer Grab & Go Meals

Healthy and nutritious meals are now available to anyone aged 60 and above, daily (M-F) at The Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center, 127 Kenyon Rd., Cobleskill. Each person may make a suggested \$4 voluntary contribution for a meal. Individuals must order meals 24 hours in advance by calling the Office for the Aging (OFA) at 518-295-2001. Meals will be available daily beginning at 11 A.M. One can take meals home to eat or stay at the Center and enjoy them with company. Monthly meal menus are available at The Center's front desk or by contacting OFA.



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## COFFEE IN COBY War in Europe XLVII

By Timothy Knight

We have been covering the Russo-Ukrainian War in this weekly, rural newspaper column ever since Putin's forces poured over the Ukrainian border last February. However, we must remember that this conflict has its roots in another Moscow sanctioned invasion that took place nearly fifteen years ago in the tiny South Caucasus nation of Georgia.

Justifying its invasion as a "peace enforcement" operation that sought to liberate Russian-aligned separatist republics from Georgian "genocide," Moscow's playbook sounds similar to the language they evoked six years later when seizing Crimea in 2014, and again when occupying large swathes of Ukraine last year with extra accusations of Nazism.

Unlike this conflict, where the United States and our European partners have fully supported Ukraine with armaments, our Georgian friends received little beyond empty slogans. Not only did this embolden Russia's actions towards its former Soviet Republics, but it fostered a deeply divided Georgia that is now caught between Moscow and Europe.

This division became apparent last week, when Russian-aligned lawmakers in Tbilisi attempted to pass a so-called "foreign agents" law, which would have labeled Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and media outlets that received funding from abroad as "foreign agents."



Georgian protesters took to the streets in Tbilisi, where they opposed a Russian-influenced law that would have further eroded the small country's political freedom and sovereignty

In response to this measure, which was adopted in Moscow several years ago and has been used to censor free speech and crackdown on political dissidents, tens of thousands of Georgians took to the streets in protest. Overwhelming public opposition, including Georgian President Salome Zurbishvili, forced the parliament to withdraw the law.

Although Georgians were able to resist Moscow's political influence this time, the question unfortunately becomes: when will Russia fabricate another excuse to invade the remainder of this tiny, ill-prepared South Caucasus nation from their bases in South Ossetia and Abkhazia?

I hate to think in these terms, but that is the crux of the situation with the Russian despot Vladimir Putin: ceding one inch to Moscow guarantees they will eventually return for the full mile. That is why there is no

room for half-measures in Ukraine, as only complete victory now will ensure that nation's continued sovereignty and existence tomorrow and after.

Furthermore, we have a responsibility to support Georgia. With a political situation that is likely to remain volatile in the coming years, both the public opposition and anti-Russian leadership need our political and economic support in Tbilisi to continue resisting Putin's influence. We must learn from our past mistakes of permitting Russian aggression.

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.

## Join Sharon Historical Society Presentation on Eleanor Roosevelt

We're hosting a new event, and we'd love to see you there. Join us for "Eleanor Roosevelt - First Lady and Humanitarian", on March 27 at 7:00 PM.

Anna Eleanor Roosevelt was the longest-serving First Lady throughout her husband President Franklin D. Roosevelt's four terms in office (1933-1945). She was an American politician, diplomat, and activist who later served as a United Nations spokeswoman.

Eleanor was born into a prominent New York family on October 11, 1884, and attended a distinguished school in England, where she gained self-confidence. She married her distant cousin, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, in 1905, and they had six children together. Over the years, Eleanor became a trusted and tireless political helpmate to her husband. She gained a knowledge of Washington and its ways while

he served as Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

When Franklin fell ill with polio in 1921, she tended to him devotedly and became active in the women's division of the State Democratic Committee. From that point on, she dedicated her life to his political purposes, becoming his eyes and ears and an essential reporter.

When Eleanor became the First Lady of the United States in 1933, she transformed the role of the First Lady. She held press conferences, traveled nationwide, gave lectures and radio broadcasts, and expressed her opinions candidly in a daily syndicated newspaper column. Her tireless work ethic and understanding of social conditions made her an exceptional First Lady.

After Franklin's death in 1945, Eleanor continued her political career as America's first delegate to the newly created United Nations. She became the chair of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights and worked to prevent future world wars while spearheading the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The General Assembly adopted it on Dec. 10, 1948, and its statement that "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights" is still considered a foundation of international human rights law. Eleanor continued her vigorous career until her strength began to wane in 1962. She died in New York City that November and was buried at Hyde Park husband. Her work as First Lady was noteworthy. Even so, after her tenure in the White House, she left behind an even bigger legacy.

Register soon because space is limited. Register at: <https://bit.ly/3FkSElm>

We hope you're able to join us!

## Richmondville Man Arrested After Domestic Dispute

RICHMONDVILLE - On March 8, 2023, State Police of Cobleskill arrested Benjamin R. Palmateer Jr., 35, of Richmondville, for:

- Criminal Obstruction of Breathing
- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Fifth Degree
- Criminal Mischief in the Third Degree
- Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Seventh Degree
- Criminal Mischief in the Fourth Degree
- Menacing in the Second Degree
- Assault in the Third Degree

Palmateer Jr. was located at about 8:17 p.m. in Cobleskill, and was arrested for the domestic dispute. While being taken into custody, he was found to possess controlled substances, including Cocaine.

Palmateer Jr. was transported to SP Cobleskill for processing. He was arraigned at the Cobleskill Town Court and remanded to the Schoharie County Correctional Facility in lieu of \$1,000 cash, \$3,000 bond, or \$6,000 partially secured bond.

## SUNY Cobleskill Fighting Tiger Weekly Recap

The SUNY Cobleskill men's lacrosse team took to the road on Saturday traveling to Quincy, Mass to defeat the Lions of Eastern Nazarene University by a 23-7 in non-conference action to run their season record to 2-0 on the year. The Fighting Tigers were led by senior midfielder Jake Giess, Victor, N.Y., Victor High School/Finger Lakes Community College, who had four goals and two assists in the victory.

The Fighting Tiger softball team opened the 2023 season by splitting a pair of games at the 33rd Annual Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic in Naples, Fla by posting a 10-4 win over the Pio-

neers of Alfred State College then dropping a 12-4 decision to the Bears of St. Joseph's University of Brooklyn at North Collier Regional Park to open the year at 1-1 overall. Senior pitcher Marissa Wheeler, Kinderhook, N.Y., Ichabod Crane High School, recorded the win over Alfred State allowing four earned runs on seven hits while striking out 14 hitters in the contest.

The Fighting Tiger hunt season equestrian closed the 2022-23 Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) regular season with a team total of 214 points to place second overall among the 10 programs competing in the association's Region 3 Zone

2 ranks to earn the association's IHSA Region 3 Zone 2 Reserve Champion team honors.

UPCOMING HOME CONTESTS:

Baseball vs. Castleton University 4/2, SUNY Polytechnic 4/7, SUNY New Paltz 4/12

Softball vs. Russell Sage 3/25, SUNY Potsdam 4/1, St. Lawrence University 4/2

Men's Lacrosse vs. SUNY Delhi 3/25, Thomas College 4/14, NVU-Lyndon 4/16

**Family Support Services**  
Did you know that Schoharie County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (SCCASA) offers free family support services and has a Family Support Navigator on staff. We are here to help you and your family members navigate the complexities of being and loving someone with a substance use disorder. Contact Chrystal Bushnell @ [sccasa518.org](http://sccasa518.org) or join her at SCCASA's new location 597 E Main St in Cobleskill every Thursday from 9 till 4.

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# More Pictures from the Fire Department Fundraiser



Members of the Sharon Springs Fire Department cooking steaks over the Firehouse Fire Pit (3/11).



Above: Assemblyman Christopher Tague with Retired Schoharie County Sheriff Tony Desmond at the Sharon Springs Fire Department Steak Dinner (3/11).

Left: Sharon Springs Fire Department Chief David Cunningham and Rescue Squad First Lieutenant Alison Myers pleased with a successful event!



## Tree & Small Fruit Pruning at CCE

Cornell Cooperative Extension Schoharie and Otsego Counties (CCE) will host a Tree & Small Fruit Pruning workshop on Saturday, March 25, 2023, from 10 a.m. to noon. Join Laura McDermott, Fruit Specialist from the Eastern New York Commercial Horticulture Program, for this popular program. Ms. McDermott leads small fruit outreach

efforts, serves as a liaison with grower organizations, and regularly participates in applied research and demonstration activities.

The workshop will be held at Middlefield Orchards, 2274 NY-166, in the Town of Middlefield. The fee is \$10 per person, payable at the door. Registration is required and will be accepted through Thursday, March 23, on-

line at <http://cceschoharie-otsego.org/events/>

In lieu of adverse conditions only, there will be an online presentation at no charge. Be sure to check the CCE website for workshop confirmation and weather-related updates. Appropriate late winter, early spring dress and footwear are recommended; personal pruning tools are welcome.

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# CRCS Wows



Above left: The cast of this wonderful performance. They were a delight to watch.  
Above right: Getting all the relatives together. Including the dead ones.



Morticia wants to play "The game", but Wednesday isn't very keen on the idea.



Uncle fester played by Thomas McCormack, enlighten the dead relatives they must help in getting Wednesday Addams and her boyfriend to fall in love or they won't be able to return to their graves.



Above: Nicolas Plunkett as Gomez Addams, was just amazing with all his energy, and comedy. Truly a showman and a thrill to watch. Photos by Robert Duso  
Above: Gomez and Morticia Addams look on with wonderment, "One normal night".

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## Police Blotter



Friday, March 10, 2023

At 2:33 PM, Cobleskill Police arrested Hector Martinez, 24, of Cobleskill, N.Y. for two counts of aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the second degree and two other vehicle and traffic law violations. He was issued traffic tickets to appear in Cobleskill Town Court on 04/18/2023 at 2:00 PM.

# With the Addams Family



Above left and center: Wednesday Addams played by Elizabeth Eckel singing "One normal night".



Morticia Addams played by Anneliese Klein tending her roses as Gomez and Lurch swordfight.



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YOUR LOCAL HAPPENINGS FOR SHARON SPRINGS

# Sharon Things

**By Alexis Pencar**  
Hey Neighbors!

Looks like we survived the "Snowpocalypse" with the Village getting over 2 feet of snow! Snow crews did an excellent job, as always, making sure transport was safe for all.

Check out the huge Snow Sculpture of a Dragon on Main Street just below the Library this week before it's gone! This huge piece was put on by World Renowned Ice Sculptor, Private Chef, & my Husband Aaron Pencar! Make sure you drive up the hill to see the sculpture properly!

Aaron placed 2nd at the Ice Art World Championships in Fairbanks, Alaska with his 4-man Team for the United States in 2017 and has been traveling for large ice projects nationwide ever since. Even though this snow sculpture isn't ice, Aaron still loves putting up art for his community and having a good time with his family!

**Sharon Springs Rescue Squad**

The Sharon Springs Rescue Squad is a cornerstone of our community! With many active members, they are always looking for new volunteers for Drivers, First Responders, Social Members, and EMT's. SSRS will fund any training that is needed. SSRS meets the first Monday of the month at 7 pm and would be happy to answer any questions with how you can support your community.

**The American Legion**

The American Legion Post 1269 of Sharon Springs is looking for new members! If you are interested in becoming an American Legion member, volunteering, or even donating to the many wonderful causes the Legion supports, please contact Commander Paul Todd at (518) 649-0024 for more information.

**Sharon Springs Free Library**

Three years ago on this date, we brought in the "Open" flag and closed the library doors, uncertain when we would be able to open them again. With precautions and modified service, we were back in business by late June, one of the first libraries in the system to reopen. We acknowledge the date and the terrible losses people suffered in the pandemic, and we appreciate your loyal patronage through it.

It's Women's History Month and we have two displays of books by or about women. Historically, women are still underrepresented at the highest levels of busi-

ness, government, universities and healthcare institutions. But there have been some pioneers, and they continue to strive to progress in all of these areas. In 2021, a record number of women led Fortune 500 companies (41 women out of 500 CEOs). More women than ever before are serving in the 117th United States Congress (Just under 27% of Congress is female). Globally, 10 countries have a woman Head of State and 13 countries have a woman Head of Government.

Friday, March 17th , Book discussion at 6:00 pm. "The Nature of Fragile Things," is the story of an Irish immigrant woman. History, intrigue and plot twists make this a good read.

Sunday, March 26th we are having a Free Reiki event in the Community Room from 2 - 3 pm. All are welcome to come learn about Reiki and have a free sample treatment. Reiki (pronounced Ray-key) is a Japanese technique that promotes healing, relaxation, stress reduction and self-improvement.

Cindy Howell, local Reiki Master/Teacher and Practitioner will be there with several of her students to speak on this modality.

Monday, March 27th , local author Chris Kefer will offer a class "What's It Like to Write a Book," (2:00 - 3:30) in our community room. You can sign up through the Schoharie County Home of Ongoing Learning (S.C.H.O.O.L.) at cobyschool.com.

It's time to bring in all your good-condition discard books any time we are open. Our Annual Great Book Giveaway is scheduled for Saturday, April 1 from 10 to 4. Bring bags or boxes and take home as many free books as you can carry out.

As of April 1st , our winter hours are over, and we return to our regular hours, Monday and Thursday 10 - 6, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 3 - 8, Saturday 10 - 1

Children's Reading Group is on Thursday mornings from 10-11 AM and includes story time, crafts, and a snack for preschool and home-school children ages preschool to third grade.

For more Library information please contact (518) 284-3126.

**Worship Services**

The Sharon Reformed Church (6858 State Route 10, Sharon Springs, NY 13459) offers weekly service at 10:30 am. Contact at (518) 234-2387 for more details.

The Sharon Springs United Methodist Church

(511 State Route 20, Sharon Springs, NY, 13459) offers weekly service at 10:30 am. Contact at (518) 284-2200 for more details.

The St. Thomas The Apostle Catholic Church (24 Maple Avenue, Cherry Valley, NY 13320) offers weekly mass at 10:00 am. Reminder: confession is available 30 minutes before every mass. Contact at (607) 264-3779 for more details.

The Zion St. John's Lutheran Church Seward (114 Mesick Ave, Cobleskill, NY 12043) of-

fers weekly service on Sundays at 9:00 am. Contact at (518) 234-3222 for more details.

Cornerstone Baptist Church (7274 Route 10, Ames, NY 13317). Sunday Service is at 10:00 am. All are welcome. Contact (518) 673 3405 for more details.

**Food Pantry**

The Sharon Springs Food Pantry is an excellent local resource for all! They are located in the United Methodist Church on Route 20, across from the school (511 US Route 20,

Sharon's Springs, NY 13459).

They are always accepting donations! If you or someone you know is in need of the Pantry, the hours are Thursday 9:00 am -10:30 am and 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm.

**Senior Congregate Meal Site**

Local residents are invited to enjoy socialization and a noon-time meal at Schoharie County Office for the Aging congregate meal site in Sharon Springs (Mon., Wed. & Fri., Firehouse, Beechwood Rd.). Re-

serve a meal by calling OFA at 518-295-2001 by 1 pm on the day before you want to go. A suggested donation of \$4 is accepted from those 60 years old and older. Under age 60? You're welcome to participate and will be charged \$5.

To share community news, upcoming events, business specials, adjusted hours, birthdays, anniversaries, or even an outstanding resident, please reach out to: (772) 971-1410 or alexis.pencar@gmail.com.

## Schoharie County Young Republican Chair Honored

BINGHAMTON – This past weekend, the Association of New York State Young Republican Clubs (NYSYR) held its sixth Rising Stars Reception as part of its 2023 Winter Conference in Binghamton, NY. The annual awards dinner recognizes Young Republicans from around the state for their efforts to support the NYSYR's mission, as well as the Republican Party and its candidates, during the previous election year. This year, the NYSYR recognized 46 Young Republicans with the award, making it the largest class ever since its inception in 2018.

This includes the chair of the Schoharie County Young Republicans Justin Davis.

Justin Davis is a native of Richmondville and graduated from Cobleskill-Richmondville High School in 2016. Justin has served as the Vice Chairman of the Schoharie County Young Republicans since 2022.

Justin is the proud grandson of the former 20-year mayor of the Village of Richmondville, and of a U.S. Army Korean War Veteran. Their dedication to public service and sacrifice to the nation has continued to inspire Justin to serve and give back to the country and his community. Portions of Justin's ancestors arrived in the New York area from Holland in 1664 and have since called upstate New York their home for over 350 years.

Justin graduated from Clarkson University in 2020 with a bachelor of science in Civil and Environmental Engineering. While in college, he earned an Army ROTC scholarship and was commissioned into the New York Army National Guard as an engineer officer.

Most recently Justin served on an overseas deployment training exercise in Romania with NATO Allies in support of Operation Resolute Castle.

His military education includes the Engineer Basic Officer Leadership Course, the Israeli De-

fense Forces Engineer Search, and Extraction Course, the U.S Army Engineer School's Environmental and Energy Officer Course, and the 10th Mountain Division's Air Assault Course. His awards include the Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, Air Assault Badge, the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge (Gold), the Steel Order of the De Fleury Medal and the

New York State Adjutant General's Award.

After graduating from Clarkson, Justin began work at Lancaster Development Inc. / L&T Construction based in Richmondville. His current role as a Project Engineer has him assigned to numerous multi-million dollar construction and infrastructure projects across the State of New York focused on bridges, roads, highways, landfills, and culverts. Prior to his full-time employment at Lancaster, Justin was an engineer intern with the New York Power Author-

ity's Blenheim-Gilboa Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Power Project and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville Kentucky District.

In his free time, Justin is an avid community member and outdoorsman. Justin is an Adirondack 46er, Vice President of the Richmondville Volunteer Fire Department, Village of Richmondville Youth Committee member, Director of the Richmondville Soccer Program, and coaches boys volleyball and soccer in his local school district.

## SUNY Splits Baseball with Wisconsin

AUBURNDALE, FLORIDA - The SUNY Cobleskill baseball team continued their spring trip by split a pair of games at the 2023 Russ Matt Invitational with the Yellowjackets of the University of Wisconsin-Superior losing the opener to the Yellowjackets 8-6 in eight innings then taking the second game by a 7-3 margin in games played at Lake Myrtle Sports Park. With the split the Fighting Tigers move to 2-5 overall on the year while the Yellowjackets are currently 4-2 overall.

The Fighting Tigers found themselves trailing in the opener in the bottom of the seventh by a 6-5 tally when freshman right fielder Logan Firment, Andes, South Kor-

tright High School, went deep to tie the contest at 6-6 and force the game into extra innings.

However, Cobleskill could not hold the Yellowjackets in check as Superior scored twice in the top of the eighth to decide the issue.

Fighting Tiger starting junior pitcher Andrew Jarkow, Glen Head, North Shore High School, was the victim of several defensive miscues allowing six runs in 5.1 inning of work of which only two were earned as the Cobleskill junior struck out six and walked only two to take a no decision.

Offensively Logan Firment finished the game going 2-for-4 with the homer and a pair of runs scored and jun-

ior second baseman David Flora, Windsor, N.Y., Windsor High School/Herkimer Community College, went 1-for-3 with a home run for Cobleskill.

In the nightcap, second baseman David Flora struck the big blow, a three-run homer, as part of a four run second inning which staked the Fighting Tigers to a 5-3 lead from which they never looked back.

Flora finished the day going 2-for-4 with a double, a home run, three RBI and two runs scored while sophomore catcher Dylan Pohl, East Meadow, went 2-for-4 with an RBI in the contest.

Sophomore right hander Shane Ladden, West Babylon, West Babylon High School, notched the win by hurling 3.2 innings of scoreless relief for Cobleskill.

The Fighting Tigers will return to action at the Russ Matt Invitational on Thursday March 16 when they travel to Davenport, Fla to face the Blue Knights of Mount Saint Mary's College in doubleheader action at Northeast Regional Park beginning at 9:00 a.m.

## Stefanik Co-Sponsors Dairy Pride Act

Congresswoman Elise Stefanik cosponsored the Dairy Pride Act of 2023 (H.R. 1462) to prohibit milk alternatives or plant-based products from being marketed or misbranded using terms commonly associated with dairy products.

Following recently released draft guidance from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that allows plant-based products the freedom to use dairy terms despite having none of the nutritional value of milk products, not coming from an animal, nor containing milk as a primary ingredient, the DAIRY PRIDE Act would require the FDA to take enforcement action against manufacturers labeling dairy imitators as milk.

"Our dairy farmers in Upstate New York and the North Country work hard to produce nutritious milk for our communities, and falsely labelling vegan juice as milk is a slap in the face to their hard work," Stefanik said. "I'm proud to support the integrity of real dairy products by

holding the FDA accountable to making sure dairy imitators are not falsely labelled as milk. This will ensure our dairy industry remains strong, and that consumers know the truth about the nutritional value of the products they buy."

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# State Seeks Input From Older Adults in First-Ever Comprehensive Survey

**By Jennifer Patterson**  
New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA) is asking people age 60 and older to answer questions on a newly launched statewide Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults.

NYSOFA is conducting the survey in partnership with the Association of Aging in New York and the research firm Polco, an online civic engagement platform. It is the first survey of its kind to be conducted in New York State.

“Older adults are important to their families, communities, and the state’s economy,” said Greg Olsen, director of NYSOFA. “Our goal is to help them age successfully and...we need older adults to provide us with feedback as we build on New York’s promise as

the first age-friendly state in the nation.”

Initial feedback had previously been collected through a randomly selected sample of residents who received a printed survey by mail from NYSOFA. In this second phase, all community members age 60 and older are encouraged to share their input by completing the survey online, at <https://polco.us/n/res/vote/state-of-new-york/community-assessment-survey>.

The survey covers the following areas: overall community quality, community and belonging, community information, productive activities, health and wellness, and community design and land use. It is anonymous and takes about 10 to 15 minutes to complete.

The survey, which closes



March 30, will inform the priorities of NYSOFA as it prepares its four-year plan for submission to the federal government. The plan guides service delivery and policy de-

velopment for aging services that support New York’s 4.6 million older adults.

The state is also developing a comprehensive Master Plan for Aging,

designed to ensure that older adults and people of all ages can live healthy, fulfilling lives while aging with independence and dignity.

While NYSOFA’s Com-

munity Assessment Survey for Older Adults is a separate initiative, its results may also provide further information to support the goals of the Master Plan for Aging.

“Data is imperative in the creation and implementation of policy and funding needs of older New Yorkers,” said Becky Preve, executive director of the Association of Aging in New York. “This survey provides an opportunity for federal, state and local governments to hear directly from residents on current and future needs to support the older population. We strongly encourage participation in this free, anonymous survey, as the results will be paramount in planning for the future.”

For information, go to <https://aging.ny.gov>.

## From the Desk of District Attorney Mallery

Kenneth Meyers, 28, was convicted of Criminal Mischief 4th and Resisting Arrest. Mr. Meyers on March 7, 2023 and was sentenced by the Cobleskill Court to 364 days in jail on each charge, fines of \$50.00 on each offense and a surcharge of \$205.00. Mr. Meyers was ordered to pay restitution of \$544.87 and the mandatory surcharge of 5%. Officer Rippel of the Cobleskill Village Police was the arresting officer.

Kenneth Meyers, 28, was convicted of Criminal Contempt 2d on March 7, 2023 and was sentenced by the Town of Cobleskill Court to 364 days in jail, concurrent with his other Cobleskill

charges, a two year order of protection, a \$50.00 fine and a \$205.00 surcharge. Officer Rippel of the Cobleskill Village Police was the arresting officer.

Kenneth Meyers, 28, was convicted of Fleeing an Officer in a Motor Vehicle 3d, Criminal Mischief in the 4th degree and Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 3d degree on March 7, 2023. The Town of Cobleskill Court sentenced Mr. Meyers to 364 days in jail, concurrent with his other Cobleskill charges, fines totaling \$300.00 and surcharges totaling \$298.00, DNA and DNA surcharge of \$50.00.

SUNY Officer Taylor was the arresting officer.

Kenneth Meyers, 28, was convicted of Aggravated Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 3d degree on March 8, 2023 and was sentenced by the Town of Richmondville Court to a one year conditional discharge, a \$200.00 fine and a \$93.00 surcharge. Mr. Meyers was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$168.00 and pay the 5% surcharge. Deputy McLaughlin of the Schoharie County Sheriff Department was the arresting officer.

Michael Alamo-Benitez, 22, was convicted of three counts of Petit Larceny and

one count of Criminal Possession of Stolen Property on March 7, 2023 and was sentenced by the Cobleskill Court to two separate terms of 3 years probation and 1 year conditional discharge; fines; restitution, DNA and DNA surcharges of \$50.00. Officer Raynor of the Cobleskill Village Police was the arresting officer.

Amanda Sword, 36, was convicted of Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 3d degree on March 8, 2023 and was sentenced by the Town of Richmondville Court to a one year conditional discharge, a \$200.00 fine and a \$93.00 surcharge. Deputy Kopacz of the Schoharie

County Sheriff Department was the arresting officer.

Shaquinn A. Strong, 34, was convicted of Bail Jumping in the 3d degree on March 7, 2023 and sentenced by the Cobleskill Court to time served, conditional discharge, \$300.00 fine and a \$205.00 surcharge, DNA and \$50.00 DNA surcharge. Trooper Kristel of the New York State Police was the arresting officer.

Robert L. Stevens, 43, was convicted on March 7, 2023 on three Counts of Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle in the 3d degree, an unclassified misdemeanor for charges stemming from

three separate dates. Mr. Stevens was sentenced by the Town of Cobleskill Court to fines of \$700.00 and surcharges of \$372.00 and three separate conditional discharges. Officer Rippel and Officer Haqq were the arresting officers.

Michael Meyers, 21, was convicted on February 28, 2023 of Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle, in the 3d degree, an unclassified misdemeanor, and was sentenced by the Cobleskill Court to 20 days in jail, and a mandatory surcharge of \$93.00. Officer Rippel of the Cobleskill Police was the arresting officer.



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# The Cowboy's Taqueria An Authentic New Spot

**By Alexis Pencar**

**COBLESKILL** - The Cowboy's Taqueria is a new Mexican Restaurant on Main Street in Cobleskill adding vibrant and authentic options to a grateful market. Since December 2022 this location has been under new ownership and is definitely worth checking out!

With a straightforward chalkboard menu that encourages you to create your perfect combination, when asked "what's good on the menu?" The answer is "everything!" Don't let that simplicity throw you off because these flavors are complex!

Their "Authentic Tacos" on double corn tortillas with your choice of fill-

ing, are served in a "street taco style" with chopped onions, cilantro, and house-made sauces to add, mild or extra spicy! To get a range of the flavors, you could order one of each type and split them with a friend!

If tacos aren't your favorite, they also offer the same fillings in a burrito, quesadilla, nachos, or even sopes, which is a

fried masa base. Frozen and rimmed Margaritas are an added treat when eating delicious and spicy flavors!

Nesto, the Owner/Operator of this family business and Professional Bull Rider (hence the restaurant's name) is excited to be in Cobleskill! He works with his family and friends and is very

proud to bring such authenticity to Upstate New York.

The particular location The Cowboy's Taqueria is in, has gone through a few concepts and owners over the years, including the "Coby Cafe", operated by SUNY Cobleskill Culi-

nary Students years ago.

With lots of change in Cobleskill, The Cowboy's Taqueria is definitely welcome! They are located at 549 East Main Street and you can call (518) 255-7289 for reservations or more information.



*Nothing brightens up a winter evening like a fresh Ceviche and added frozen Lime Margarita at The Cowboy's Taqueria!*

## SUNY Softball Splits With Lesley U. and Mitchell College

**NAPLES, FLORIDA** - The SUNY Cobleskill softball team continued their 2023 spring break road trip on Wednesday splitting a pair of contests at the 33rd Annual Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic in Naples, Fla as the Fighting Tigers opened the day with a 6-0 shutout win over the Lynx of Lesley University then closed the day with a 9-2 loss to the Mariners of Mitchell College. With the split the Fighting Tigers are now 2-4 overall on the season to date.

In the opener, senior right hander Marissa Wheeler, Kinderhook, N.Y., Ichabod Crane High School, dominated the Lynx hitters as the Cobleskill ace tossed a

complete game one-hit shutout by striking out 13 Lesley hitters while walking only two. Wheeler also helped herself at the plate going 1-for-3 with a double, a run scored and an RBI in the victory.

The Fighting Tigers received strong efforts at the plate from junior first baseman Alexis Miranda, Nashua, N.H., Nashua North High School, who went 3-for-4 in the victory with a home run, two runs scored, an RBI and a stolen base and from junior right fielder Emily Lutz, Ellenville, N.Y., Ellenville High School, who was 2-for-2 including a double, two walks, two RBI and a run scored. Sophomore catcher Mackenzie Wen-

delken, Stuyvesant, N.Y., Ichabod Crane High School, was also a factor in the win going 1-for-3 with a walk, a run scored and an RBI.

In the second game the Cobleskill defense committed eight errors which led to six unearned Mariner runs and helped Mitchell to the victory.

Offensively the Fighting Tigers continued to receive production from first baseman Alexis Miranda who went 1-for-3 with a stolen base and a run scored and from junior left fielder Mikaela De La Cruz, Wappingers Falls, N.Y., John Jay High School, who went 1-for-3 with a double and a run scored. First-year second baseman Emma Grace Scileppi, Williamson, N.Y.,

Williamson Central High School, also turned in a solid effort with the bat going 1-for-3 with an RBI.

The Fighting Tigers will close out their stay at the 33rd Annual Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic on Thursday when they meet the Eagles of Saint Elizabeth University at 9:00 a.m. before closing out the event versus the Scarlet Raiders of Rutgers University-Newark at 11:30 a.m. in games to be played at North Collier Regional Park in Naples, Fla.

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