

# TIMES JOURNAL

June 26, 2025

The News of Schoharie County

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Cobleskill, New York  
149th year — No. 24

## Cavers descend on Cobleskill

By Melanie Lekocevic

**COBLESKILL** — More than 800 cave enthusiasts, scientists, and adventurers from around the world have gathered this week at SUNY Cobleskill for the 81st annual National Speleological Society (NSS) Convention — a celebration of all things underground.

Running from Monday through Friday, the convention features lectures, workshops, competitions, and interactive exhibits focused on caves, karst landscapes, and the science, sport, and conservation that surround them.

“This is a major karst area, which means much of the water flows underground through cave systems. That’s why surface conservation is so important here,” said Emily Davis of the NSS. “We’re thrilled to be back in Cobleskill.”

Davis, who moved to Schoharie County more than 30 years ago “for the caves,”

address label



Warren Dews Jr./Capital Region Independent Media

Cavers from around the world gathered this week at SUNY Cobleskill for the National Speleological Society’s annual convention.

said the local embrace has been key to the convention’s success.

“One of the things that we really appreciate is the fact that the town of Cobleskill, the mayor and everyone else has been so supportive of this project,” she said. “The restaurants are supporting the group by giving discounts, we have welcome signs that were produced by the Schoharie Visitor’s Bureau, and we have had a lot of support locally for the project. We couldn’t have done it without the community’s support.”

This is not the first time Cobleskill has hosted the convention; the last time was in 1991. The NSS, founded in 1941, promotes the study and protection of caves and karst environments across the United States.

This year’s event featured sessions on cave conservation, biodiversity, climate research, and international caving expeditions, among many other topics.

One of the unique highlights of the week was the *Cave Sim*, a 150-foot artificial cave maze developed by Col-



**Warren Dews Jr./Capital Region Independent Media** Frank Howarth is fully immersed in the caving lifestyle and celebrated it during this year’s convention held at SUNY Cobleskill.

orado-based inventor Dave Jackson. Originally designed as a rescue training tool, it now serves as an educational simulator.

“If you touch a stalactite or stalagmite, it beeps and you lose points,” Jackson said. “It’s like a cave game—the goal is to learn how not to damage the cave.”

**FROM NOVICES TO LEGENDS**



Warren Dews Jr./Capital Region Independent Media

The caving community is a tightly knit group focused on adventure, exploration, and conservation.



**Warren Dews Jr./Capital Region Independent Media** One of the many displays at the National Speleological Society’s annual convention, held this week in Cobleskill.

The week welcomed cavers of all levels, from local hobbyists to internationally renowned experts like Will White, who has attended 71 of the society’s 81 conventions.

“I like caves. I’ve always liked caves since I was a little kid,” said White, a prolific cave geologist and author who has been an NSS member since 1952. “And I still love them.”

Among the international attendees was Sudeep Subrahmanya from India, who has been caving for seven years and spoke at the convention on Wednesday.

For Cat Brown, caving has been a lifelong pursuit since her first trip at age 12.

“Caves are such wonderful natural resources,” Brown said. “They’re absolutely gorgeous to look at and they have such an amazing diversity of biology in terms of both microbes and bigger organisms that live there. They are so diverse and so different from everything we have on the surface.”

Caves are not only visually stunning and biologically diverse—they’re also important scientific indicators. Because caves maintain a stable temperature year-round, they offer a unique window into long-term climate patterns.

**LOCAL LEGACY, GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE**

Schoharie County is especially significant to the NSS. McFails Cave in nearby Carlisle, the longest known cave in New York and New England with over seven miles

of passage, was the society’s first land acquisition in the late 1960s. Since then, the NSS and its partner organization, the Northeast Cave Conservancy, have acquired and protected more than a dozen caves in the region.

“When we visit caves, we try not to change anything. We take nothing but pictures and leave nothing but footprints,” Davis said.

Caves in the region are closed during the winter to protect hibernating bats—another example of how cavers prioritize conservation.

Beyond science and preservation, the convention celebrated caving culture with T-shirt design contests, ballad competitions, gear showcases and much more. For many, the thrill of discovery keeps them coming back.

“There’s nothing like standing in a spot where no human has ever stood before,” said one scientist, capturing the essence of why cavers do what they do.

The convention wraps up Friday. Next year’s convention will take place in Indiana, followed by Texas in 2027.



## Schoharie County gets out the vote

By Doug La Rocque

**SCHOHARIE** — Schoharie County and its voting public were honored at the Friday, June 20, Board of Supervisor’s meeting by an organization known as Rejoice the Vote, for having the largest percentage voter turnout, at 74%, of all the counties in New York state in 2024.

Founders Jeff Furman and Sarah Hess presented the county with a trophy while State Sen. Peter Oberacker, R-Schenevus, and Assemblyman Chris Tague, R-C-Schoharie, also presented the citizens of Schoharie County with a proclamation honoring their designation as the “votingest county.”

Rejoice the Vote was started four years ago by Furman and Hess in Ithaca to honor those who obtain and maintain the right to vote. The supervisors also honored the employees of the county’s Board of Elections, and in particular 91-year-old Clifford Hay, the Democratic Party Commissioner who has been at his post for 50 years.

**HONORING ONE OF OUR OWN**

The Board of Supervisors also took time out to honor former Times-Journal editor Patsy Nicosia for her more than 40 years covering Scho-

harie County.

Supervisor Don Airey of Blenheim said she “went above and beyond her role as a journalist and provided an invaluable service to the people of the county. We are going to miss her.”

Airey’s comments were echoed by many other board members.

**A GREEN ENERGY WARNING**

Supervisor Airey told his fellow board members to be wary of legislation he says was rushed through at the end of this recent state legislative session, and claims could end up costing all towns in New York money.

Airey says a bill, sponsored by a New York City assemblyman, would allow companies that build such projects as solar farms, wind turbines and battery storage facilities to apply the cost of someday having to decommission their projects, directly against their assessments, right up front.

“You watch, these one- or two-million-dollar cost estimates will balloon to \$50 million, effectively eliminating any tax revenue,” Airey said. “This is a disgrace by this state government to the taxpayers of this county.”

The supervisor said this legislation was described as a technical correction to



Photo by Doug La Rocque

**Sen. Peter Oberacker reads from the joint Senate and Assembly proclamation as Assemblyman Chris Tague, left, Jeff Furman and Elections Commissioner Kenneth Schweigard, and Chairman Bill Federice look.**

a law the county is appealing in court. It has not yet been signed into law by Gov. Kathy Hochul.

**HOPING FOR A FARMERS MARKET**

The county is part of a grant application for a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Promotion Grant, seeking funding to create an independent farmers market. Schoharie County has made it clear they do not want to operate one.

The grant would provide the money to set up an in-

dependent organization and help hire a farmers market manager and train such an individual. This grant also requires a local match, but allows the work done to organize and bring such a market to fruition to count against that match.

The motion by Supervisor Alicia Terry of Gilboa to accept the USDA funding was adopted unanimously.

**A NEW ADMINISTRATOR**

The supervisors approved the appointment of

Bryan Best as the new county administrator at an annual salary of \$150,000.

Board of Supervisors Chairman Bill Federice has been serving as the acting administrator.

Best’s appointment begins June 30 and runs through May 31, 2027.

**OTHER ACTION**

Mary Johnson has been appointed museum director and business manager for the county, retroactive to March 31 of this year. The annual salary for the position is

\$74,974. Johnson serves at the pleasure of the board.

The lawmakers approved a resolution in opposition to prohibiting the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation from issuing or authorizing any permits to new or expanding large, concentrated animal feeding operations. They also expressed via resolution their support of a statewide moratorium on the land application of biosolids and supported the Rural Veterinary Workforce Act.

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## OBITUARIES



Mary Speidell

### Mary Speidell

Mary Elizabeth (Takacs) Speidell, 70, of State Route 10, Sharon Springs, died Saturday, June 21, 2025, at Bassett Healthcare in Cooperstown.

She was born to Joseph and Mabel Takacs on June 9, 1955, in Willimantic, Connecticut.

She is pre-deceased by her husband, Robert Speidell, her parents, and a brother-in-law, Rob Bevington.

She is survived by her siblings Joe (Janie) Takacs, Tom Takacs, Chris (Julie) Takacs, Anne (Dave) Palik, John Takacs, Margaret (Mark) Maynard, George (Colleen) Takacs, Claire Bevington, Joanie Takacs; and several nieces and nephews.

Mary had a heart as vibrant as the birds she so dearly loved. Her days were filled with the rustle of feathers and the rustling of leaves, tending gently to her garden with hands that nurtured life. Nature was her sanctuary - a place where sunlight met soul, where poetry bloomed as freely as the flowers she planted. She found peace in the quiet moments, joy in the bird's song, and grace in every line of verse she read and wrote.

Her spirit remains in every flutter of wings, every whisper of wind through the trees, and every stanza that speaks to the beauty of this world.

The family will receive

relatives and friends on Saturday, July 26, from 9-11am at the Sharon Reformed Church, 6858 NY-10, Sharon Springs, NY 13459 with a joint celebration of life service for Mary and her husband, Robert, following at 11am at Church with Pastor Jim Peck officiating.

Contributions in memory of Mary Elizabeth Speidell may be made to the Animal Shelter of Schoharie Valley, PO Box 40, 304 Howes Cave Road, Howes Cave, NY 12092.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Mereness-Putnam Funeral Home, 171 Elm St. Cobleskill, NY 12043.

Online condolences may be offered to the family at [www.merenessputnamfuneralhome.com](http://www.merenessputnamfuneralhome.com).

SUNY Cobleskill with a degree in Computer Science.

She devoted herself to raising her family before venturing out in the working world where she was fortunate enough to work in the field of design and merchandising for the Fenimore Art Museum and Farmers Museum Gift Shop in Cooperstown where she excelled in her talents.

Nancy was also a proud member of the Captain Christian Brown Chapter, DAR of Cobleskill and enjoyed painting (oil, and later, acrylics) and designing displays at work.

Survivors include her husband, Ralph Castro, whom she married June 8, 1974; her children, Angela (Howard) Burman of Esperance, Dominga (Michael) Lent, of Cobleskill, Elishia (David) Castro of Sprakers, and Ralph (Mariana) Castro, of Paradise, California; 11 grandchildren, Elizabeth, Tyler, Brittany, Rebekah, Michaela, Michael, Jr., Kiaya, Rainah, Finnick, Silas, and Athena; seven great-grandchildren, Will, Jr., Dalton, Emmanuel, Maxwell, Greyson, Natalie, and Isaiah; her brother, David (late Rose Mary) Smith, Sr., of Cobleskill; several nieces and nephews; and her canine companion, Atticus.

She was predeceased by her parents and her siblings, Robert Smith, Richard Smith, and Gary Smith.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 12, at 11am from the Calvary Assembly of God Church, 960 Mineral Springs Road, Cobleskill, NY, where a visitation will be held from 10-11am prior to the service.

Private inurnment will be held at a later date in the Saratoga National Cemetery in Schuylerville.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Nancy's memory can be made to Marathon For a Better Life, P.O. Box 268, Warnerville, NY 12187.

Please visit [www.guffinfuneralhome.com](http://www.guffinfuneralhome.com) for further information or to leave a special message for Nancy's family and friends.



Nancy Ann Castro

### Nancy Ann Castro

Nancy Ann Castro 68, of Gardnersville Road, Sharon Springs, passed away Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at her home after a long battle with cancer.

Nancy was born Jan. 10, 1957, in Cobleskill, a daughter of George A. and Eleanor Gertrude (Russell) Smith. She graduated from the former Cobleskill High School and later,



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# Cankerworm outbreaks make for sticky hikes

**By Marlene McTigue**  
If you go down to the woods today, you're in for a big surprise.

Throughout the Northeast this spring and summer, forests are crawling with an unexpected, uninvited guest: inchworms. Dangling from branch after branch along the trails, these small caterpillars, spring cankerworms, are turning hikes into squirmy obstacle courses.

Walk a few feet and you're ducking them. Pause for a moment and you feel them inching along your arm. And all around, a faint sound like gentle rain reveals their dirty little secret: it's not water falling from the trees, it's frass. Caterpillar droppings. Falling. Constantly.

The culprits are native geometrid moth larvae, spring cankerworms, which emerge in synchronized abundance during certain years. According to Dr. Timothy McCabe, New York state's official entomologist, these outbreaks are rare but striking.

"Outbreaks can be incredibly localized," McCabe said. "It might be one hillside, or one mountainside, but not the next."

McCabe should know. He is New York's sixth state entomologist, a position established in 1881 in response

to the growing agricultural crisis caused by invasive and destructive insects during the 19th century.

The infestation may be unsettling for hikers, but according to Dr. Mark Whitmore, a forest entomologist at Cornell University, it's not an ecological crisis.

"It's a native insect, and they go through these population outbreaks and then kind of disappear into the background again," he said.

Most trees, he explained, are well adapted to survive a season of defoliation and will re-leaf within weeks.

"This is not going to be the end of the world for the trees," he said.

Campers attending the Safe and Sound Festival at Magic Forest Farm in Coeymans Hollow in Albany County during a rainy weekend in June reported that the caterpillars were everywhere clinging to their clothes as they trekked between stages and campsites.

"My hoodie looked like a moving pattern by the time I made it back to camp," said one attendee. "It was kind of hilarious and kind of disgusting."

Whitmore, for his part, advises a simple approach to avoiding the worst of the fallout: "Don't sit under a tree



Contributed photo

**Have you noticed any of these unwanted hitchhikers this season? A cankerworm outbreak is happening now in our region. The larva can be annoying to dodge on your hikes but are not dangerous to flora or fauna, experts say.**

being defoliated with your cocktail. That's my advice."

## THE FRASSFALL PHENOMENON

Frass—the polite term for insect excrement—might seem like a novelty, but it's actually a tool of the trade for entomologists. McCabe explained that researchers often use white sheets beneath trees to detect infestations.

"You spread out a white sheet, and the frass tells you where the caterpillars are," he said. "You can look straight up and find your worm."

Outbreaks like this are sometimes tied to warmer springs and milder winters, which allow more eggs to survive and hatch in unison. Still, both McCabe and

Whitmore noted that large infestations of spring cankerworms in upstate New York are infrequent and often highly localized.

"We've seen more sustained outbreaks in places like Pennsylvania," said McCabe, "but they haven't been common here in recent years. This could just be our year."

So, what's a Hiker to Do?

For those venturing into the woods this season, it may be wise to pack a brimmed hat and a sense of humor. As Whitmore puts it:

"Everything's interesting. I look at the natural world with wonder. Some may hear the sound of falling frass and think it's gross, others may hear beautiful music."



Contributed photo

Students graduating from the BOCES nursing program.

## Aspiring nurses ready for college thanks to Capital Region BOCES

**SCHOHARIE**—Eight Schoharie-area teenagers are prepared for careers in nursing thanks to Capital Region BOCES and the Two-Year Sequence of Health Careers program.

Kya Oliver of Cobleskill-Richmondville; Alivia Cordy, Victoria Croote and Carson Killenberger of Duanesburg; Elizabeth Masi of Schalmont; Cayden Savino of Berne-Knox-Westerlo; Vera Shaul of Middleburgh; and Sunora Todd of Guilderland completed this month the second-year of the program at the Career and Technical Education Center – Schoharie Campus.

The majority of the students in teacher Laurie Itskov's program are pursuing careers in healthcare thanks to the training and skills they learned at BOCES.

"I am going to [SUNY Schenectady County Community College] and then

Belanger School of Nursing," said Croote in a statement. "I feel prepared because of what I have learned at BOCES."

Todd echoed these sentiments.

"I believe attending BOCES prepared me well for college and taught me how to work efficiently in a job space," the Guilderland teenager said. She will also attend SCCC and later The Belanger School of Nursing.

Meanwhile Killenberger and Cordy are heading to Maria College in pursuit of a nursing degree.

"BOCES has opened me up to a diverse amount of experiences and given me many opportunities to improve my skill sets that I will use in later life on patients," said Savino.

"I've learned everything from changing [the patients] to giving them a reason to get up in the morning," he added.

Masi credits BOCES with giving her confidence.

"Attending BOCES made me confident in my skills to work in healthcare and taught me what I need to know for college," said the Schalmont teen who will be attending Hudson Valley Community College and later Maria College.

The eight seniors are among more than 40 seniors enrolled in the program between the Albany and Schoharie campuses this year.

Students in the Two-Year Sequence of Health Careers program learn the skills necessary to earn certification as a home health aide (HHA), personal care aide (PCA) and nurse assistant (NA) and prepare for further studies and advancement in the healthcare field.

For more information on the program, go to <https://www.capitalregionboces.org/career-technical-education/courses-programs/two-year-sequence-of-health-careers/>

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## NYPA conducts annual review for Blenheim-Gilboa Power Project

**GILBOA** — On June 18, The New York Power Authority (NYPA) hosted its annual Emergency Action Plan (EAP) meeting for the Blenheim-Gilboa Power Project.

Local stakeholders, including first responders and officials from the Schoharie County Sheriff's Office, Schoharie County Office of Emergency Services, Schoharie County Board of Supervisors, and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection were in attendance to review procedures that will be followed in the event of an emergency.

Annual NYPA EAP reviews provide critical updates to operational and emergency protocols associated with its power projects.

At the meeting, NYPA presented a review of their EAP, including an overview of a preliminary site-specific Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) study. The study offers critical insights into potential flood levels that could impact the power project, ensuring that all safety measures and emergency protocols are up-to-date and effective. The



study will be publicly available once finalized by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

"Annual EAP reviews are an essential part of the Power Authority's commitment to safety and operational excellence," said NYPA Regional Manager and Senior Vice President Timothy Rich in a statement. "Our continued collaboration with local stakeholders and emergency response teams underscores NYPA's proactive approach to

risk management and regulatory compliance."

The Blenheim-Gilboa Power Project, located in Schoharie County, plays a pivotal role in NYPA's power generation portfolio. The facility's operations and emergency protocols are continually assessed to meet stringent safety standards.

For more information visit [www.nypa.gov](http://www.nypa.gov) and follow them on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

CLIP & SAVE

## Entertainment for Summer '25

# ARTS in the PARK

Veterans' Park - Downtown Cobleskill

July 10

Red Haired Strangers

Starts at 6pm

July 17

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July 24

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# Annual youth fishing derby snags some big ones

SUMMIT — The Summit Community Center Inc. hosted the 2025 annual Youth Fishing Derby on June 21, drawing some eager young fishing enthusiasts.

Awards were given to the three biggest bass, the three biggest perch, the biggest fish overall and the most fish overall.

The event was open to kids ages 5-9 and 10-15, but only youngsters in the older group attended. Fifteen young girls and boys caught a total of 51 fish within two hours.

Winning the awards for

biggest bass were Tommy Clark in first place, catching a 14-inch fish; Justin Frost and Leo Vanvalkenburg tied for second with 13.5"; and Paul Hahn took third place, snagging a 12" bass.

In the biggest perch category, Aidan Killenberger took first place with a 10.5" catch; Vinny Merwin came in second with a 9.75" perch; and Robert Capurso took third place with a 9" fish.

Biggest fish overall went to Tommy Clark with a 14" bass, and the award for most fish caught went to Vinny Merwin, with 13.



Contributed photo

Fishing derby winners, left to right, are Tommy Clark, Vinny Merwin, Aidan Killenberger, Robert Capurso, Leo Vanvalkenburg.



Contributed photo

John Steitz awarding Tommy Clark his medal.



Contributed photo

Derby winners, left to right, Justin Frost and Paul Hahn.



Contributed photo

Two volunteers who measured the fish.



Contributed photo

Nevaeh Sanderson with her 9.25" bass.



Contributed photo

Vinny Merwin and Paul Hahn showing off their catches.



Contributed photo

Kale Thomas Michasiow with one of his six catches.



Participants at this year's fishing derby. Contributed photo



## Times Past

### 100 Years Ago June 26, 1925

Forty-seven members of the class '25 received their diplomas at the annual graduation exercises of Cobleskill high school held in the auditorium on Tuesday evening. No previous class in the history of the school has been able to equal this year's in numbers.

For some reason the highway department has changed the Cherry Valley Turnpike route number between Albany and Syracuse and through northern Otsego from 5 to 7. It is understood that all the 1925 maps and route books have the turnpike route marked 5 and for that reason a change during the season is bound to confuse tourists to some extent.

Frank A. Linster, former publisher of The Cobleskill Times, and Mrs. Linster of Cleveland, Ohio are in Cobleskill for a few days and the well-known newspaperman is greeting many of his old time acquaintances.

Pheasant Eggs can now be obtained from C.S. Dillenback, Railroad Avenue, Cobleskill. Get your setting at once.

JEFFERSON, June 22 - At a special meeting of the town board June 18 they approved of the plans and specifications for the lighting district and at the same time voted to make a contract with the Electric company for not to exceed twenty lights in the village and contract to cover a period of ten years.

### 85 Years Ago June 27, 1940

Cobleskill will have another bakery after the opening Saturday of the Home Bake Shop at the corner of Lark and Union streets. Pies, cakes, rolls and salads are listed among their specialties.

Marty Furgo, the Utica boy whom veteran golfers predict will someday rank among the links' immortals, broke his own record at the Sharon Springs golf course last week by carding 32 strokes for the nine holes.

BABY CHICKS. Since the recent death of my husband, I am still carrying on his business. MRS. EDWARD IRSCH, Esperance N.Y. Phone 37. Baby Chicks, 7 cents; Broiler Chicks, 3 cents. Come take your pick.

Richmondville Central School graduated the largest class in the history of the school, Monday night, June 24. The 19 young men and women who received diplomas were Wanda Olivia Boynton, Mary Alice Davis, Avis Audry Dibble, and Maurice E. Karker;

Also, Margie Alma Johns, Dan Nellis Joslyn, S. Ward Lape, Keith Snyder McMahon, Alma Mae Reightmyer, Eleanor B. Rivenburg, Clara Virginia Ostrom, Clayton B. Ryder, Theodore Ralph Simmons, Wanda Delia Smith, Melvin W. Sperbeck, Marion M. Springstead, Doris Mae Stillwell, Stanton B. Wilcox and Dorcas Elizabeth Winegard.

### 45 Years Ago June 25, 1980

Scott Barton of Cobleskill, a senior at RPI in Troy, won a first-place award of \$2,000 for his Skidmore College "Center for Visual Arts" design. Mr. Barton was competing with 2200 architecture majors representing 80 U.S. colleges in a National Student Design Competition.

Mortgage money now available at an interest rate of 11%. Five year term, 30-year amortization (Other terms and rates available). To get started, visit any ME office or call 234-2535 or 436-0811. Mechanics Exchange.

The original Teepee opened in 1950, west of Cherry Valley. Four years later, with the revamping of Route 20, the Teepee moved to a new location east of Cherry Valley on U.S. highway. The second Teepee was enlarged. Paul and Marion Stehr, owners since 1976, are noting the 30th anniversary of the shop on Sunday, June 29, and the public is cordially invited to stop by.

Mr. and Mrs. William Romain, Kathy and Duane Tillapaugh, traveled to Cleveland, Ohio on Friday where they attended the graduation ceremony on Saturday of their son, William from Ohio Diesel Tech Institute. Bill graduated in the top third of his class and received the perfect attendance award.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Gunzinger and Mr. and Mrs. John Dietrich enjoyed dinner at the Homestead on Friday, June 20. The occasion was to celebrate the ninth anniversary of the Gunzingers and the 11th anniversary of the Dietrichs.

### 35 Years Ago June 27, 1990

Concerns over vandalism and the need to enforce new ordinances has prompted village officials in Richmondville to consider establishing a regular police patrol. Board members recently passed a noise ordinance and have also set a public hearing for July 24 to consider lowering the speed limit on selected side streets.

Earl Berg is no ordinary meat cutter. If you've ever

shopped at the Great American supermarket on Main Street in Schoharie, chances are you saw Mr. Berg there. Because he's been there ever since the store was built. Almost every day. Thursday, June 21 marked Mr. Berg's 25th anniversary with the Victory market chain, which runs the Great American in Schoharie.

Ralph and Irmgaard Buess of the Tory Mann Tavern in Schoharie have been busy preparing homemade strawberry shortcakes for the Charter Day Strawberry Festival scheduled from 7 to 9 pm on Thursday, June 28 at the Old Stone Fort in Schoharie. The festival will also feature free admission to the Fort and Badgley museum and music by the Soft Soled Shoes string band.

An ash tree was recently planted at the Cobleskill Golf and Country Club in memory of the late Jake Wildove. A ceremony was held Sunday to dedicate the tree. Mr. Wildove was president of the men's league, board member and attorney for the club.

Two area riders, Jeremy Gosselink of Warnerville and Kerry Powers of Howes Cave have earned a place in the Tri-State Pony of America's Club Royalty for the 1990 show season. The Royalty competition took place on Sunday, June 17 at the Tri-State P.O.A.C. show held at Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Competition consisted of both a written test and an equestrian riding test.

### 30 Years Ago June 28, 1995

The Middleburgh Merchants Association sponsoring Vidbel's Circus in Middleburgh announced recently that their organization is bringing Vidbel's Olde Tyme Circus to the village on July 18 for performances at 5:30 and 8pm. The familiar red and white big top will be set up near the Schoharie Creek.

Middleburgh has been able to secure a monumental link to its past. The photo collection of Russell S. Bergh was recently purchased through the efforts of the 20th Century Club, the Historical Society, the Rotary, and the 275th Anniversary Committee for the town. The collection is extensive, running from glass-plate negatives from the 1920s to color photos in the early 1980s.

Don Hotaling and Rose Burdick are trying to make a ride on Route 145 a delight again. The two have opened up R&D Delights on Route 145 at the site of the old Bambi's restaurant in East Coble-

skill. "We're hoping it'll get back to where it used to be," Mr. Hotaling said.

Rosemarie Corcione Keller and Terry Keller of Cobleskill announced the birth of their daughter, Cristina Corcione Keller, born June 1 at 12:20am at Albany Medical Center. She weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 19 3/4 inches long.

With one eye on the present another turned to the past, Sharon Springs will begin planning for the future tonight, Wednesday, when it hosts the first meeting of Sharon Springs: 2020 Vision. The brainchild of village planners, Sharon Springs: 2020 Vision is the first step in efforts to rewrite a 20-plus-year-old master plan.

### 18 Years Ago June 27, 2007

Schoharie Chapter DAR has named Evelyn Mack as their new Regent for a three-year term of office. Other officers of the chapter are Sue Ann Wilkinson, vice regent; Helene Farrell, chaplain; Pat Wargo, registrar; Claudia Shaylor, recording and corresponding secretary; Anne Hendrix, historian; and Tatiana Boba, librarian.

It looks like a three-way race for the county clerk's seat in Schoharie. Democrats last week nominated former Middleburgh town supervisor Richard Shultes and county Conservatives have thrown their support behind Gary Hayes. Earlier this month, Republicans nominated current county clerk M. Indica Jaycox to run for the post, over Mr. Hayes.

Schoharie Central gave a hero's welcome to their own Joe Luz, who's been serving with the United States Army Reserves' 399th Combat Support Hospital near Mosul, Iraq since last September.

Four generations of Barber descendants met on May 22 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the original purchase of their farm land. On May 22, 1857 Stephen and Emiline Barber signed papers acquiring 21 acres in the Schoharie Valley on which to raise hops, broom corn, and their four cows. The Barber family farm has been growing ever since.

The public can get a look at artifacts hundreds and possibly thousands of years old at an open house Monday and Tuesday. Archaeologists are opening the Pethick Site, a dig in Central Bridge on both days, 10-2. The open house is free. The site is on Smith Road and is easily accessible in a farm field.

## TIMES JOURNAL

The News of Schoharie County

USPS ID #630-940

Published Thursdays by Capital Region Independent Media

MARK VINCIGUERRA, President, Capital Region Independent Media

WARREN DEWS JR., Publisher  
Bruce Tryon, General Manager  
Pete Lindemann, Proofreader

Periodical postage paid at Cobleskill, NY 12043 and additional Post Offices.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Times-Journal, PO Box 339, Cobleskill, NY 12043-0339.

Subscription rates:

\$66 per year; 6 months \$33; EZ PAY Quarterly \$16.50.

Please allow two weeks advance notice for change of address.

TELEPHONE 518-234-2515 — WEB www.cobleskilltimesjournal.com



# Letters

## A nation in trouble

To the Editor:

I have a long line of airmen in my family. I was eager to watch the "250 Years of the Army" celebration.

If you have family members in the armed forces, the celebration filled you with pride for America and thankfulness for our soldiers' sacrifices. It did me.

That moment of pride in our military was quickly assaulted when I turned on the TV.

Each day I wonder how far from God our nation will go? I am ashamed of the hate that seeped out of some colleges overflowing on to anyone who is Jewish. Same for our elected leaders on every level. Threat to the president and Supreme Court judges? Where is respect?

I wanted to send a letter to the editor before the election, but I did not feel safe, here in Cobleskill.

A parent tried to get a room at a local motel and was told the motel was full of illegals. Motels used to house our military homeless. Where did they go? Motels get more money to house the illegals than our own military or homeless.

This is wrong! Look at what has happened just in our generation.

Someday we will see the future. Will we have any pride left?

I ask God to bless America. Would we recognize it if he does?

Rosalie Pautler, a patriot  
Cobleskill

## MY VIEW: Congress must act to help new postmaster general pull USPS back from the brink

By **Martha Diaz Aszkenazy**, Chair, National Newspaper Association  
Publisher, *The San Fernando Valley (California) Sun/El Sol Newspapers*



Martha Diaz Aszkenazy

The United States Postal Service is on the brink of a self-induced collapse. The failed policies of the Delivering for America Plan have driven away customers through a combination of sky-high rate increases and degraded service.

David Steiner, who will take over as postmaster general on July 14, 2025, has a tough job to do and little time to do it, with some estimates indicating the USPS could be insolvent as soon as 2028.

Congress has a key role to play in helping him right the ship but must get off the sidelines and act. A useful step occurred last week with a hearing before the House Oversight Subcommittee on Government Operations. The National Newspaper Association (NNA) provided a statement for the hearing that lays out key actions Congress can take to help restore the USPS. We emphasized that NNA

members serve their communities, providing news on local events and civic matters that are not covered anywhere else, and that they depend on the USPS to get their papers to subscribers. The USPS — and by extension the small businesses in the communities they serve — faces an immediate and existential crisis. We urge Congress to act swiftly and compel meaningful reform at the USPS.

Here are three actions Congress can take right now to get the USPS back on track and keep commerce in America moving:

Demand the USPS Board halt the Delivering for America Plan, including the large rate increase planned for July 13, 2025. This increase, far above the rate of inflation, will only deepen the hole and ties the hands of incoming Postmaster General David Steiner, who should have the opportunity to assess the situation. The same holds true for the network consolidations and service cuts. Every customer that is lost through these increases and service reductions is one less Steiner can rely on in the future.

Modernize and empower the USPS regulator. Effective checks and balances are needed to keep the USPS on track. Congress needs to update and modernize the postal regulatory process to better safeguard against excessive rates and poor service by passing H.R. 3004, The USPS SERVES US Act.

Measure newspaper costs accurately. Congress should compel accurate measurement of newspaper service and hold the USPS accountable for maintaining and improving service quality by enacting H.R. 2098/S.1002, the Deliverer for Democracy Act.

These are all common-sense steps Congress can take to address what has been clearly a failed approach by USPS management. Steiner has a huge job ahead of him and will need all the help he can get.

Congress must act now to make sure the nation's next postmaster general is not the last one.

Martha Diaz Aszkenazy is chair of the National Newspaper Association and publisher of *The San Fernando Valley (California) Sun/El Sol Newspapers*.



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This photo is from Horace S. Rickard. The back of photo reads: May 1930. Left to right, front Charles Hoag (Burgermaster), Marian Turner (Anna). Back, Thora Bixby, Jerome Weitzman, Bernice Moore, Leroy France, Mildred Rew, Horace Rickard, Betty Chamberlain, Evelyn Christina Mosher (Rose), Emmett Slater (Hans), Hazel Skinner (Katrinka), Barbara Leonard, Roger Brown, Isabel Kinney, Whitney Brown, Annette Tregler, Stanley Foland, Alice Osterhout. Does anyone know any of the people pictured, or know anything about "Tulip Time"?

## The Retired Investor: Regional conflicts present buying opportunities



Bill Schmick

By **Bill Schmick**

Editor's Note: Welcome to a new column, "The Retired Investor," by Bill Schmick. We hope you enjoy it.

Death and destruction are not something that anyone wishes for, but all too often, conflict has occurred frequently over the past years. Historical evidence suggests that in regional disputes, markets typically recover within a few days or weeks.

Does that mean the financial market participants are uncaring or callous? Not at all. In most cases, markets rebounded because the underlying economic cycle, either in the U.S. or worldwide, was expanding. This growth not only supported markets but also helped move them higher despite geopolitical uncertainty. Conversely, during periods when the market struggled to find its footing, it was mainly due to broader market conditions.

Morgan Stanley Wealth Management recently conducted a study on key geopolitical events dating back to 1940, starting with Germany's invasion of France and ending with Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022. They examined the stock market's performance three, six, and 12 months after each event and compared it to periods without notable geopolitical events.

They found that, on average, the markets underperformed over three months, but over six- and 12-month periods, the returns were identical. It was as if the conflict or crisis had never happened. There were some geopolitical events that had a significant and lasting impact on equity markets, but market conditions also played a part.

The 9/11 bombing of the World Trade Center, for example, occurred about the same time as the dot-com boom and bust unfolded, causing the NASDAQ to fall substantially and take the rest of the market with it. In 2022, during Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the Federal Reserve Bank raised interest rates roughly at the same time, sending stocks lower.

If we look back through the 20th century, strong bull markets occurred despite World War II, the Vietnam War, and conflicts in the Middle East. Most of the exceptions to this rule centered on energy.

The 1973 oil shock disrupted markets for over a year, resulting in a period of stagflation in the United States. The sudden spike in oil prices, occurring at a time when oil was in short

supply, disrupted the economy and led to significant inefficiencies. And yet, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which temporarily caused oil prices to gyrate, came down again rapidly as additional oil supply came onto the market quickly.

A critical difference today is that the U.S. is largely energy independent. It is the world's largest producer of oil and gas. U.S. oil production now exceeds 13.3 million barrels per day. That is more than Saudi Arabia, Russia, or any other member of OPEC.

That is not to say that geopolitical risks have no impact. On a country-by-country basis, the story may differ significantly. While the U.S. market has barely skipped a beat throughout the Russia/Ukraine war, the European Community had a different experience. After breaking its dependence on Russian energy, the EU economy suffered from a lack of supply and sky-high energy prices.

That difference explains the reason why the continuing turmoil and conflicts in the Middle East have not caused more than brief and shallow declines in the stock markets. The present war between Israel and Iran has seen oil prices spike from the mid-\$60s to the mid-\$70s per barrel and are presently fluctuating by 1-2% per day based on the most recent developments.

Fears that Iran, in retaliation for Israel's continued attacks, decides to block the flow of 20% of the world's oil through the Straits of Hormuz has investors on edge. However, there has been little follow-through in the equity markets thus far. This situation could change if the U.S. decides to take a more

proactive role in the conflict.

No one knows how long this present daily exchange of bombardments will last. Israel has stated that it will take at least two weeks, if not more, to accomplish their objective. They intend to remove the threat of an Iranian development of nuclear weapons.

If U.S. forces become involved, I would expect a deeper market decline. However, if history is any guide, markets will regain their upward momentum in reasonably short order.

Bill Schmick is the founding partner of *Onota Partners, Inc.*, in the Berkshires. Bill's forecasts and opinions are purely his own and do not necessarily represent the views of *Onota Partners, Inc. (OPI)*. None of his commentary is or should be considered investment advice. Anyone seeking individualized investment advice should contact a qualified investment adviser. None of the information presented in this article is intended to be and should not be construed as an endorsement of *OPI, Inc.* or a solicitation to become a client of *OPI*. The reader should not assume that any strategies, or specific investments discussed are employed, bought, sold or held by *OPI*. Direct your inquiries to Bill at 1-413-347-2401 or e-mail him at [billiams1948@gmail.com](mailto:billiams1948@gmail.com) for more of Bill's insights. Investments in securities are not insured, protected or guaranteed and may result in loss of income and/or principal. This communication may include opinions and forward-looking statements, and we can give no assurance that such beliefs and expectations will prove to be correct.

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# Capital Region BOCES honors Schoharie Campus CTE seniors

SCHOHARIE – Students from throughout the region were awarded scholarships on June 12 for their dedication and academic achievements at Capital Region BOCES.

During the annual Career and Technical Education Center – Schoharie Campus Awards and Scholarship celebration, students were honored for their academics, professionalism, dedication, compassion and more. Among the scholarships awarded were the:

Frontier Sno Riders Scholarships, which were presented to Anthony Morseman and Samantha Herzog. The awards are given to a graduating senior enrolled at CTE and is pursuing a career in the trades or transportation industry. They have to have been accepted at a college, junior college, vocational school,

and Operation program from Schoharie.

Richard A Conklin Award, which was presented to Building Trades graduate Dalton Porter, from Middleburgh. The scholarship is presented to a student in a building trades, horticulture, or buildings and grounds maintenance program who has shown great improvement, maintained a positive attitude, and plans to pursue a career in one of these fields.

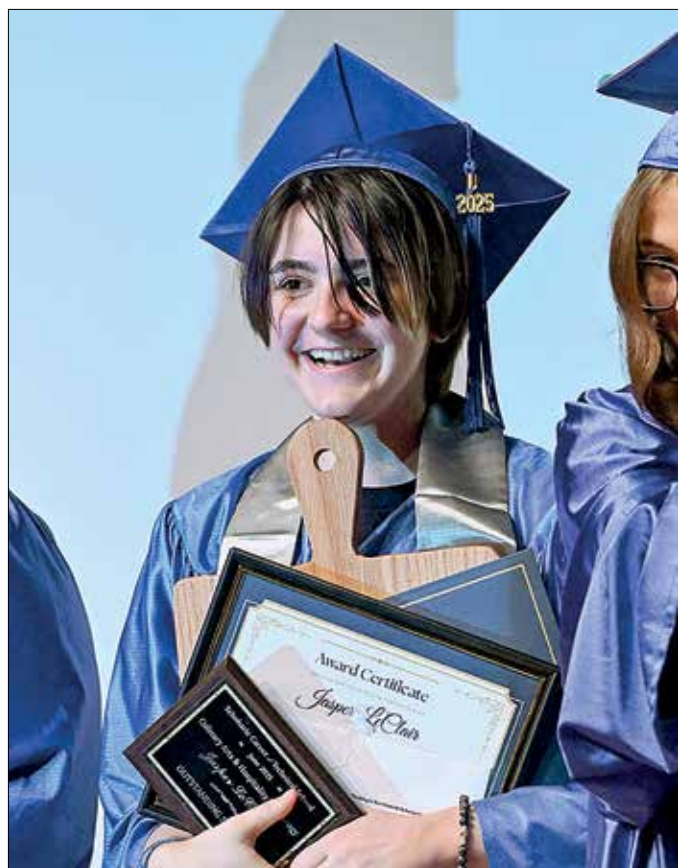
Curtis Lumber Award, which was also presented to Porter. The award is presented to a student in the Building Trades program who has demonstrated a passion for their field as well as an alignment with the core values of Curtis Lumber.

JC Glindmyer Superhero Scholarship, which was presented to Culinary Arts and



Contributed photo

Anthony Morseman accepts the Frontier Sno Riders Scholarship for his work through the Capital Region BOCES Schoharie campus.



Contributed photo

Scholarship winner Jasper LeClair of Duaneburg is one of this year's scholarship winners in the Career and Technical Education Center.

apprenticeship, or proof of an accepted job position in the trades field. Morseman is a graduate of the Automotive Trades Technology program from Berne-Knox-Westerlo and Herzog is a graduate of the Heavy Equipment Repair

Hospitality Technology senior Jasper LeClair of Duaneburg. The scholarship was established in memory of JC Glindmyer, the owner of Earthworld Comics, and aims to continue his legacy of passion, creativity and community support.



Contributed photo

Samantha Herzog is a graduating senior in the Heavy Equipment Repair and Operation program.

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# More than 120 area adults enter the health care industry

ALBANY — From career changers to recent high school graduates, more than 120 area adults are entering the world of health care thanks to the Capital Region BOCES Adult Health Careers Center.

Students enrolled in the adult Practical Nursing program were celebrated for their academic performance and commitment to helping others during a graduation ceremony June 24 at Palace Theatre in Albany.

The adults from this year's class—who hail from communities as far afield as Amsterdam, Albany and Kingston—have completed either a 10-month, full-time, or an 18-month, part-time practical nursing program that encompassed more than 1,100 hours of training that prepared them to take the certification exam to become licensed practical nurses (LPNs). Most have done so while holding down jobs and caring for their families.

Among them is Myriam Blaise of Schenectady.

"The Adult Nursing program is a great program. The teachers are very caring and attentive. They will stay after to work with you and do whatever it takes to make sure you succeed," she said, in a press release.

Also graduating is Natahja Epps of Albany.

"I have been in this field for more than a decade, and BOCES is allowing me to advance myself," said Ms. Epps, who currently works as a patient care technician.

Louise Bigando, director of Health Careers and

Services at Capital Region BOCES, said it's a wonderful time for the graduates to enter the industry.

"The industry is in need of workers, and we have some fantastic students and future nurses who are graduating with bright futures in front of them," she said.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the demand for LPNs will grow 3% by 2033 with 17,000 new jobs being created.

Health care providers from across the spectrum of services have been active in recruiting the BOCES students.

"We have met with a bunch of students who bring a strong presence. We have a lot of LPN positions we are looking to fill, so this has been a good experience for us," said Michelle Wetsky of St. Mary's Healthcare Amsterdam.

## Village of Cobleskill announces lane closures

COBLESKILL — There will be lane closures for paving on Campus Drive, Burgin Drive and South Grand Street.

Work started Monday, June 23, and is expected to continue through July 1. Expect delays.

All public announcements and meeting notices for the Village of Cobleskill can be viewed at: <https://www2.schohariecounty-ny.gov/PublicWebSiteApp/faces/PublicAnnouncements/VillageOfCobleskill.xhtml>



A student at the Capital Region BOCES Adult Health Careers Center.

Contributed photo

## Amadon receives Gaeta Sr. Memorial Scholarship

STAMFORD — Charlotte Valley's Natalie Amadon has been chosen as the 2024-25 recipient of the Lou Gaeta Senior Memorial Scholarship Award presented annually by Stamford Junior Golf, Inc.

The \$500 award is given to a graduating senior from a Delaware League school who attended annual summer golf

clinics, is a member of their school's high school varsity golf team, and displays the proper ideals of sportsmanship, integrity, and character that is taught by the game of golf.

Amadon plans to attend SUNY Delhi in the fall to major in education. She is the daughter of Tatiana and Brad Amadon.

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AUG	Drum Circle: Wednesday, August 6, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Full Moon Night Walk: Friday, August 8, 8:30 PM - 10:00 PM Landis Perennial 5K: Saturday, August 9, 8:00 AM start Second Saturday Book Sale at Landis: Saturday, August 9, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Amphibian and Reptile Herp Hike: Sunday, August 17, 2:00 PM Drum Circle: Wednesday, August 20, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
SEP	Drum Circle: Wednesday, September 3, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Sunrise Celebration Nature Walk: Sunday, September 14, 6:30 AM - 8:30 AM Drum Circle: Wednesday, September 17, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Bird Feeder Making Workshop: Sunday, September 28, 2:00 PM
OCT	Second Annual Big Sit Bird Watch: Sunday, October 12, 6:00 AM - 4:00 PM Annual Halloween Owl Prowl: Saturday, October 25, 7:00 PM

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# DEC proposes changes to deer hunting regulations



Contributed photo

The DEC is proposing changes to deer hunting regulations and will accept public comment through August 18.

ALBANY — The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) last week announced several proposed regulation changes to streamline use and reporting of hunting tags and provide new deer hunting opportunities.

Hunting is important in New York state for wildlife population management and contributes an estimated \$2.6 billion in economic benefits annually to the state's recreational economy through license sales, equipment purchases, and related travel and lodging expenses, according to the DEC.

"DEC is proposing to update regulations to improve deer management and hunters' experience by offering a streamlined digital option for tagging and reporting," Director of DEC's Division of Fish and Wildlife Jacqueline Lendrum said. "The proposals released today reflect public desires for hunting opportunity and improvements to deer management to benefit hunters, wildlife managers, and landowners."

The proposed regulation, available on DEC's website at dec.ny.gov, consists of three components: using electronic hunting tags and revising the harvest reporting time period; providing enhancements for youth deer hunters; and making improvements to the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP).

First, DEC proposes a process for using electronic carcass tags for deer, bear, and turkey. Hunters can choose to obtain a paper license and tags, as is currently available, or use

the HuntFishNY mobile app as electronic proof of licensure and possession and use of tags for deer, bear, or turkey. An electronic harvest report, submitted immediately upon taking a deer, bear, or turkey through the HuntFishNY app, will serve as "e-tagging" the carcass.

The HuntFishNY app provides a confirmation number for the report and works even without immediate cell service, as it stores the harvest report and transmits it to DEC upon reconnection to cell service. Hunters using e-tags will not need to attach a physical tag to their harvested deer, bear, or turkey while they remain in possession of the carcass, including in their vehicle and home. If e-tag users otherwise leave the carcass unattended or deliver the carcass to a taxidermist or processor, they would need to affix a tag that includes their name and reporting confirmation number to the carcass.

For hunters using paper tags, this proposal reduces the timeframe required to report a deer, bear, or turkey harvest from seven days to 48 hours, encouraging prompt reporting and providing greater opportunity for quick law enforcement oversight. As in the past, hunters can report their harvest online, via the HuntFishNY app, or by phone.

Second, DEC proposes to provide a replacement regular season deer tag to youth hunters who successfully use that tag during the Youth Big Game Hunt weekend. Some successful young hunters may not have another tag available to use during the subse-

quent regular firearms season. This rulemaking will enable youth hunters who successfully fill their regular season tag during the Youth Deer Hunt and who do not have a Deer Management Permit to receive a replacement tag for the regular firearms season. Replacement tags would be for the opposite sex deer as was harvested during the youth hunt (e.g., harvest of an antlered deer during the Youth Deer Hunt would yield an antlerless-only replacement tag for the regular season).

Finally, DEC also proposes to enhance the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) by extending the permit renewal cycle from three years to five years and rescinding the limit on number of DMAP tags that may be used per hunter. Extending the DMAP permit renewal cycle will further enable enrollees to implement steady and consistent deer management on private properties while also reducing paperwork for permittees. Currently, hunters are limited to using no more than four DMAP tags per permit. This proposal removes that restriction, benefiting landowners by allowing them to maximize use of the tags issued. The total number of DMAP tags issued to a landowner will still be set by DEC staff based on property size and management need.

DEC is accepting comments on the proposed regulations through Aug. 18, 2025. Submit comments to wildliferegs@dec.ny.gov (subject: "e-tags and DMAP") or to: NYSDEC, Attn: Deer Hunting Regs, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4754.



## Auto Racing Stuff

# Racing back in action after rain outs



Internet photo

Tim Deffer of Delanson celebrates with his family after winning at Lebanon Valley on Saturday.

By Ed & Betty Biittig

All the Capital District tracks were back in action this past weekend.

Fonda started their weekend early last Wednesday with a rescheduled Thunder on the Thruway Series event and repeated on Saturday with a second Thunder on the Thruway Series event.

Wednesday's Modified race was won by Stewart Friesen of Sprakers, Sportsman event winner was Chad Edwards of Gloversville, and the Pro Stock portion saw Beau Ballard of Stamford on Checkerboard Square at the Track of Champions.

For Saturday's event Rocky Warner of Gloversville drew the number one starting spot for the 30-lap Modified feature and jumped out to the lead until the final laps when a caution and subsequent restart put Stewart Friesen on his tail. Warner pulled out in front for the final laps and stayed ahead of the hard charging Friesen to take the win, his first since June 10, 2023, and needless to say, he was happy.

Other winners on Saturday were Tyler Peet (Sportsman), Rocco Constantino (Limited Sportsman), Kerrie Hollenback (DOHC) and Ken Hollenback (SOHC) in the Four Cylinder division. Kenny Gates took the Pro Stock feature, celebrating his 100th win in the division at the track, his first win coming on July 12, 1997.

The Mohawk Valley Vintage Dirt Modified Series (MVVDMS) was also in action on Kenny Shoemaker/Frank Trinkaus Memorial event night with the winners including Mike Wheeler Antiques, Will Reed, Late Models, Harry Baldwin, Mystiques, Jack Miller, Modifieds, and Jipp Ortiz, Sportsman.

Don Ronca of Clifton Park was the winner of the Modified race at Albany-Saratoga on Friday. At 66 years old, Ronca has two championships to his credit at the Malta oval and 15 wins.

Other winners on Friday at the Great Race Place were Mike Mahaney (358 Mod Shoot Out event), Tim Hartman, Jr. (Sportsman), Pete Stefanski (Pro Stock), Dan O'Dell (Limited Sportsman), P.J. Cram Jr. (Street Stock) and Adam Montville (Four Cylinder) first single cam finisher was Kyle Lanfear.

At Lebanon Valley on Saturday Brett Haas claimed his first ever double, winning both the Modified and 358-Modified events.

"It's one of those bucket list childhood dreams," he said after the race.

According to the Lebanon Valley statistician, Brian Bedell, only six drivers have ever won both events on the same night.

Tim Deffer of Delanson also had a memorable night when he celebrated in victory lane with his family after win-

ning the Limited Sportsman event at The Valley this past Saturday. Deffer says he races for fun when his schedule allows, and he decided to try the high banks of Lebanon Valley at the urging of family friend Lance Sharpe. The decision paid off Saturday when his new Hig Fab chassis proved to be the right set up and he took the checkered flag in only his second time at the track.

Other winners at Lebanon Valley were Nick Giardini (Sportsman), Chris Stalker (Pro Stock, 20th Annual Bubba Tanner event), Anthony King (Street Stock) and Jason Peck (Four Cylinder).

The Super DIRTcar 358-Modified Series moved into Glen Ridge on Sunday and Brian Calabrese of Johnstown bested all the invaders and series regulars to claim his first ever SDS win.

"This is a dream come true, these guys are no slouches," Calabrese said.

Other winners at Glen Ridge on Sunday were Derrick McGrew, Jr., (Sportsman), Bodie Marks (Limited Sportsman), Steve Cosselman (Pro Stock), Shane Wetherington (Street Stock), Adam Montville (Mini Stock-dual cam, Daniel Joubert Mini Stock-single), Justin House (All Star Sling Shot), Preston Trautschold (Junior Sling-shot)

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



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# Sports

## Jefferson Heritage Day is set for July 12

SUMMIT — Jefferson Heritage Day will be Saturday, July 12.

This free event brings folks of all ages from all over to enjoy a fun-filled day and night in the quaint village of Jefferson at the Town Green (Route 10 to Main Street) with the antique gazebo at its heart. Also marked as the weekend to schedule many family reunions, the planners for this year's Heritage Day are confident that no one will be disappointed.

Heritage Day is chockfull of performances, live music featuring the Patty & the Mygraines, Mike Herman and other surprises.

Come early to the Methodist Church for the best pies from the church ladies. Food stands and crafters, games, birds and reptiles on display, and events you don't want to miss. There is something for all ages.

The parade starts at 11 am, live entertainment begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues throughout the day.

Dance and enjoy the Rubber Band Band, the feature band, until 11 p.m. under the big tent.

All of this and much more makes for a free fun day for the whole family. Visit their Facebook page at Jefferson Heritage Day.

## Tennis camp opens in June

COBLESKILL — Summer Tennis Camp at Golding School Tennis Courts starts June 30 and runs through Aug. 29, held Monday to Friday from 9:30-11 a.m. at the Golding Middle School Tennis Courts, 137 Washington Ave.

Join any time throughout the summer—just come to the courts during program hours to sign up. Equipment is provided, or feel free to bring your own tennis racket.

For ages 8 to 18.

## Positively Speaking: Venting

By Toby Moore

*Editor's Note: This week we are pleased to offer a new column offering inspiration and optimism by lifestyle columnist Toby Moore. We hope you enjoy it!*



Toby Moore

We've all done it. Something goes wrong—a bad day at work, a fight with a friend—and the words come pouring out. Complaining can feel like a relief. But what if science says it's not helping at all?

Your brain is like a hiking trail. Every time you walk the same path, it gets easier to find—and harder to avoid. Venting carves that path deeper. The more you fixate on what went wrong, the more your brain learns to return to that place.

Your brain can learn both positive and negative habits. And the more you replay either one, the more your mind is trained to stay in that state. So, when you constantly focus on the negative—by venting, complaining, or reliving what went wrong—you're teaching your brain to live there. To expect it. To look for it. Constantly hiking that trail, so to speak.

When you vent without seeking a solution, your brain starts to believe the problem is bigger—and that you're smaller. Over time, you're not just describing the struggle; you're training your mind to feel powerless in the face of it. Complaining becomes less about release and more about rehearsal. Conditioning yourself for failure.

Contrary to popular belief, expressing anger without resolution doesn't release emotion—it amplifies it. It's like turning up the volume without changing the song. Each time you vent, your brain thinks the threat is still happening, flooding your body with stress and keeping your nervous system in a state of fight-or-flight. The more you relive the stress, the more your system stays on high alert. Not because of what happened but because you won't stop replaying it.

It's hurting your relationships. It turns conversations into dumping grounds, leaving listeners feeling drained or helpless—especially when they feel unable to make a difference. In trying to release stress, we end up spreading it. When grumbling becomes the main event, connection takes a back seat. Instead of a conversation, it's a monologue. The listener can't help, and you both walk away less happy.

Conventional wisdom taught us that voicing our struggles helps us “get it all out,” but research suggests otherwise. Studies show that it doesn't create clarity—it creates confusion. Instead of

moving toward resolution, we circle around blame, frustration, and helplessness. This kind of repetitive negativity dampens our brain's ability to plan, prioritize, and think creatively. Complaining aimlessly doesn't unlock solutions—it shuts them down. The mind can't design solutions while it's stuck in survival mode.

Emotions are contagious! When we grumble, we're not just expressing—we're transmitting. Cortisol (your body's stress hormone) doesn't just stay in your bloodstream; it causes others to produce stress hormones, too! Dysregulating not just your nervous system but everyone else's as well. What feels like a release at the moment can leave others feeling anxious, irritable, or exhausted—and you even more out of sync.

Sadly, every time you vent, voice your pain, your wounds, your “stuckness”—you strengthen the story that you are those things. Instead of helping your brain process the experience and move forward, constantly venting blends your identity with the version of you that's still hurting. Over time, that repeated focus doesn't lead to healing—it leads to entanglement. You stop being someone who had a challenging experience and starts becoming someone who is the experience.

Sure, complaining can feel good—for a second, like a steam valve hissing open. But long-term relief doesn't come from circling the same complaints. It comes from breaking the loop. From reflection. From pattern interruption. From choosing to move forward, even when your feelings are still catching up.

So, the next time you feel the urge to vent, pause. Breathe. Ask yourself what you want—relief or repetition. The answer might change everything. The truth is that your brain is always listening.

Every word you speak shapes the path ahead. So, talk like someone who's going somewhere. Use words that push you forward, not hold you back. You're not power-

less—you're learning, growing, becoming. You don't need more drama. You need direction. You don't need everything figured out—you need to stop looking back and start moving forward.

*Toby Moore is a columnist, the star of Emmy-nominated “A Separate Peace,” and the CEO of Cubestream, Inc.*

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# Local SkillsUSA leaders ready to build their skills at national conference

ALBANY — Two Capital Region BOCES teenagers are attending the national SkillsUSA conference in Atlanta this week, but they won't be there to compete. Rather, Elena Hymes, a Criminal Justice student from North Colonie, and Malachi Plaza, an Automotive Trades Technology student from Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake (BHBL), will take part in training sessions and conferences that will build their professional skills and make them ready for their professional futures.

"I am looking forward to the experience," said Plaza in a statement. "Receiving the training and overseeing some of the competitions will be fun and will help me with my future."

The SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference is running this week, from June 23-27, in Atlanta.

The event is the largest gathering of America's future skilled workforce and the ultimate recognition of excellence in career and technical education, with more than 17,500 attendees, including students, instructors, industry partners, government officials, administrators and more attending.

Joining Hymes and Plaza in Atlanta will be student competitors Danny Martin, from Shenendehowa, Hunter Goss, from Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk (RCS), and Hayden Hyslop, a Culinary Arts and Hospitality Technology student from RCS.

Hymes said she is "super excited."

"SkillsUSA is a great organization. It makes a whole new base for your life. You can get really lost in school, but you come here and get involved in BOCES and SkillsUSA gives you a new base to build your

life," she said.

Hymes, an aspiring forensic investigator, added that she is looking forward to building her leadership and professional skills and "improving herself."

Capital Region BOCES SkillsUSA Advisor Debra Toy said it is an honor for Hymes and Plaza to be selected to attend the conference.

"SkillsUSA Officers are elected by their peers at the State Conference. The role provides opportunities for personal and professional growth through training and experience," she said. "These roles involve a significant time commitment and require strong leadership qualities which both Elena and Malachi have shown throughout the year as SkillsUSA officers at Albany Career & Technical School. I am very excited for them to have this experience!"



Contributed photo

BOCES students on their way to SkillsUSA.

## Can my husband work part-time and collect Social Security?

By Russell Gloor

*Editor's Note: The Times-Journal is pleased to introduce a new column this week, Social Security Matters, by financial expert Russell Gloor from the Association of Mature American Citizens. We hope you enjoy it.*

Dear Rusty:

I am writing to you on behalf of my husband. His intentions are to go part-time as of Jan. 1, 2026, working 30 hours a week and take Social Security benefits as supplemental income.

How can we determine what his Social Security benefit would be with him still working part-time? He will be 63 and 7 months old next January and has not yet applied for benefits.

We look forward to hearing from someone very soon.

**Signed: Anxious for Information**

Dear Anxious:

If he claims Social Security at age 63 and 7 months, your husband's benefit will be about 78% of what it would be if he waited until age 67 to claim. And, since your husband will not yet have reached his SS full retirement age (FRA), he will be subject to Social Security's Annual Earning Test (AET), which limits how much he can earn while working and collecting early Social Security retirement benefits.

The amount he can earn without paying a penalty changes yearly but, for reference, the earnings limit for 2025 is \$23,400 per year. If his work earnings exceed the annual limit, Social Security will take away some of his benefits.

Using the 2025 limit as an example, if your husband's annual

2025 earnings were \$40,000, then he would owe about \$8,300 (half of the amount he exceeded the limit by). Social Security would withhold his monthly benefits for enough months to recover what he owes for exceeding the earnings limit (how many months they withhold would be determined by his monthly SS benefit amount).

FYI, the earnings test lasts until your husband reaches his full retirement age (his FRA is age 67), but in the year he attains his FRA the penalty for exceeding the limit is less — \$1 for every \$3 over the limit — and the limit is much higher. The annual earnings test no longer applies once your husband reaches his FRA.

When your husband applies for his SS retirement benefit, Social Security will ask about his work plans and how much he expects to

earn each year. Based upon that information, if he expects to exceed the annual limit, they will pay his benefits for some months of the year (depending on his projected earnings) and withhold his benefits for the remaining months. They will also monitor his annual earnings as reported to the IRS and make any appropriate benefit adjustment afterwards.

If SS benefits are withheld because your husband exceeded the annual earnings limit, when he reaches his full retirement age (67), Social Security will give him time-credit for all months that benefits were withheld. Essentially, they will advance his actual claim date by the number of months benefits were withheld, which will make his monthly benefit higher at his FRA.

The higher amount he receives

after reaching his FRA will help him recover some of the money withheld as a result of exceeding the earnings limit before his FRA.

Please note that it is always best to inform Social Security up front if your husband plans to work and earn (even part-time) prior to reaching his FRA. The IRS will provide the SSA with your husband's earnings information, and SSA will (if his projected earnings weren't disclosed when he applied) issue an overpayment notice if he earns more than allowed. He will then be required to repay SS everything owed, or have his benefits withheld until Social Security recovers what he owes.

One final point: by claiming his benefits in January 2026, your husband's monthly amount will be reduced by about 22% (from the amount he would get

at his FRA of 67). Claiming early (before FRA) always results in a benefit reduction, whereas waiting longer than FRA to claim always results in a higher monthly amount (maximum benefit is reached at age 70).

*This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website ([amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org).*

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## Seward



### By Dana Cudmore Farmers' Market Kicks Off July 2

The first public/private Farmers and Artisans' Market in the town of Seward kicks off its summer season on Wednesday, July 2, from 4-8pm. As many as a dozen vendors will set up shop on town property at the corner of Route 10 and Lowe Road.

Those vendors are: Pig Out Bakery and Piggy Pop, of Seward, offering baked goods, kettle corn and fresh lemonade; Sunstruck Farm, Cobleskill, selling homemade pottery; Kate Wrath, Sharon Springs, homemade laundry soaps and lotions; Melissa Gregory, Richfield Springs, vinyl press-on designs; Scooter's Crafts, Roseboom; Carrie Edsal and Black Willow Pond Farm, Cobleskill, beef and eggs;

Also, Nicole Klopman-Nesenger, Seward, a maker of soy candles and lip balms; C. Evans Co., Seward, custom-imprinted apparel; Duane Spaulding, Seward, 97 milk; selling whole milk products; and Trica Lory, Cobleskill, proprietor of the Wake and Baked food truck.

The Community Library of Cobleskill will also be there, distributing books and information on their summer reading program.

An organizing committee for the farmers' market was created after the Seward Town Board approved use of the Lowe Road property for the event, proposed in May by resident Angela Clapper.

The committee consists of town board member Bill Toohy, who serves as chairman, Angela and Jeremy Clapper, Wendy Rosa, who also sits on the town board, and Duane Spaulding.

The next farmers market will be July 16 and 30, and then every other Wednesday through Oct. 22.

As many as 50 potential vendors have been identified within the town of Seward, according to Angela Clapper, including farms, producers of maple syrups and honey, as well as jewelry and pottery makers.

Organizers are looking for musicians to perform on upcoming market dates.

Potential vendors are encouraged to call Ms. Clapper at 518-337-3722 for details. Vendors will need to supply their own table and/or tent and provide proof of insurance.

### Food Pantry Needs Your Support

The Sharon Springs Community Food Pantry is in danger of closing, organizer Pauline Brown wrote in a letter published in last week's TJ.

"With prices rising, some of our families are needing more and more help with the necessities," said Ms. Brown in a telephone interview Saturday.

"Many families are now coming to the pantry on a weekly basis. We need help with monetary or food donations," she said.

The food pantry accepts non-perishable food items, some personal hygiene products, and, of course, cash or donations by check.

Currently located at the United Methodist Church across from Sharon Springs Central School, the food pantry has been serving local needs for 40 years.

Staffed by volunteers, the site is open Thursdays 9-10:30am. and 5-6:30pm. Volunteers are being sought to work during those hours.

The group's Facebook page, Community Food Pantry - Sharon Springs, offers a list of the types of donations the group is seeking.

"No donation is too small," Ms. Brown said. "We will be so grateful."

Ms. Brown may be reached at 518-284-2687.

### Library Pavilion Celebration Ahead

The Sharon Springs Free

Library will celebrate the opening of their new outdoor pavilion on Monday, July 7, 2-6pm.

The pavilion honors Pamela-Crandell Luby (1953-2019), a former member of the library board and its treasurer.

Refreshments will be served.

The celebration also kicks off the library's Summer Reading Program, "Color Our World," and guests are welcome to register for the program that day.

The library is located at 129 Main St., in the village.

### Sharon Town Board Meets

The Sharon Town Board holds its regularly scheduled monthly meeting Wednesday, July 2, at 6:30pm. in the town building at 129 Main St.

Town board meetings are open to the public except for board discussions of personnel and/or legal matters. Time is typically set aside for public remarks.

Sharon Town Clerk Melissa Olsen holds office hours on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 9am-3pm, and by appointment.

The phone number at the town office is 518-284-3010. The clerk's email address is olsenmeliss110@gmail.com.

### Welcome Cavers

Between 800 and 1,000 cavers from across the country are attending the 82nd annual convention of the National Speleological Society this week in Cobleskill.

Don't call them "spelunkers." The word is rarely used by underground explorers, who prefer "caver."

A Pittsfield, Massachusetts, journalist and author, Clay Perry, is credited with coining the term "spelunker" in the 1940s.

It's from Latin *spelunca*, which in turn derives from the Greek *spelunx*, both meaning "cave."

### Got News?

Readers who have news, events, or social items—milestones, birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, etc.—from communities in and around the town of Seward, you can email me at [dcmedia@aol.com](mailto:dcmedia@aol.com) to have them included in this column. You can also reach out to me at my website/blog, [www.howecavernstales.com](http://www.howecavernstales.com).

Readers' feedback is also welcome, as are suggestions.

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# Church News

Local churches have submitted the following information on their churches services.

To be included in this list, email your information to [Tjournalnews@yahoo.com](mailto:Tjournalnews@yahoo.com) with "Church services" in the subject line.

**Calvary Assembly of God**, 960 Mineral Springs Road, Cobleskill.

[www.cagcobleskill.org](http://www.cagcobleskill.org)  
Sundays 10am.

**Calvary Chapel of the Hills**, 137 Legion Drive, Cobleskill.

Sundays 10am and 5pm, Wednesdays 7pm.

**Christian Community Church of Faith**, 355 Route 7, Richmondville.

Independent/non-denominational.  
Sundays 8:30am.

**Fusion Community Church**, 375 North Grand Street, Cobleskill.

Sundays 9 and 11am.

**Evangelical Lutheran Church**, 890 Route 443, Gallupville.

Sundays 9am.

**Zion St. John's Lutheran Church**, 114 Me-sick Avenue, Seward.

Sundays 9am.

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**, 326 Main Street, Middleburgh.

Sundays 10:30am.

**Sharon Reformed Church**, 6858 Route 10, Sharon Springs.

Sundays 10:30am.

**Cobleskill United Methodist Church**, 107 Chapel Street, Cobleskill.

Sundays 10:15am.

**Delanson United Methodist Church**, 112 East Shore Road, Delanson.

Sundays 9:45am.

**Esperance-Sloansville United Methodist Church**, 175 Main Street, Esperance.

Sunday 11am.

**Gallupville United Methodist Church**, 120 Factory Street, Schoharie.

Sundays 10:30am.

**Grosvenors Corners United Methodist Church**, 1148 Grosvenors Corners Road, Central Bridge.

Sundays 9am.

**Sharon Springs United Methodist Church**, Route 20, Sharon Springs.

Sundays 10:30am.

**Warnerville United Methodist Church**, Route 7 Warnerville.

Sundays 9am with Children's Sunday School also at 9 am.

**Nourished at Middleburgh**, 281 Main Street, Middleburgh.

Sundays noon.

Pastor Mel Moore, (518)827-5126, [Melanmoore2323@gmail.com](mailto:Melanmoore2323@gmail.com).

**Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church**, Middleburgh.

Mass Saturday 5:45pm, Sundays 9am.

**Middleburgh Reformed Church**, 178 River Street, Middleburgh.

Sundays 11am; food pantry open Saturdays, 9-11 am.

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

**Bethany Lutheran Church**, 185 Main Street, Central Bridge. (518) 868-2868.

Sundays 9am.

[BethanyCentralBridge@gmail.com](mailto:BethanyCentralBridge@gmail.com)

**St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church**, 138 Washington Avenue, Cobleskill.

Masses Saturday 5:15 pm, Sunday 8:30am, Tuesday 9am, Thursday, noon.

[stvincentdepaulcobleskillny.com](mailto:stvincentdepaulcobleskillny.com).

**New Beginnings Church**, 2853 State Route 145, Schoharie.

Sundays 10:30am.

**Schoharie Reformed Church**, 258 Main Street, Schoharie.

Sundays 10am.

**Community Church of Howes Cave**, 128 Lester Lane, traditional church service, Sundays 10:30am.

**Schoharie United Presbyterian Church**, 314 Main Street, Schoharie.

Sundays 10:30am.

Food pantry Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon-2pm.

**Lawyersville Reformed Church**, 109 Philip Schuyler Road at the Route 145 corner, Lawyersville.

(518) 234-2387.

Sundays 9am.

**Saint Christopher's Episcopal Church**, 121 Saint Christopher Place, Cobleskill.

Traditional Anglican Holy Eucharist, Sundays 10am.

**Barnerville United Methodist Church**, 224 Shady Tree Lane, Barnerville.

Sundays 8:30am.

**Richmondville United Methodist Church**, Main Street, Richmondville.

Sundays 11:30am.

**Worcester United Methodist Church**, Main Street, Worcester.

Sunday School 9am, worship Sundays 10am. (607) 397-9340, [HRU12157@yahoo.com](mailto:HRU12157@yahoo.com).

**Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church**, 289 Main Street, Schoharie.

Sundays 9am in-person and on Facebook Live.

**Summit Methodist Church**, Route 10.

Sundays 10am.

**7th Day Adventist Church**, Route 10, Summit. Saturdays 10am.

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**, Main Street, Richmondville.

Sundays 11am.

**Central Bridge Methodist Church**, 196 Church Street.

Sundays 10:30am.

**First Baptist Church of Cobleskill**, 492 West Main Street.

Sunday School 9:45am. Sunday worship 10am.

Pastor Lance Howland, (518) 320-5758.

**Schoharie Valley Ward of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**, 141 Church Street, Central Bridge.

Sunday worship 10am. Sunday school 11am.

Wednesday, youth activities 7-8:30pm during school year.

Tuesday and Wednesday, genealogical research, 6:30-8:30pm.

**Huntersland United Methodist Church**, 1355 Huntersland Road, Middleburgh.

Sunday 11am.

**Sharon Springs United Methodist Church**, Route 20.

Sunday 10:30am. (518) 284-2200.

**St. Thomas The Apostle Catholic Church**, 24 Maple Avenue, Cherry Valley.

Sunday mass 10am. Confession is available 30 minutes before every mass. (607) 264-3779.

**Zion St. John's Lutheran Church**, Seward.

Sunday 9am. (518) 234-3222.

**Cornerstone Baptist Church**, Route 10, Ames, Sundays 10am. (518) 673 3405.

**Gilboa United Methodist Church**, 199 NYS Highway 990V, Gilboa.

Sundays 9am.

**West Fulton United Methodist Church**, 849 West Fulton Road, West Fulton.

Worship service at 9am Sunday.

**Pilgrim Holiness Church of Middleburgh**, 2560 State Route 145, Middleburgh.

[www.nyphc.org](http://www.nyphc.org) or [www.nyphc.com](http://www.nyphc.com)

Worship Sundays, 11am, in-person and live-streamed at [www.facebook.com/nyphc](http://www.facebook.com/nyphc).

Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer, 7pm.

The Upper Room Christian Church, 83 North Kortright Church

Road, Davenport.

Sundays 10 am. (607) 434-6558.

**Duanesburg Reformed Presbyterian Church**, 6512 Western Turnpike, Duanesburg.

Sundays, 10am

[duanesburgchurch.org](http://duanesburgchurch.org)

**Christ Episcopal Church**, 132 Duanesburg Churches Road, Duanesburg.

Sunday Service at 10am

(518) 895-2383.

[www.christchurch-duanesburg.org](http://www.christchurch-duanesburg.org).

**Our Lady of Fatima**, 1735 Alexander Road, Delanson. (518)895-2788.

Masses: Tuesday, 9am; Saturday, 4pm; Sunday, 11am.

**Christian Church of Charleston Four Corners**, 1380 East Lykers Road, Sprakers

Sundays 11am, Thursdays 6:30pm. (518) 922-9088.

**Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)**, Quaker Street, Sundays, 10am.

Call for location/Zoom link, (518) 461-6139.

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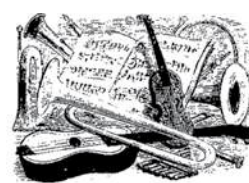
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## Happenings

### Marathon for a Better Life tourney raises record funds

COBLESKILL — An all-time tournament high was raised at the Cobleskill Golf and Country Club on Sunday.

Players raised \$2,478 for the Marathon for a Better Life, in the charity golf tournament held annually. The Marathon helps Schoharie County residents with cancer.

Here are the tournament results:

#### Flight 1:

1st gross: Mitch Wrighter, Cooper LaBarge, Rich Wrigley, Ed Palmatier - 56

1st net: John Massarotti, Bill Trendell, Jakob Manz, Will Boltri - 52

2nd gross: Adam Hoerz, Jason Symons, Ben Smith, Evan Ottman - 58

#### Silver:

1st gross: Don Ende, Ralph Benham, Jim McBain, Barry Przysiecki - 67

1st net: Pete Lyon, Ken Bono, Steve Madison, Todd Smith - 61

#### Mixed:

1st gross: Bruce Bartlett, Dale Wotherspoon, Lee Miller, Michelle Ryan - 59

1st net: Ethan Drinon, Shane Helmstadt, Haley Drinon, Steve Alescio - 54

2nd gross: Bob Ottman, Tina Ottman, Dennis O'Neill, Keith Fulmer - 67

2nd net: Joe Campbell, Joseph Campbell, Shane Campbell, Sandra Campbell - 55

#### Red:

1st gross: Laurie VanDeusen, Nancy VanDeusen, Sandy

Poole, Kathy O'Neill - 73

#### CTP #2:

White 0-13: Will Boltri - 14' 2"

White 14+: Joe Campbell - 25' 2"

Silver: Bill Kent - 10' 4"

Red: Kathy O'Neill - 5' 8"

#### CTP #8:

White 0-13: Dave Aidone - 7' 11"

White 14+: Matt Brisley - 14' 3"

Silver: Ed Lynk - 4' 4"

Red: Deb Langevin - 11' 3"

Long Drive #7 - Jason Marsh

Long Drive #6 - Haley Drinon

Closest to the line #9 - Sandra Campbell

### Sharon Springs revitalization program still accepting applications

SHARON SPRINGS — The Small Project Fund (SPF) supporting revitalization efforts in the Village of Sharon Springs is still accepting applications.

Funding is limited and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

The \$300,000 Small Project Fund is part of the broader \$2.25 million NY Forward grant awarded to Sharon Springs, which will fuel transformative, historically sensitive projects across the downtown district, from Main Street to the iconic Adler Hotel.

The Schoharie Economic Enterprise Corporation (SEEC) is administering the Small Project Fund and encourages business and property owners to apply.

The fund will be used for historically sensitive building renovations, public art instal-

lations, upgrading housing in mixed-use commercial buildings and installing energy efficiency measures to better the operational performance and sustainability and elevate the village as a vibrant hub for both residents and visitors.

"We are pleased to receive this transformative funding through the NY Forward program," said Denise Kelly, mayor of Sharon Springs.

"I'm particularly excited about the Small Project Fund, which offers critical support for local businesses and organizations, helping them bridge funding gaps and make meaningful improvements.

"These investments will have a lasting impact on Sharon Springs for years to come," she said.

Starting in July, SEEC will offer free architectural consultations to help interested applicants turn their ideas into

strong, competitive project proposals.

Each applicant will also be paired with an environmental specialist to assess potential hazardous materials, as well as a design expert to enhance the project's impact and contribute to the visual appeal of Main Street.

The application portal is open, and awards will be made on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted. Construction for approved projects is expected to begin in 2026, with completion by late 2027.

Applicants should submit a project description and initial cost estimate at [seecny.org/small-project-fund](http://seecny.org/small-project-fund).

For more information about the NY Forward Small Project Fund contact Trish Bergan, SEEC Program Administrator at [admin@seecny.org](mailto:admin@seecny.org), call 518-517-1700 or visit [www.SEECNY.org](http://www.SEECNY.org).

### DEC: Clean, drain and dry watercraft to protect NY waters

ALBANY — The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) reminds recreationists to "Clean. Drain. Dry." boats, trailers, fishing gear, and other equipment before launching in New York's waters to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS).

Beginning last Friday, boaters will see the blue vests worn by watercraft inspection stewards, also known as boat stewards, at more than 220 boat launches and decontamination stations throughout the state. Boat stewards are volunteers or paid members of local communities who help protect New York state's waters.

"Boat stewards are vital to protecting our lakes, ponds, and rivers from harmful invasive species like zebra mussels, hydrilla, and Eurasian watermilfoil," DEC Acting Commissioner Amanda Lefton said. "As we kick off this year's boating season, DEC and our partners across the state encourage those out on the waters to respectfully interact with New York's boat stewards and support our ongoing efforts to safeguard our waters from invasive pests."

In 2024, stewards conducted more than 219,000 watercraft inspections and intercepted over 11,000 aquatic invasive plants and animals while raising awareness about AIS and fostering stewardship of New York's waters. The State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) works collaboratively with DEC's Watercraft Inspection Steward Program (WISP) operating approximately 30 sites located at state park ramps.

Aquatic invasive plants, like water chestnut, can shade out native plants that provide food and shelter for native animals and lower dissolved oxygen levels. Invasive fish like round goby can carry pathogens, prey upon native fish eggs and fry, and out-compete native fish species. Both invasive plants and animals can also impact local economies.

This year through WISP, in collaboration with the State Canal Corporation, a new boat wash decontamination unit is being planned for deployment at Cove Road Boat launch on Oneida Lake, with further goals to expand at more sites in the State Canal system.

"New York State Parks is pleased to join our partners in



Courtesy of Pixabay

With boating season now here, the state is reminding recreationists to clean, drain and dry their watercraft, fishing gear and other equipment to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

taking aggressive efforts to prevent invasive species from entering and degrading state lands and waters," New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) Commissioner Pro Tempore Randy Simons said. "I encourage the boating public to do its part and learn and carry out a few simple precautions to protect waters that make our state's waterways so scenic and enjoyable."

All water recreationists are advised to follow these steps to help prevent the spread of AIS:

Clean mud, plants, and animals off boats, trailers, fishing gear, and other equipment (trailer bunks, axles, rollers, lights, transducers, and license plates; motor props; waders; diving gear; anchors; etc.) and discard the material in a trash can or at a disposal station;

Drain all water-holding compartments, including ballast tanks, live wells, and bilge areas, before leaving an access site;

Dry everything thoroughly before using boats or equipment in another waterbody; drying times can vary, but five to seven days in dry, warm conditions is recommended;

When there's no time to dry between uses, disinfect boats and equipment with hot water that is at least 140 degrees Fahrenheit or visit a decontamination site;

Pick up a Clean, Drain, Dry, towel and a Protect Your Waters sticker from one of the stewards as a reminder to take these preventive steps;

Use certified bait that is non-invasive and disease free; and

Do not dump aquarium contents in any waterbodies, drainage ditches, or sewers.

All boaters operating any kind of motorized watercraft in the Adirondack Park and within 10 miles of the Blue Line are required by law to possess certification that, before launching, their vessel has undergone measures to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species by following the Clean, Drain, Dry standards. These certificates can be acquired by visiting a DEC designated aquatic invasive species inspection station where boat stewards are present to inspect or decontaminate vessels and to provide boaters with a certification card. Boaters may perform Clean, Drain, Dry steps themselves and then complete a self-issued certificate (PDF) to be printed and carried by boat users.

After the round goby was discovered in the Hudson River near the city of Troy in 2021, the initial mitigation measures implemented during the 2022 canal navigation season included scheduled lockings and "double draining" at Locks C-1 and C-2, and genetic analysis to estimate the number of spawning adults over time to help monitor round goby populations and closely track species movement.

All New York residents and visitors have a role to play in protecting state waters from invasive species. Visit DEC's website at [dec.ny.gov](http://dec.ny.gov) for more information on how to Clean, Drain, Dry boats, fishing gear, and other equipment. A step by step guide for ridding boats and equipment of AIS with video can also be found on DEC's YouTube channel.

# Cobleskill Democrats

## Town Caucus Community Library

Union Street

Tuesday,  
July 2nd • 6:30pm

Social hour to follow  
at Chieftan's

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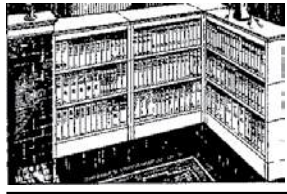
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# Library News

## COBLESKILL

Thursday, June 26 at 10:30am Library Board of Trustees will be holding a special board meeting.

Thursday, June 26 at 2pm Senior Planet: Intro to Booking Vacation Stays Online Do you love to travel but miss the comforts of home when you're away?

Thanks to a variety of websites and apps, you can find your perfect home away from home almost anywhere in the world

This lecture introduces popular vacation rental sites, their common features, and how to find great deals. Additionally, you'll learn how to choose your vacation rental wisely and stay safe while traveling.

Need to travel on a budget? We'll also discuss alternatives to rentals, such as online platforms for home exchanges and house-sitting! Need a vacation? Learn about popular websites and apps for booking vacation rentals. An AARP program for adults.

Register at <https://forms.gle/ANRDzXMe-Jv8Bw7qr8>

Paws for Reading, join our favorite therapy dogs, 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. 4:30 Tuesday, July 8, 15 and 22 with either Stevie or Lily and 4:30 on Thursdays, June 26 July 10 and 24 with Nico.

**\*\*Please note:** Paws for Reading programs may have to be cancelled or rescheduled at short notice, according to therapy animal and handler availability. We recommend calling ahead on Paws for Reading days to check program status.

The Library's Local History Room is open by appointment or on Fridays from 10am-1pm. We have limited information on genealogy and recommend if you are looking for family history, please visit the Old Stone Fort in Schoharie which is also by appointment.

You can access Ancestry.com on our public computers.

Congratulations to the 2025 Cobleskill-Richmondville graduates. We wish you much success with your future endeavors.

Saturday, June 28 and July 26 at 11am Wiggle Worms Play and Explore. Stop by the library for some age-appropriate play and discovery time with sensory toys and activity stations. For babies and toddlers ages 3-24 months and their caregivers.

It is almost time for our 2025 Summer Reading Program. The theme this year, Color Our World celebrates the many ways that art enriches our lives.

Come in and sign up to track your progress, attend programs to earn raffle tickets for prizes along the way.

Registration begins on July 9. The program runs until August 23rd with our annual wrap up party.

Tuesday, July 1 and 15 at 5pm Teen Dungeons and Dragons. Come play D&D at the library with other teens and tweens. No experience needed.

New players will have the chance to create a character when they arrive. Open to middle and high schoolers (ages 11-18). Snacks provided.

Tuesday, July 1 and 15 at 6pm Adult D&D Club: Join our Adult Gaming group on the first and third

Tuesdays of the month for board games, card games, and D&D.

Wednesday weekly Story Time at 10:30am. Young children and their caregivers are invited to join us for relaxed social time with blocks, books, and coloring while our regular Storytime program is on hiatus.

Special add-on activities may be offered as staff time and supplies allow. No registration necessary.

Friday, July 4th the Library is closed in celebration of Independence Day. Reminder that our digital library is always open with Libby.

The library Wi-Fi is always available on our property.

The Community Library invites non-profit, social service organizations to set up a table in the Pine Room and share information about programs, services, and benefits available to members of our community. No cost, no appointment necessary.

This month's schedule includes:

Tuesday, July 8 from 10-1 Schoharie County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse.

Tuesday, July 15 from 4:30 to 7:30 Autism Society of the Greater Hudson Region.

Tuesday, July 8 at 4pm Lego Club: Come build LEGO at the library. Try one of our themed building challenges or build something that inspires you.

We've got the LEGO, just bring your imagination. Open to kids in grades K-8.

Tuesday, July 8 at 6pm Anime Club Hang out with anime at the library. Each month we watch a couple of anime episodes, make an easy craft, and eat snacks.

Open to grades 6-12 (ages 11-18).

Tuesday, July 8 and 22 at 6pm 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.

Wednesday, July 9 at 2pm Dance the World Around Kick off Summer Reading with music and movement.

Homespun Occasions present this fun family program featuring live fiddle music and easy-to-learn American and international folk dances.

Patrons are encouraged to jump in and dance along but sitting and watching are welcome too.

Thursday, July 10 at 1pm the Library Board of Trustees monthly meeting. Meetings are open to the public.

Thursday, July 10 at 4pm All Ages Craft Buffet Each month we bring out our arts & crafts supplies and invite you to come in and make something wonderful.

Painting, drawing, origami, knitting, beadwork, embroidery, you name it. We provide the supplies; you provide the creativity.

Thursday, July 10 at 6pm Color Your Plate: Food Demo and Nutrition Program Join us for nutrition program and food demonstration with Nelta from Cornell Cooperative Extension.

This program includes a nutrition 101 lesson for adults, including estimated daily calorie needs, balancing food groups, understanding labels, and more.

After, there will be a cooking demonstration and opportunities to ask questions and learn more about the programs offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension while enjoy some food.

Registration required. Please remember to include any food allergies when you register.

Saturday, July 12 at 10am the Friends of the Library Meeting in the Library. Friends are holding monthly meetings.

Interested in joining and learning more about upcoming fundraisers to support the Library and how you can help. Want to join The Friends?

Visit <https://communitylibrarycobleskill.org/friends/> or email [friendscommunitylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendscommunitylibrary@gmail.com).

Wednesday, July 16 at 6:30 How to Be a Dungeon Master Interested in running your own Dungeons & Dragons campaigns, but don't know where to start?

Join experienced Dungeon Master Bob Burns for two beginner DM training sessions to get you started.

Participants will learn how to construct campaigns from existing resources or their imaginations as well as tips and tricks for successfully running a campaign and keeping players coming back for more adventure.

Open to ages 12 and up. Participants may attend one or both sessions.

Thursday, July 17 at 1pm Mess-tival Make messy art at the library. Tie-dye a pillowcase, marble paper with shaving cream, and help us splash paint on a banner to add to our library decorations.

This event will take place outside, so dress for the weather and choose clothes that can get messy. If needed, the rain date for this event is Thursday, July 24 at 1pm.

Saturday, July 19 at noon Build and Decorate a Birdhouse Get creative and decorate a birdhouse your feathered neighbors can really use.

Participants will assemble pre-cut birdhouse kits, then paint the exteriors to make a beautiful, functional home for birds.

Come with family and make a birdhouse together or create individual versions to spread out.

Solo build recommended for ages 14 and up (assembly requires hand strength and dexterity). Registration is requested. Many thanks to Cobleskill's Irving Forest Products for donating these amazing, high-quality kits.

Saturday, July 19, noon-2pm Immigration Legal Aid Program with Hiscock Legal Aid Society. Do you have questions about immigration?

Join us for a free informational session to discuss key topics and current concerns in immigration law.

Learn about important updates, basic rights, and practical tips while hearing more about the free legal services Hiscock Legal Aid Society provides.

Wednesday, July 23 at 2pm Make a Window Hanger The Studio for Art and Craft is coming to The Community Library.

Make a glass and resin window hanger and let the light shine through the beautiful colors you choose. Several shape and color options are available, and projects will be ready to take home at the end of

the program.

Open to ages 4-12; seating is limited, so registration is required for this program. All kids under age 10 must have a participating adult present.

Saturday, July 26 at 12:30pm You Wrote A Book, Now What? Tips for Getting Published. Join us for this exciting workshop where you will gain an insider's view of book publishing with literary agent Jan L. Kardys from Black Hawk Literary Agency.

Jan will share her 40 years of experience inside 10 major NYC book publishers on topics including writing a manuscript, editing, finding a literary agent, query letters, book proposals, publishing agreements, self-publishing vs. traditional book publishing, subsidiary rights, marketing and social media action plans, and more. Registration required.

Thursday, July 31 at 2pm Nebula Spin Art Join educators from the Dudley Observatory at Siena College for this fun program where astronomy and art meet.

Nebulae are clouds of gas and dust that can either be left over from a supernova explosion or the birthplace of stars.

Astronomers study these objects by looking at the light produced by different elements. Participants will learn about nebulae and make their own nebula spin art.

Recommended for ages 6 and up. Sponsored by The Dean Graham Foundation.

The Library is helping Cobleskill-Richmondville Schools to collect plastic to turn into a bench. You can drop your household plastic in the donation box in the library's vestibule to help them reach their goal of 1,000 pounds.

No crinkly plastic like the plastic bouquets come wrapped in.

The library offers curbside pickup for patrons who are not up to coming inside to collect the items they have on reserve. Give us a call at 518-234-7897 to get your pickup scheduled. Returns can be placed in the silver bin at the end of the ramp.

Visit [Communitylibrarycobleskill.org](https://communitylibrarycobleskill.org) for more information. To receive Library News by email sign up here <https://bit.ly/CommunityLibraryNews> Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

It is easy to find age-appropriate programs on the event calendar at <https://bit.ly/CommunityLibraryEvents>.

## SCHOHARIE

**Schoharie Library Hours:** Tuesday, 10am-8pm. Wednesday, noon-7pm. Thursday and Friday, 11am-6pm. Saturday, 10am-2pm. Closed Sunday and Monday.

**Pride Art Night:** Thursday, June 26, 6-8pm. Get creative with our art/craft materials, enjoy social time and light refreshments as we celebrate Pride Month. Signup: <https://bit.ly/PrideArt25>

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

**Writers' Group (Vir-**

**tual):** Mondays at 7pm. <https://bit.ly/Writers-GroupSHO>

**Goat Yoga Fundraiser:** Tuesday, July 1, 7pm. Schoharie Yoga Barn's Nichole McBride & Cotton Hill Creamery's Goats come together for Goat Yoga on the lawn under the tents.

Fundraiser for Schoharie Library. \$20 per person. Registration required. <https://bit.ly/SHOGoatYoga>

**Discovery Tuesday: Reptile Adventure.** July 8 with sessions at 10am and 11am. Learn about tortoises, snakes, lizards, and more - see and touch live reptiles.

All other Discovery Tuesdays are at 10am through August 12. Registration optional: <https://bit.ly/DiscTuesArtWed2025>

**Art Wednesday: Block Printing with Casey Beal\*** For ages 12 and up. July 9 at 1:30pm. Carve a design in a printing block, ink it, print on fabric.

Library staff will offer a simpler program for younger children. Registration required: <https://bit.ly/DiscTuesArtWed2025>

Check the library website/Facebook page for a full Art Wednesday schedule.

\*This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of The Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by CREATE Council on the Arts.

**Fun Fridays:** July 11, 18, 25 and August 2, 10am-12pm. The Youth Bureau has lots of fun kids' activities planned.

**Lunch at the Library** Tuesdays and Fridays starting July 8 at noon. The Joshua Project will provide free lunch this summer, so spend your morning at the library activities, pick out books, and have lunch with friends.

**Summer Reading Program:** Sign up, keep track of your reading, your fun activities, and the interesting places you visit, win prizes and enter the drawing for a grand prize. Signup: <https://bit.ly/SRPSignup2025>.

## MIDDLEBURGH

July 1, 10:45am - 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. No registration is required.

July 1, 1-4pm - Mahjong - Join the ladies for games of Mahjong. If you don't know how to play, they will help you. Men are welcome also.

July 3, 1pm - Family Movie Series - "Sing" - Join us and watch the film Sing (PG).

In a city of humanoid animals, a hustling theater impresario's attempt to save his theater with a singing competition becomes grander than he anticipates even as its finalists find that their lives will never be the same.

Free popcorn. This program is for families and children of all ages. No registration required.

July 5 - Independence Day - The library will be closed to observe the holiday.

Top of FormBottom

of FormBeBBBe sure to check our calendar on our website at [www.middleburghlibrary.info](http://www.middleburghlibrary.info) for future programs. Also, don't forget our Facebook page.

## SHARON

A big thank you to the incredible SSCS Student Council for hosting last week's community car wash in support of the library.

We appreciate everyone in the community who came out to show their support as well.

Our Adult Book Discussion for July and August will follow monthly themes. For July, we're celebrating *color* in connection with the "Color Our World" Summer Reading Program.

Choose any book that ties into the theme of color-literally or figuratively.

Optional "Book Review" slips are available at the front desk to help reflect on your read; feel free to bring your slip to the discussion as a helpful reference.

Join us on Monday, July 7 from 2-6 pm as we celebrate our new outdoor pavilion in honor of former board member Pam and kick off our Summer Reading Program: Color Our World.

Enjoy free hot dogs, outdoor fun, and sign up for a colorful season of reading and creativity.

Just a reminder: The library will be closed tomorrow, Friday, June 27. It will also be closed next Friday, July 4th, in observance of the holiday.

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## Worcester



### By Karen Butler Red Carpets and Me

Last night I attended a Hollywood movie premiere and walked the red carpet with Brad Pitt.

Well, it wasn't actually in Hollywood, but in New York City.

And there wasn't exactly a red carpet but a temporary black set for interviews in Times Square.

And I didn't really rub shoulders with Brad, but I did see him from afar as he was being interviewed.

Years ago, I took a summer writing course at UCLA, which was where I met Linda Bruckheimer. We became writing buddies.

Her husband, Jerry Bruckheimer, was noted at the time as the producer of "American Gigolo," "Cat People" and "Flashdance," but he would in time become far better known as the producer of huge budget blockbusters— "Armageddon," "Black Hawk Down," "Pirates of the Caribbean"—well, you get the picture.

Every once in a while, Dev and I get invited by Linda to one of his openings and we always try to go, as it's quite far afield from our usual South Worcester rurality.

And this time it was to see Brad Pitt go for the gold in "F1," the film which will most likely be this summer's big hit movie.

We marched with our special tickets and wristbands into Radio City Music Hall, amidst beautiful, tall ladies in elegant summer dresses, with perfect hair and makeup, and gentlemen in business attire, to sit engulfed in the sound and sight of this IMAX racing movie.

And, of course, now I'm a huge fan of racing, and am just waiting for Brad's invitation to go stock car driving with him. Any day now.

### Worcester Schenevus Library

While awaiting Brad Pitt's call, I taught the first session of my Creative Acting for youngsters class.

About 10 youngsters frolicked and crossed the stage, spouting lines with different expressions, dancing, trying out different postures, generally having a good time.

The verdict afterwards, I heard from our librarian: "I thought this class would be fun, but it was even more fun than I'd thought." I'm thrilled.

And if you like movies as much as I do, our library is sponsoring summer movies Wednesdays at noon at our beautiful Wieting Theatre.

Check out the schedule on Facebook. I, for one, haven't yet seen "Wicked," but I will when it plays on June 25.

Come walk the red carpet with me.

### SPAC

Several South Worcesterians and I went to Saratoga Springs to see SPAC's operetta of Offenbach's "La Vie Parisienne."

I've seen several productions there over the years, and they are always fabulous. This was no exception.

Wonderful singing, acting, costumes, orchestra. Attentive audience. Lovely time. I highly recommend this to you if you enjoy a fine, musical, theatrical time.

### Hyde Hall

Poetry Barn, July 5, 6-8pm. Share your voice at Hyde Hall's Poetry Open Mic Night in the cozy woodshed, with readings, wine, and poetry under the stars.

### Free Community Event Otsego 2000

We had such a fun, interesting walk through South Worcester, led by Cindy Falk last week, that I want to tell you about upcoming walks:

July 13, Fly Creek — How does architecture promote community? Learn about the history of Fly Creek and the community spaces that enlivened the hamlet over the years.

Aug. 10 — Hartwick. Can old buildings support new uses? Hartwick's many examples of adaptive reuse say yes.

Sept. 7 — Roseboom. Did you ever want to time travel? Using the 1903 map of Roseboom we will examine what has been lost, added, and changed over the last 125 years.

Oct. 19 — Middlefield. How did industrialization benefit small rural communities and how has it hurt them? We will use Middlefield as a model of the opportunities and challenges of "progress."

Nov. 16 — Cooperstown. Evolution or Revolution? The built environment has been subject to both slow and dramatic change — we will look at examples of how the buildings around us have been transformed by both.

### OCCA

Cooperstown Culvert Assessments — Assistants needed, Saturday, June 28, 9am to 12:30pm.

Be part of an exciting community science effort in Otsego County. Join OCCA and some of our Culvert Team leaders to assess the conditions of culverts near Otsego Lake.

If you like this type of volunteer work, you have the option to join one of our culvert teams as an assistant for other assessments throughout the summer.

What are the Culvert Teams doing? This summer, Culvert Team volunteers will hit

the road to assess streamroad crossings (culverts) across the watersheds of Otsego Lake, Canadarago Lake, and Butter-nut Creek.

The focus of these assessments is to understand if culverts/bridges are conducive to aquatic travel, but we also collect data on the state of the structures themselves.

The data collected determines if culverts allow for organisms such as fish, turtles and other aquatic wildlife to navigate our local streams and tributaries. Email volunteer@occainfo.org.

### DAR

The Iroquois Chapter of the DAR hosted a wonderfully informative event for the public May 17 at the Wieting Theatre in Worcester called "Cyber Security and Tips for Protecting Your Personal Data," presented by DAR member Terri Merz, Senior Cyber Security Research Scientist: Asymmetric Cyber Operations & Analytics.

She presented information about dealing with scammers that target small towns like ours and showed real-world examples of local scams, how to spot red flags and protect ourselves when something is suspicious. Thank you, Terri.

June 14 — The Iroquois Chapter DAR hosted their booth at the Strawberry Festival and had great local support.

Thank you to the businesses and individuals who stopped by and continue to support the chapter's annual Good Citizenship recognitions to graduating seniors of Worcester and Schenevus schools, Community Service Award, and work on various historical preservation projects, veterans' affairs, and public education programs.

Later in the day, several members participated in Stamford's 52nd annual Flag Day Parade, which is sponsored by the Stamford Fire Department.

Members Sharon Collins, Michelle Empie, JoAnn Little, Milina Milavec, Joy Musella, Stacey and Emma Serdy, and Mary Teller all marched along the route, handing out red, white and blue bracelets.

The parade's purpose is to demonstrate patriotism and honor the American Flag — key DAR tenets — and that it does as one of the best parades in the region.

If you have an American Revolutionary War ancestor, or think you may be related to one, and are interested in joining, please let them know at IroquoisChapterNSDAR@gmail.com.

Stay well, send news: kg-butler7@gmail.com.

## Gilboa-Conesville



### By Dorothy Pickett

It is a good thing I jot down items of interest for the column during the week as it seems like the days roll by so fast that here we are doing our column and then along comes another weekend, prompting us to start all over again.

July will be upon us shortly.

Keep in mind our annual Fourth of July parade. If you would like to join in the parade, meet up at the Flat Creek Baptist Church, Flat Creek Road, by 11:30am. Parade kicks off at 12:00noon and following the parade free hot dogs and a Hymn sing back at the church.

All are welcome to come and enjoy this country parade in memory of our dear William Terry.

There is still time to get in on the "Fill a Bag \$5" at the Conesville Everything Shoppe as their last day to remain open is June 28.

It was so good to see Kim (Tompkins) Weidner in church this past Sunday.

If some of you remember her son Dylan, I am so proud to say he will turn 35 on June 23.

When Dylan was born, he needed a kidney. During his baby years two were rejected followed by a third one that saved his life. If I remember right that one came from his mother.

Dylan, being Kim and hubby Dr. Joe's only child, one can only imagine how much their son means to them.

Congratulations and happy birthday, Dylan. May you be blessed with many more wonderful milestone years.

On Thursday, the Conesville/Gilboa Seniors met at the Conesville firehouse for their monthly meeting. Vice President Lori Gustin conducted the opening with a welcome, Pledge to the Flag and Pastor Dottie did the prayer. TP's Restaurant catered a delicious luncheon of sandwiches, tossed salad, pasta salad and right down to the desserts.

The meeting began with Lori letting everyone know that they are still looking for someone to take over as president.

Discussion proceeded on ideas the seniors would like to do. The next meeting will be a potluck at the Gilboa Museum under the pavilion or if the rain hits, it will take place inside. There will be a tour of the museum and the new addition.

On Friday, I attended the Board of Supervisors meeting in Schoharie. The full board approved redoing the closed section of Flat Creek Road. I was ecstatic since we have been waiting three years.

However, when I spoke to thank all of them, including DPW Darrin Palmatier, I let them know that I understood that South Gilboa Road is a priority that needs to be fixed first.

Part of that road was washed out when the heavy rain hit a few weeks back. I felt very confident about the repair of both roads while driving home.

I hope everyone got a chance to read the TJ correspondents' tribute to Patsy Nicosia, who is leaving as editor of the Times-Journal after 44 dedicated years. Many thanks to correspondent Linda Feuz for putting this article together. It was superb.

On Saturday, Diane and I mowed the lawn. After she left, I drove my tractor to the church and mowed that lawn.

Arriving home, I quickly got ready to attend the silent movie at the Gilboa Museum, which was to start at 4pm.

Tim Fries, director of the Schoharie Train Museum, gave a talk on the era of steam trains, their role in the movie we were about to see, plus the impact on the Catskills.

The silent movie "The General," a film by actor Buster Keaton, was so much fun to watch. During the movie everyone enjoyed popcorn along with a couple of other desserts.

While that event was taking place, down at Rockland Cidery the GCCS class of '75 was holding their 50-year class reunion. On Sunday, I spoke with one of the classmates, Ingrid Mattson, while at Tracy's. She tells me they had a wonderful time.

On Sunday, Flat Creek Church had two missionary speakers. Rosie Johnson is a missionary in Indonesia and her dad Ron and his wife with their mission in Brazil.

**Prayer Concerns:** Tom Miner's son-in-law Harold.

**Birthdays:** June 30 Brian Hallock, July 2 Rebekah Mowers

### Upcoming Events:

June 26: Stamford Baccalaureate 7pm at the Stamford Baptist Church.

June 27: Rockland Cidery opens from 3-6pm,

June 28: Rockland Cidery Yoga with Rod Sauquillo 11am-noon. Live Music with Lali and The Pops 3-6pm. Wake and Bake Food Truck on site.

June 29: The Cidery presents Live music The Son Dogs 3-6pm along with food from The Horseshoe Café.

June 29: The Gilboa Museum will host a Shopping Bag Auction at 2pm. Supervisor Alicia Terry will be the auctioneer. Come early to check out the museum and then stay for the fun.

July 19: From 8-11:30am, the Schoharie County Transfer Station Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be held at 2805 Route 7, Howes Cave. For more information call 518-295-8447.

### Sunday Worship Services:

Gilboa Methodist: 9am located on 990V

Flat Creek Baptist: Flat Creek Road, 9:30am Sunday school, 10:30am worship service with coffee and fellowship following the service.

Conesville United Methodist Chapel: First and Third Sunday of the month 4pm, Route 990V.

## Richmondville



### By Ann Lape

Hi readers.

Everyone will be happy to know the Richmondville pool, located behind Radez School, will be opening on June 28. It will be open daily, 1-7pm. There is no cost to swim.

The Youth Bureau will again be sponsoring the Richmondville Rec Program. The program will be open from July 14-25, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

You can drop your child off at the firehouse at 9am for free arts and crafts and team-building games.

At noon, a walk will take place to the Richmondville United Methodist Church Hall for lunch.

After walking to the Richmondville pool for the after-

noon, children can then be picked up at 3pm.

This is a free program with supervision throughout the day. If interested, contact Jennifer Golden at 607-427-9224.

June 28 — St. Paul's Emergency Food Pantry will be 9am to noon. Clients are asked to provide valid photo ID and current proof of residence.

Thanks to all who make this program possible.

June 30 — The Joshua Summer Lunch Program starts at the Richmondville United Methodist Church Hall, from Monday through Friday. Lunch is served, at no cost to anyone, from noon to 1pm. Local church people prepare and serve these meals. If you are interested in helping out, contact a local church or Bev Lockwood at 518-294-8853.

July 1 — The Richmondville Volunteer Fire Department monthly meeting will be at 7:30pm in the fire-

house. New members are always welcome.

The fire department has free smoke detectors, including installation, for anyone who needs one, by contacting them at 518-294-7721. Smoke detectors are proven to save lives. Make sure your home has working detectors.

July 2 — Richmondville Senior Citizens will meet at noon in the firehouse. Bring a place setting and a dish to share.

July 2 — Richmondville Fish and Game Club will meet at 7pm at their property, located on High View Road.

July 2 — Richmondville Promotional and Beautification Society meeting will be held at 7pm in the Neary Municipal Building, located on Main Street.

If anyone has news they would like to share in this column, feel free to contact me, Ann Lape, at 518-813-2826.

Congratulations to all our graduates and have a great week everyone.

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## Summit



**By Karen Cuccinello**

It's now officially summer. Lots of activities going on around the county last weekend.

The Fishing Derby at Summit Lake on June 21 had about 15 youth participants ages 10-15. Kids with the biggest fish received medals.

Biggest bass: First place, Tommy Clark 14", also biggest fish of the day; second place, Justin Frost and Leo Van Valkenburg 13.5"; third place, Paul Hahn 12". Biggest perch: first place, Aidan Killenberger 10.5"; second place, Vinny Merwin, 9.75", also caught the most fish of the day 13 in total; third place, Robert Capurso 9".

Thank you to John Steitz for organizing the derby and sending me the photos.

Thank you to fellow Esperance T-J correspondent Linda Feuz for letting me know that there is a strawberry u-pick on Route 30 between Middleburgh and Schoharie, cash.

Happy 50th anniversary to Debbie and Jim Soucia, of Lutherville.

I spent a couple hours volunteering at the Civil War reenactment in Delhi last Saturday. I spoke to quite a few of the reenactors while I was there. The big plus of the day was that the sun was out.

Met and chatted with Horst Muenzner, of Summit, at the car show held at PJ's Auto and Tire Center and bought some yummy Piggy Pop popcorn from vendor Jeremy Clapper.

Parking was by donation for Marathon for a Better Life.

The Forest Fire Lookout Association Eastern Confer-

ence was held June 20-22 at the Richmondville firehouse. Laurie Rankin, of Bloomville, New York state chapter director coordinated the conference.

Most attendees came from New York state but there were folks from Idaho, North Carolina, Virginia, and the chairman, Michael Guerin, from California.

After meeting time, participants visited assorted fire towers that were about an hour's drive away.

I never knew about this organization until about six months ago and helped out with the morning set-up.

There is one tower still standing in Schoharie County on Leonard Mountain in Broome, that will hopefully be open to the public soon.

I will miss working with Patsy at the T.J. I have known Patsy for quite a few years and got to know her before the TJ when she had a house down the road from me in Summit.

I went there to see some turkey vultures that she was rehabilitating in special cages in the garage.

Then years later I ended up emailing her my Summit news every Monday morning.

June 27 — 4th Friday Street Fest in Middleburgh from 5:30-8:30pm.

July 2 — Tour of Revolutionary War veterans at Stamford Cemetery, 2 Mountain Ave., Stamford, 6:30pm, rain or shine. By Stamford Village Historian Karen Cuccinello.

July 4 — USA Independence Day

July 7-11 — Art in the Green at the Maple Museum,



Contributed photo

**Winners of the Summit Lake Fishing Derby, left to right, Tommy Clark, Vinny Merwin, Aidan Killenberger, Robert Capurso and Leo Vanvalkenburg.**

from 10am-4pm, make a dragon puppet, Free for all ages, 221 Creamery St., Jefferson.

July 11 — Visit the Vinton Schoolhouse in the West Fulton town green 5-7pm. Fulton Historical Society members will be available to answer questions and Fulton history books and calendars will be for sale.

July 12 — Jefferson Heritage Day on the green in Jefferson. All-day event. Parade starts at 11am.

July 13 — Family Home Run Day at Esperance Historical Museum. Join Alexandria Milne for a hands-on celebration of America's pastime 1-4pm. Explore the museum's collection of baseball-making artifacts, and kids can try their

hand at stitching their own felt ball. Suggested for ages 6-12, but all ages, even kids at heart, are welcome to join in on the fun.

July 15 — SCOPE (Shooters Committee on Political Education) meeting at Carlisle Town Hall 7pm.

July 16 — Summit town board meeting 7pm.

July 16 — Long Path North Hiking Club meeting 6pm in the SCCA club house 3673 State Route 145, Cobleskill.

July 19 — Charlottesville Fire Department Annual Chicken BBQ and Lawn Sale. The lawn sale is at 10am and the BBQ is at 11am. Chicken halves and dinners are available. Donations for the lawn sale may be dropped off in the

Charlottesville Fire Department pavilion behind the firehouse.

July 19 — Household Hazardous Waste Collection event, 8-11:30am at the Schoharie Transfer Station, 2805 State Route 7, Cobleskill.

July 20 — Charlottesville Schoolhouse Breakfast 8-11am. Breakfasts are all-you-can-eat, family-style dining including pancakes, French toast, eggs made to order, sausage patties, sausage gravy, home-style potatoes, coffee, tea, and OJ with table service, not a buffet, and local maple syrup from Terrell's Sugarhouse.

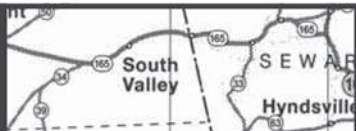
The Charlottesville Schoolhouse is located at 641 Charlotte Valley Road. Season-long 50/50 raffle. Home-made

baked goods will be available for purchase.

### History

June 20, 1895 — Summit-Carrie Crowe returned from New York. - Editor Frazee and Miss Nellie Hubbell called on friends in town. - Miss Lettie Burnett is visiting her brother, Tom Burnett. - Dr. Wharton's house is nearing completion. - O'Dell and Benjamin are painting H.B. Dingman's house. - Mrs. Catherine Rifenbark died June 9, at the home of her daughter. Mrs. W. D. Gallup. She was much loved and respected by all who knew her. - The Epworth League was organized with Rev. Bullen as president and Mrs. H.D. Jump as secretary.

## South Valley



**By Carol Brodie**

I like this quote by former President Ronald Reagan: "The American dream lives — not only in the hearts and minds of our own countrymen but in the hearts and minds of millions of the world's people in both free and oppressed societies who look to us for leadership. As long as that dream lives, as long as we continue to defend it, America has a future, and all mankind has reason to hope."

We had bad thunderstorms, with heavy rain and winds, early Sunday morning, June 22, but at least it wasn't as bad as Utica and other areas.

They had tornado-like winds and a lot of places lost electricity. I'm thankful that didn't happen to us here in South Valley.

Our weather has been totally crazy lately. It can be chilly, with temperatures in the high 50s and low 60s one day, and then hot and humid the next day.

I feel for the farmers as they try to do haying with all of the rain we have been getting lately. But if we have those hot, humid days in between the rains, hopefully the hay will dry for them to bale.

### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday wishes go out this week to Lisa Kineke, Della Baran who will be five years old, Tony Brodie, Isabel Daley who turns 25, Cody VanBuren, Sebella Schaffer who will be 13, Lorel VanBuren, Tracy Laughlin, Malinda Brodie, Aria Mabie who will be nine years old, Sara Hudson, Al Pucio, Bryan Bach, Nancy Foote, Jeff McMillen, Kevin Kineke, Linda Brodie, and Julie Stannard. Anniversary wishes go out to Donovan and Donna Lundy.

### MEMORIAL SERVICE

There will be a memorial service for Jennie Snyder at the South Valley First Christian Church this Saturday, June 28, at noon with calling hours prior, 11am to noon.

Interment will be later that day at the Springfield Center Cemetery.

### BITS AND PIECES

Marjorie French, of Schenectady, called on her brother and sister-in-law, Leland and Pat Mabie, on Friday, June 13. Neighbor Dick Hansen visited Leland and Pat Mabie on Saturday, June 14.

The annual Larry Thompson fishing contest was held at the Cherry Valley Fish and Game Club on Saturday morning, June 14, with a good turnout.

In the eight-year-old and under group, there were 15 boys and girls, while there were eight boys and girls in the 9-12 age group.

The biggest bass caught was 14 and a half inches long; the biggest perch was 11 and a half inches; the biggest catfish was 12 and a half inches; and the biggest sunfish/blue gill was nine inches.

The kids caught a lot of fish and had fun doing it.

After the fishing was over, the kids and their parents enjoyed hot dogs, chips, and a beverage. Then the prizes were handed out.

The worms were donated by Jim and Cindy Coe of JC Bait and Tackle of Richfield Springs.

Throughout the year, the workers at the VanHornesville Hatchery help the elementary students raise the fish in the classroom, and later they transport them to the club pond to be stocked.

The club pond was traditionally a cold-water fishery with rainbow trout and bass. It has gradually changed to a warm water fishery and the stocking by the students has introduced the extra species of bluegills, perch and catfish.

Check out the Cherry Valley Fish and Game Club Facebook page for photos of the young fishers and their catch. And congratulations to all of them.

The club's monthly drive-thru roast beef dinner that evening was also a success as they sold well over 100 dinners.

Mark your calendars for next month's dinner on Saturday, July 12.

I want to thank Brian

Schermerhorn for sharing all of the club's information with me so I could add it to this column.

Leland and Pat Mabie entertained several visitors on Father's Day, June 15.

Debbie Anderson brought her dad a gift and made him a special breakfast of waffles and sausage.

Tom and Kelly Mabie, of Springfield Center, visited, and while Tom mowed their lawn for them, Elena Sheldon and her daughter Holly stopped in.

Mark Anderson did a barbecue for the group to enjoy.

Later, Joslyn Mabie and her friend Cody stopped in to visit her grandparents.

George and Fran Mabie, of Roseboom, were also there to wish his dad a happy Father's Day.

Ray and Sandy Sutton also arrived that evening for a visit and brought along their new puppy.

Brian Schermerhorn and Rose visited his mom, Jean Schermerhorn, in Cherry Valley, on Sunday, June 15.

Brian's brother, Chris and his wife Gina, of Indiana, were there visiting so they all enjoyed a nice time together.

Chris and Gina were getting ready to do a tour of the eastern states. They are also planning on visiting all 50 states.

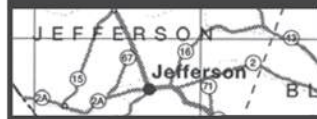
Dick and June Hansen hosted a family get-together on Saturday, June 21, as they celebrated a belated Father's Day, along with a birthday celebration for their grandson, Jakeb Whiteman.

June reports it was a beautiful day, with perfect weather and lots of sunshine, as the kids enjoyed a lot of water activities.

Family members attending were JoAnn Hansen and sons, Jakeb and Jax, of Westford, Joe and Jane Dent and son William, of Oneonta, Richard Hansen and daughter Olivia, of Oneonta, and Abby Dent, of Hamburg.

Anyone with news for this area can reach me at 607-264-3225 or email carolbrodie@hotmail.com.

## Jefferson



**By Diane Dubshinski**

Jefferson Central's second vote for a school budget for next year was voted down.

Congratulations to the residents of the town of Jefferson in turning out to vote. It takes a lot to have the Jefferson town residents not once but twice come out and vote down this budget.

Hopefully the Jefferson Town Board will take notice of the school's budget results as they start discussing and compiling information and numbers for next year's town budget also.

There was much discussion on Facebook as to why the results were not posted in local papers.

One point of information is that the deadline for the local papers to have their information submitted for print is Monday morning and the vote did not take place until noon on Tuesday.

I would question why the electric sign, which should be visible, is not and has not been for weeks. Any ideas on how

to fix this sign, pretty sure it is fairly new.

That sign is a communication device and should be used to communicate with the public.

### JEFFERSON HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATION

Here's a date not to miss — Jefferson Heritage Day will be Saturday, July 12.

This free event brings folks of all ages from all over to enjoy a fun-filled day and night in the quaint village of Jefferson at the Town Green (Route 10 to Main Street) with the antique gazebo at its heart.

Also marked as the weekend to schedule many family reunions, the planners for this year's Heritage Day are confident that no one will be disappointed.

Heritage Day is chock-full of performances, live music featuring the Patty & the Mygraines, Mike Herman and other surprises.

Come early to the Methodist Church for the best pies

from the church ladies.

Food stands and crafters, games, birds and reptiles on display, and events you don't want to miss. Something for all ages.

Love a parade, it starts at 11am, live entertainment begins at 9:30am and continues throughout the day.

At dusk, come on back for the fireworks.

Dance and enjoy the "Rubber Band Band," the feature band, until 11pm under the big tent.

All of this and much more makes for a free fun day for the whole family.

For more information, email JeffersonHeritageDay@aol.com. Visit the Facebook page: Jefferson Heritage Day and website: jeffersonheritage.com.

Have a safe week and contact me with any articles you may have at Dubshinski@gmail.com. Thanks.

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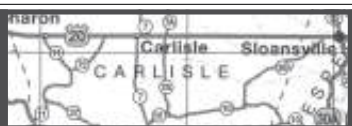
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## Carlisle



**By Chris Keefer**  
Greetings Carlisle and all other interested readers.

I think the weather gods have no more excuses for cold and rainy summer weather, once we got by the Summer Solstice on June 20.

Let's have some good swimming and haying weather now, please.

Road closed: As of Monday, June 23, construction to replace the bridge over Cobleskill Creek on Caverns Road will begin. A Howe Caverns Facebook post indicates the construction will be finished sometime this fall. The detour routes will mean extra time to get around the site. Drive carefully in that area.

VFD News: The Carlisle Fire Department held a Red Cross blood drive last Tuesday. The place was quite busy. Thanks to all those who took the time to donate, and to the Red Cross staff for their care.

The town historian set up a small promotional table to showcase some of Carlisle's history and to generate interest in our historical society.

The table had several photographs of our most famous features: caves, farms, birds and historic homes. There was a basket of freebies for history fans and membership forms.

If you'd like to support the Carlisle Historical Society, please email [carlislehistoricalsociety12031@gmail.com](mailto:carlislehistoricalsociety12031@gmail.com) for a membership form. The cost is \$10 per family per year.

We put on seven programs each year and your support helps fund speakers and archival supplies for the many artifacts the historical society holds.

Congratulations graduates: Best wishes to all our high school graduates from Carlisle. Great job. Nice work. Now, go forth and prosper. Please let us know what your future plans are so Carlisle can continue to be proud of you.

And yay to all those who completed their year of school, whether it be their

first year of preschool or their junior year.

It doesn't come without a lot of hard work and effort, as well as support from your families. Congratulations and have a happy and safe summer.

Travels & Visits: Roger and Kathy Slater went to Wappingers Falls and spent the weekend with their son Roger and daughter-in-law Tamara.

Rebecca and Jeff Huizenga of Holland, Michigan, were week-long guests of her parents, Debbie and Frank Bradt. While here they also enjoyed some meals with sister Rachel, her husband Kyle and their daughter Ayla McCormick of Altamont.

One of the meals was Father's Day with Mission Barbeque, which all enjoyed very much. Also present at that meal was Ella Youngs of Schoharie, Lori and Maurice McCormick of Altamont and Elva McCormick of Albany.

The Keefers of Carlisle and Rotterdam enjoyed a visit to the Keefers of Stillwater where we went on a farm tour that included chickens, gardens, butterflies and a pond. Then we told stories and ate fresh strawberries and cookie sticks.

Among my travels last week, a friend and I happened upon the Avyaan Antiquity shop at 23 Main St. in Fultonville.

Recently opened, not even 30 minutes from Carlisle, and located in the former Van Horne Hardware store, Avyaan is a simply-furnished, wide-open space featuring antiques and unique gifts all displayed beautifully, using many of the old hardware store shelves and counters.

I picked up a couple of things (don't tell the husband) and was pleased with their pricing.

The shop is open Friday and Saturday 11am to 5pm, and Sunday 11am to 4pm. Avyaan will be a featured store at the Fultonville Vendor Fair this Saturday, June 28.



**Patriots of the Young family of Carlisle honored at the Patriot Pathway at Lasell Hall.**

Looking ahead: Our next town board meeting will be July 2 at 7pm at the Town Hall.

The Fourth of July holiday is observed on Friday, July 4.

Our next planning board meeting will be July 8 at the Town Hall. Keep your eye out for upcoming chicken barbecues at the VFD.

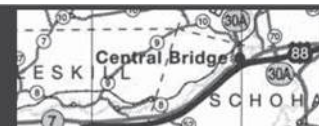
Happy birthday, America: Enjoy the thrill of fireworks, the cookouts, campouts and swim time as we celebrate our nation's birthday.

I toured the Patriot Pathway at Lasell Hall in Schoharie last week. I found most of Carlisle's patriots honored in the bricks. Let's celebrate their heroism, the vision and commitment, and their sacrifices this weekend.

Take some time to check it out.

Got news? Send birthday greetings, announcements of anniversaries and happy events, community events, boasts and praise, and reports of good birds to [carlisle.news12031@gmail.com](mailto:carlisle.news12031@gmail.com), or call 518-339-3664. Have a great week.

## Central Bridge



**By Janice Wilkens**  
**Quote for the Week** by Epictetus, a Greek Stoic philosopher, who died in 135 AD: "It is not what happens to you, but how you react to it that matters."

I found this to be true, myself.

**Read Any Good Books Lately?**

Upon recommendation by another Gathering Place book club member, I just finished reading "The Story of Edgar Sawtelle" by David Wroblewski.

Like so many books I've been reading lately, the story starts out believable, even if a bit far-fetched, but somehow takes a turn about a third of the way in and becomes totally bizarre and outrageous.

Early on, I became aware of how frequently the author used gray to describe the color of so many things, such as clouds, a shadow, hair, split fence posts, wood, ledges, a funnel of water, foam from a dog's mouth, streaks, chasm, silhouette, smoke, powder and describing light.

I only started tracking the use of the word on page 133 of the 562-page novel, but it was distracting and caused me to not enjoy the book as much as I could have.

Other than the overuse of the word gray, I did enjoy the relationship Edgar had with the dogs he trained, the people he encountered and those he loved.

It's been said that "he Story of Edgar Sawtelle" is a modern retelling of Shakespeare's "Hamlet," with Edgar mirroring Prince Hamlet's character and experiences. In

fact, the name of Edgar's uncle was Claude, while Hamlet's uncle had the name Claudius.

**Central Bridge Post Office Hours**

The lobby is open from 7am-4:30 pm Monday-Friday. On Saturday it's open 7-11am. The retail window is open Monday-Friday, 8am-noon, then re-opens from 1pm-3pm. On Saturday, it is open 8-10:30am.

**Pool Opens**

The pool at Mine Kill State Park opens for the season on Saturday, June 28.

**Fishing Clinic**

There will be a free fishing day clinic at the Max V. Shaul State Park on Saturday, June 28.

**Joshua Project Lunch**

The Summer Lunch program will once again be serving lunch at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints on Church Street Monday to Friday every week beginning Monday, June 30, and ending Friday, Aug. 22, for anyone who would like to partake.

Everyone is welcome, and there are no income limits or requirements. Join your friends, neighbors and relatives for a mid-day community meal.

**Bethany Lutheran Church**

On June 29, acolytes and altar flowers will not be needed when we worship outside this summer. Please bring a lawn chair for outdoor worship service at 9am with Anne Cinquemani, SAM.

Serving as lector will be Dorothy Lawyer and usher will be Mark VanDer-

erken. Coin jar collection will be donated to DW Jenkins, Central Bridge Fire Department.

Collections for school supplies for local students will continue through the end of August. Needed items include colored two-pocket folders, marble composition notebooks, number 2 pencils and colored pencils.

On Tuesday, July 1, Busy Bee Crafters meet at 10am in the parsonage.

Looking ahead, worship service and picnic with the Methodist Church folks on Sunday, July 27, at 11am at the ballpark.

Email: [bethanycentralbridge@gmail.com](mailto:bethanycentralbridge@gmail.com)

**CBMC**

Central Bridge Methodist Church has a church service every Sunday at 10:30 am. All are welcome.

When it is very hot during the summer months, the Sunday morning church services will be held in the church hall where there is air conditioning.

There will be no administrative board or trustee meetings for the months of July and August.

If you need to get in touch with someone from the church, please call 518-868-4226. Please speak loud and slowly and someone will get back to you as soon as they can.

**Got News?**

If you have community events or anything to share, please send a message with the subject line, "Central Bridge News" to [Wwilken-sjan@aol.com](mailto:Wwilken-sjan@aol.com) or call 518-868-2790 no later than 6pm on Sunday to meet next week's deadline.

[pastoralisyn@gmail.com](mailto:pastoralisyn@gmail.com).

**Presbyterian Church** — The Stone Church on Church Street, Sunday services are at 9:30am.

**Schoharie Valley Gospel Church** at 133 Sprakers Road in Sloansville holds services at 10:30am.

**Schoharie Reformed Church** service is at 10am. Sunday School and Bible Study have finished their lessons until fall. The church will have a presence at Schoharie's Lily Fest on Saturday, July 12, offering cold water, prayer cards, crosses, and slices of yummy pie to enjoy.

Stop by and chat.

On a personal note, it would just not be me if there was no comment on recent events in our great country; namely, for one, the 250th celebration of our Army with a parade — a profusion of history presented while honoring the military organization that represents the prime reason we enjoy the freedoms we are afforded.

In October 2025, we will all get to experience a parade of ships to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our Navy and Marine Corps, equally as noteworthy.

The major military accomplishment brilliantly executed and coordinated with Israel to put an end to the proliferation of nuclear weaponry by Iran had to be done. Had to be done.

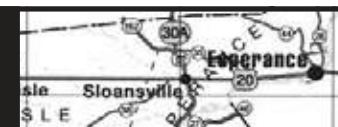
Now, let's put our faith in humanity working together to bring peace to our world, starting here. With our neighbors. With those we disagree with.

Reach out and earnestly make an effort to get along with each other. Amen.

Hug the special people you love whenever you get the chance.

Contact me anytime at 518 875-6443 or e-mail to [lfeuz27@gmail.com](mailto:lfeuz27@gmail.com).

## Esperance



**By Linda Feuz**  
**Profound prose for pondering people** — We cannot get to courage without walking through vulnerability.

**Congratulations to Guinevere Jeffers**, graduating from Schoharie Central this week.

Best regards, Guinevere.

**Esperance Historical Society and Museum** — The museum's open on Saturdays and Sundays, 1-4pm.

The official start to summer is here, and things are heating up at the museum.

We've got two exciting events coming your way in July, with even more lined up for August.

Know someone who enjoys history? Feel free to forward this message and help us spread the word.

Sunday, July 13, 1-4pm — Family Home Run Day: Join Alexandria Milne for a hands-on celebration of America's pastime, explore the museum's collection of baseball-making artifacts, and kids can try their hand at stitching their own felt ball.

Suggested for ages 6-12, but all ages, even kids at heart, are welcome to join in on the fun.

Saturday, July 19, 2pm — "WWII Code Talkers": Join Maxine Christman for an engaging presentation on the World War II code talkers.

Maxine's talk will highlight the heroic contributions of Native American soldiers whose unbreakable codes played a crucial role in securing victory during the war. At the Presbyterian Church (the "Old Stone Church" adjacent to the Esperance Historical Museum). Even on the hottest, most humid days, it stays cool as a cucumber, even without air conditioning. While you're there, be sure to check out the library; it's hands-down the best place around to research your family genealogy. Stop by and see us this weekend.

**Landis Arboretum activities** — On June 25, there will be a Star Party, weather permitting, at 9pm in the Meeting House field.

On Sunday, June 29, bring your kids to a Pond Exploration event at 2pm, gathering at the Meeting House. On July 2, there will be the next drum circle, gathering at 6:30pm at the Peace Garden pavilion.

**Our Post Office** window hours are Monday-Friday, 7:15-11:15am and 12:15-2:15pm. Saturdays, 9-11am. Local phone number is 518-875-6731.

**The Little Free Library** is located at the village park by the basketball court.

**Town of Esperance** — Office phone: 518-875-6109. Clerk's hours are Tuesdays from 7:30-11am and 2:30-7pm and Fridays 7am-3pm. Her email is [esperancetownclerk@outlook.com](mailto:esperancetownclerk@outlook.com).

Town Justice Tom Slater conducts court on Wednesday nights at 6pm at 1216 Hwy Route 30A in Sloansville. The court office phone is 518-868-5165 and the email address is [EsperanceTownCourt@nycourts.gov](mailto:EsperanceTownCourt@nycourts.gov).

Town board meets on the third Thursday at 104 Charleston St. at 7pm.

**Village of Esperance** — Village phone: 518-875-9044 at the office on Church Street.

Village Clerk Michelle Parks' office hours are on Thursdays from 2-6pm or by appointment. The village board meets on the second Monday at 7pm in the Village Hall at 113 Church St.

Have you paid your taxes yet, due this month?

**Esperance Methodist Church** — Service is at 11am on Sunday morning and is meeting in the sanctuary. Faith Adventure Club and choir rehearsals are on vacation until the fall. The church website is <https://www.esperancesloansvilleumc.org>.

Pastor Alisyn's email is



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# LEGAL & CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MIRRORS AND SHINES, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/13/2024. Office location: Schoharie County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 269 Mickle Hollow Road, Warnerville, NY 12187. Purpose: any lawful activity. 6Jun26c5

that a certified copy thereof has been or will be filed on or before July 1, 2025, with the town clerk at 104 Municipal Lane, Richmondville, NY 12149 where it may be seen and examined by any person interested therein. Assessment information may also be seen and examined on the Schoharie County Website, <http://www.schohariecounty-nv.gov> by selecting the desired town. Assessor, Town of Richmondville. Jun26c5

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LLC: CYPRUS FARM, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State on 01/21/2025. Office Location: Schoharie County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to CYPRUS FARM LLC, PO BOX 965, MIDDLEBURGH, NY 12122. Purpose: any lawful purpose. 6Jul3c5

**VILLAGE OF SCHOHARIE PUBLIC HEARING** on Monday, July 7, 2025. The public hearing is to discuss Zoning law of matters for the Main Bridge Commons Project. Board of trustees. Jun26c5

**REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW SECTION 516 NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF F I N A L ASSESSMENT ROLL** Notice is hereby given that the assessor/s for the town of SUMMIT, Schoharie County, New York has completed the final assessment roll for the current year. that a certified copy thereof has been or will be filed on or before July 1, 2025, with the town clerk at 1580 Charlotte Valley Road, Summit, NY 12175 where it may be seen and examined by any person interested therein. Assessment information may also be seen and examined on the Schoharie County Website, <http://www.schohariecounty-nv.gov> by selecting the desired town. Assessor, David A. Jones II, Town of Summit. Jun26c5

**NOTICE OF TOWN CAUCUS A DEMOCRATIC PARTY CAUCUS** is hereby called to be held in and for the Town of Cobleskill, NY 12043, at the Community Library, 110 Union Street in said Town on the 2nd day of July, 2025 at 6:30 o'clock pm for the purpose of nominating candidates for Town offices to be voted for at the General Election to be held November 4, 2025 and for the transaction of such business as may regularly and legally come before said caucus. All enrolled Democrats of said town are invited and requested to attend and take part in said caucus. 2Jun26c5

**REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW SECTION 516 NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF F I N A L ASSESSMENT ROLL** Notice is hereby given that the assessor/s for the town of SCHOHARIE, Schoharie County, New York has completed the final assessment roll for the current year. that a certified copy thereof has been or will be filed on or before July 1, 2025, with the town clerk at 300 Main Street, Schoharie, NY 12157 where it may be seen and examined by any person interested therein. Assessment information may also be seen and examined on the Schoharie County Website, <http://www.schohariecounty-nv.gov> by selecting the desired town. Assessor, Town of Schoharie. Jun26c5

**The Town of Fulton is seeking a new Alternate Planning Board Member** to serve on the local Planning Board. Meetings are held at the Town Hall on third Monday of each month at 7PM. Send a letter of interest to Clerk@FultonTown-nv.gov or Town of Fulton, 1168 Bear Ladder Rd, West Fulton, NY, 12194. Questions, call 518-827-6365. Respectfully Submitted by Dawn Skowfoe, Town of Fulton Clerk

**REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW SECTION 516 NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF F I N A L ASSESSMENT ROLL** Notice is hereby given that the assessor/s for the town of SCHOHARIE, Schoharie County, New York has completed the final assessment roll for the current year. that a certified copy thereof has been or will be filed on or before July 1, 2025, with the town clerk at 300 Main Street, Schoharie, NY 12157 where it may be seen and examined by any person interested therein. Assessment information may also be seen and examined on the Schoharie County Website, <http://www.schohariecounty-nv.gov> by selecting the desired town. Assessor, Town of Schoharie. Jun26c5

**Public notice: Town of Schoharie Planning Board** There will be a Special meeting held by the Planning Board of the Town of Schoharie on Tuesday July 1, 2025 at 7:00 PM at the Schoharie Town Hall, 300 Main Street, Schoharie, NY. Primarily held to review an amendment to the Highbridge Site Plan, any other business may be conducted. Kathryn Saddleire, Chairman, Town of Schoharie Planning Board. Jun26c5

**REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW SECTION 516 NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF F I N A L ASSESSMENT ROLL** Notice is hereby given that the assessor/s for the town of ESPERANCE, Schoharie County, New York has completed the final assessment roll for the current year. that a certified copy thereof has been or will be filed on or before July 1, 2025, with the town clerk at 104 Charleston Street, Esperance, NY 12066 where it may be seen and examined by any person interested therein. Assessment information may also be seen and examined on the Schoharie County Website, <http://www.schohariecounty-nv.gov> by selecting the desired town. Assessor, Town of Esperance. Jun26c5

**NOTICE OF MEETING DATE CHANGE** The Village of Schoharie's Tuesday July 8, 2025 6:30 PM Regular monthly meeting has been changed to Monday July 7, 2025 at 6:30 PM located at 300 Main Street, Schoharie

**REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW SECTION 516 NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF F I N A L ASSESSMENT ROLL** Notice is hereby given that the assessor/s for the town of Richmondville, Schoharie County, New York has completed the final assessment roll for the current year.

**Schoharie County NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**  
448 HUBBARD REALTY LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 5/15/25. Office in Schoharie Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 21218 39 Ave., Bayside, NY 11361. Purpose: Any lawful business loc: 448 Hubbard Rd., Gilboa, NY 12076.

**Schoharie County PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Town of Seward Highway Department Motor Equipment Operator Wanted**  
The Town of Seward is seeking a Motor Equipment Operator for the Seward Highway Department. The position is full-time. CDL is required. The standard work week is 5 days with a 4 day work week during the summer. Good benefits, including health insurance. Applicants must be capable of safe and efficient operation of Highway Department equipment, possess good mechanical skills, be able to perform related assigned tasks, pass drug screening and be capable of manual labor as required. To request an application contact Seward Highway Department at 518-234-2292 or Town.Seward.Highway@sewardtown-ny.gov.

**Schoharie County ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID**  
**Bid Notice**  
The village of Richmondville request proposals for a Vehicle Exhaust Evacuation System at the 288 Main Street Richmondville NY 12149 Fire Station. The funding for this project is provided through a grant from New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES). All requirements for NYS Assistance contracts apply to this project, including Article 15-A of the Executive Law. Bid packets are available at Village office at 295 Main Street Richmondville, NY 12149 Responses to this RFP should be addressed to Mayor Carl Warner at 295 Main Street Richmondville, NY 12149 by July 21,2025 at 3:00 PM. To be opened at Board meeting on July 21,2025 at 5 PM.

**Schoharie County NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**  
Notice of Formation of Rickard's Automotive Repair LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/10/2025. Office location: Schoharie County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Paul Rickard Jr : 654 E Hill Rd., Middleburgh, NY 121. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

**Schoharie County LEGAL NOTICE**  
NOTICE TO BIDDERS The Board of Education of the Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District invites the submission of Separate Sealed Bid Proposals to furnish materials and labor to complete the HVAC Reconstruction project all in accordance with the plans and specifications for the following categories of work: MECHANICAL Sealed Bid Proposals will be received until 10am prevailing time on July 10, 2025 at Golding Middle School, Room 109, 155 Washington Ave. Cobleskill, NY 12043 at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid may be withdrawn without prejudice prior to the official bid opening time or any publicized postponement thereof. Any bid received after the time and date stated above will be returned to the bidder unopened. The bidding documents may be examined, free of charge, at the office of MOSAIC ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS, The Frear Building, 2 Third Street, Suite 440, Troy, New York 12180, telephone (518) 479-4000. Digital Bidding Documents: Complete digital sets of Bidding Documents may be obtained online as a download for a one-hundred (\$100.00) non-refundable deposit at the following website: mosaicaplanroom.com. Hardcopy Bidding Documents: One (1) complete set of hard copy Bidding Documents may be obtained from REVplans, 28 Church Street, Unit 7, Warwick, NY 10990 Tel: 1-845-651-3845, through mosaicaplanroom.com upon depositing the sum of \$100 (one hundred dollars) for each combined set of documents. Checks or money orders shall be made payable to Cobleskill-Richmondville CSD. Any bidder requiring documents to be shipped shall make arrangements with the printer and pay for all packaging and shipping costs. The deposit will be refunded ONLY to those bidders who submit a bona fide bid proposal in accordance with the terms in the "Information for Bidders" and who return a complete set of Bidding Documents in COMPLETE, UNMARKED, and NOT TORN condition to REV within thirty (30) days after the award of contract(s) covered by such Bidding Documents, or the rejection of such bid(s). Non-bidders, including material suppliers and subcontractors, as well as plan holders who do not submit bid proposals, WILL NOT be eligible for a refund. Note: REVplans (mosaicaplanroom.com) is the designated location and means for distributing and obtaining all bid package information. Only those Contract Documents obtained in this manner will enable a prospective bidder to be identified as an official plan holder of record. REVplans takes no responsibility for the completeness of Contract Documents obtained from other sources. Contract Documents obtained from other sources may not be accurate or may not contain addenda that may have been issued. Addenda: All bid addenda will be transmitted to registered plan holders via email and will be available at mosaicaplanroom.com. Plan holders who have paid for hard copies of the bid documents will need to make the determination if hard copies of the addenda are required for their use and coordinate directly with the printer for hard copies of addenda to be issued. There will be no charge for registered plan holders to obtain hard copies of the bid addenda. Each Bidder shall prepare their bid proposal, along with a bid security, in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the "Information for Bidders". Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed and the minimum wage rates to be paid under the contracts. No bidder may withdraw their bid within 45 days after the date of the actual bid opening. The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities or defects in such bid either before or after the bid opening. By Order of Board of Education Cobleskill-Richmondville CSD Date: June 20, 2025 Lydia VanEvera, District Clerk

**Otsego County LEGAL NOTICE**  
NOTICE is given that a PENDING license, for LIQUOR, WINE, BEER & CIDER has been applied for by COOPERSTOWN EXPERIENCE LLC dba DUGOUT BAR & GRILL to sell LIQUOR, WINE, BEER & CIDER at retail in a RESTAURANT located at 4874 STATE HIGHWAY 28 T/O H A R T W I C K , COOPERSTOWN, NY 13326, COUNTY OF OSTEGO, State of New York, under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law for on premises consumption.

**Town of Seward Part-time Highway Department Laborer Wanted**  
The Town of Seward is seeking a part-time laborer. Applicants must be capable of safe and efficient operation of Highway Department equipment, mechanical skills helpful but not required, be able to perform related assigned tasks, and be capable of manual labor as required. To request an application contact Seward Highway Department at 518-234-2292 or Town.Seward.Highway@sewardtown-ny.gov.

**Project Description:**  
The Bidder shall provide and install a Stainless-Steel Magnetic Emergency Vehicle Exhaust Evacuation System at the Richmondville Vol. Fire Department 288 Main Street, Richmondville, NY 12149The system shall include A total of (5) vehicles Connections. All (5) emergency vehicle exhaust shall operate safely to accept and accommodate the Richmondville Vol. Fire Department emergency vehicles Both Botton and Vertical Stack discharge configurations while operating in a forward, Back-up, Drive Thru and Idle modes. Bidder is include removal of the existing System, not include disposal. **Weighted Selection Criteria:**

**Schoharie County NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**  
Notice of Formation of Bella-Annah LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/20/2025. Office location: Schoharie County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Secretary of State: 145 Myers Road, Howes Cave, NY 12092. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

**Schoharie County NOTICE OF SALE**  
SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF SCHOHARIE -- BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Plaintiff, vs. SCHOHARIE SENIOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FUND CORPORATION, ET AL., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on June 13, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at Schoharie County Supreme Court Courthouse, 290 Main Street Schoharie, NY 12157 on July 29, 2025, at 12:00 p.m., premises known as 106, 114, and 120 Birchex Lane, Schoharie, NY 12157. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Village of Schoharie, County of Schoharie, State of New York, Section 72.17, Block 6, Lots 10 and 1.1. Approximate amount of judgment is \$14,681,584.59. Interest is due upon the judgment together with the costs of publication and postings, any advances made by plaintiff for forced placed insurance premiums, any unpaid real property taxes, assessments and water charges which are liens at the time of sale and the fees of the referee, upon sale. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #2017-354 John Jeffrey Hoke, Esq., Referee Alston & Bird LLP Joseph G. Tully, Esq. Reade W. Seligmann, Esq. Richard J. Galati, Jr., Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiff 90 Park Ave, New York, NY 10016 (212) 210-9400

**Schoharie County NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**  
Fog Juice Films LLC. Filed 2/18/25. Cty: Schoharie. SSNY desig. for process & shall mail 286 S Mountain Rd, Gilboa, NY 12076. Purp: any lawful.

**Schoharie County LEGAL NOTICE**  
**TOWN OF GILBOA**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 103 of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York that the Town of Gilboa will accept bids for the following: fuel oil (including maintenance for furnace in Highway Garage), diesel, propane and kerosene. The Town Board will meet in the Gilboa Town Hall, 373 State Rte 990V, Gilboa, New York on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 to publicly open and review all bids submitted during its regular Town Board Meeting. Bids must be submitted at the Town Board meeting or by mail to: Town of Gilboa, PO Box 187, Gilboa, NY 12076 with

Criteria	Percent
Similar experience with other Fire Departments	50%
Understanding Scope of services	20%
Demonstrated success with other projects	15%
C o s t Proposal	15%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

Evaluation of the responses to this RFP will be evaluated by Village of Richmondville personnel. Proposals will be evaluated based on all portions of the responses including, but not limited to qualifications, experience and cost proposals.

**Schoharie County NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**  
MATTHEW R WOLF LLC. Filed 1/23/25. Office: Schoharie Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: Po Box 279, Sharon Springs, NY 13459. Registered Agent: United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: General.



**Schoharie County PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Middleburgh Town & Village Planning Board Open Seat**

The Middleburgh Town Board has an immediate opening for an interested Village resident on the Middleburgh Town and Village Planning Board. This is a volunteer position with a semi-annual stipend. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen, resident of the Village of Middleburgh, and at least 18 years of age. Please submit your letter of interest to the Town Clerk's office located at 139 Cotton Hill Rd or email tmidd@gmail.com before July 8, 2025. Dated: June 18, 2025 by Renee Schmidt, Town Clerk

“sealed bid for diesel fuel, kerosene and propane” marked clearly on envelope. Sealed bids can also be delivered in person to the Gilboa Town Clerk's office or dropped in the drop box located on the entrance door. Call ahead to schedule a drop off time with the clerk, 607-588-6400 or send email to town.gilboa.clerk@gilboa-town-ny.gov **The Town Board has the right to reject any or all bids submitted.** Dated: June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 By order of the Gilboa Town Board Linda Wyckoff

**Otsego County LEGAL NOTICE**  
NOTICE is given that a PENDING license, for LIQUOR, WINE, BEER & CIDER has been applied for by COOPERSTOWN EXPERIENCE LLC dba ROOKIES CRAFT HOUSE to sell LIQUOR, WINE, BEER & CIDER at retail in a BAR/TAVERN located at 4850 STATE HIGHWAY 28 T/O H A R T W I C K , COOPERSTOWN, NY 13326, COUNTY OF OSTEGO, State of New York, under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law for on premises consumption.

**Schoharie County LEGAL NOTICE**  
Real Property Tax Law Section 516 Notice of Completion of Final Assessment Roll Notice is hereby given that the Assessor for the Town's of Carlisle, Seward, and Sharon, Schoharie County, New York has completed the Final Assessment Rolls for the current year. That a certified copy thereof has been or will be filed on or before July 1, 2025, with the Carlisle Town Clerk, 541 Crommie Road, Carlisle, NY 12031. Also, with the Sharon Town Clerk, 129 Main Street, Sharon Springs, NY 13459, and the Seward Town Clerk, 795 Lowe Road, Cobleskill, NY 12043. Where it may be seen and examined by any person interested therein. Assessment information may also be seen and examined on the Schoharie website, [www.schohariecounty-nv.gov](http://www.schohariecounty-nv.gov) by selecting the desired town. Assessor Kathryn Saddleire, Seward, and Sharon Charlene Ruskowski

**Schoharie County LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Monday, July 7, 2025, in Room 310 of the Schoharie County Office Building by the Personnel Officer in Schoharie, New York at 10:00 am until 12:00 pm on the matters of amending the Appendices of the Schoharie County Civil Service Rules. Such proposed changes are available for inspection during business hours in the Personnel & Civil Service Office in Room 310 of the Schoharie County Office Building in Schoharie, New York. Carmella (C.J.) Smith Personnel Officer

**Schoharie County LEGAL NOTICE**  
Public notice: Town of Schoharie Planning Board

There will be a Special meeting held by the Planning Board of the Town of Schoharie on Tuesday July 1, 2025 at 7:00 PM at the Schoharie Town Hall, 300 Main Street, Schoharie, NY. Primarily held to review an amendment to the Highbridge Site Plan, any other business may be conducted.

Kathryn Saddleire, Chairman Town of Schoharie Planning Board

**Schoharie County LOCAL LAW NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW #6-2025**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Schoharie County Board of Supervisors at a meeting held on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, duly adopted on said date Local Law #6-2025 titled: A local law superseding all prior local laws of the County which established the Department of Public Works for Schoharie County and prescribed the powers and duties thereof. A copy of the Local Law is available in the Clerk of the Board's office from 9 am - 4 pm Monday through Friday.

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**HOUSE FOR RENT NEAR COBLESKILL: 2 BEDROOM, 1.5 BATH,** appliances, small garage, recently remodeled. Snow plowing, lawn maintenance and garbage pick up included. No smoking, No pets. References Required. \$1700 per month. Call 518-296-8752.

**TWO STUDIO APARTMENTS FOR RENT: \$700** utilities included. The other is \$600 utilities NOT included. 1 month security with 1st months rent. NO PETS. Call 518-221-0553

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### REPORTER/VIDEOGRAPHER PART TIME \$19/HOUR - THE TIMES JOURNAL - COBLESKILL, NY

The Times Journal, an award-winning weekly newspaper serving Schoharie County, is looking for a passionate and versatile Reporter/Videographer to join our newsroom team.

#### WHAT YOU'LL DO:

- Cover a wide range of local news, including government, community events, human interest stories, and breaking news.
- Produce engaging video content for our website and social media platforms.
- Write clear, concise, and compelling news stories on deadline.
- Photograph assignments as needed.
- Represent the Times Journal professionally in the community.

#### WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

- Strong writing and storytelling skills.
- Experience shooting and editing video (phone, DSLR, or professional equipment).
- Comfort working independently and as part of a small team.
- Ability to meet deadlines and juggle multiple assignments.
- Journalism experience or related degree preferred, but we're open to talent & drive.

#### WE OFFER:

- A chance to make an impact in a close-knit, engaged community.
- A flexible, creative work environment.
- Opportunities to grow and expand your skills in multimedia journalism.

Whether you're an experienced reporter or a recent grad ready to dig into local news, we'd love to hear from you.

To apply, send your resume, writing samples, and any video clips to:

Times Journal • Email: patsynicosia@gmail.com  
Subject line: Reporter/Videographer Application  
Or Call Publisher Warren Dews Jr. @ 1-413-212-0130



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## PRODUCTION LINE WORKER (1st Shift)

**Losurdo Foods, Inc.** is currently accepting applications for a Production line worker. You will be working in a food manufacturing environment. We offer full benefits including health, dental insurance, paid vacation, 401K, long and short term disability insurance. Benefits start after a 90-day probation.

**Apply in person:** 78 Sam Stratton Rd., Amsterdam, NY (9:30AM-2:30PM)

**Or email resume:** [jobs@losurdofoods.com](mailto:jobs@losurdofoods.com)



### DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE - VILLAGE OF COBLESKILL Full Time

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** The work involves responsibility for assisting the Chief of Police in planning and directing all police and law enforcement activities, as well as supervising, directing, and coordinating the department's operation including administering the department's grant program and serving as the department liaison to the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). Incumbents in this class may perform road patrol functions on a regular basis. Work is performed under the general supervision of the Chief of Police. The incumbent acts for and in place of the Chief of Police in their absence. Supervision is exercised over the work of all subordinate police department personnel. Does related work as required.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Competitive appointment as a police officer in New York State or as a member of the New York State Police with seven (7) years of service. NOTE: Part-time employment can be pro-rated to count towards full-time (based on number of hours worked per week). Thirty college credits may be substituted for 1 year of experience up to a maximum of two years

Rate of pay based on experience.

Find Application online at: [www.schohariecounty-ny.gov](http://www.schohariecounty-ny.gov)

Mail or deliver County Applications to:  
Village of Cobleskill, 378 Mineral Springs Road, Suite 2, Cobleskill, NY 12043  
Or email to: [clerk@cobleskill.org](mailto:clerk@cobleskill.org)

### SECRETARY TO THE CHIEF OF POLICE (NYHELPS) - VILLAGE OF COBLESKILL

An opening exists in the Village of Cobleskill in the position of Secretary to the Chief of Police. Rate of pay based on experience. Part-time position, approx. 20 hours per week, NYS Retirement System.

"The NY HELPS Program temporarily removes the civil service exam requirement for appointments made to this title. Employees hired under the NY HELPS Program will be appointed on a permanent basis."

Candidates interested in being considered for this position must submit a Civil Service employment application to the Village Office, 378 Mineral Springs Road, Ste. 2, Cobleskill, NY, 12043.

Applications may be obtained online at: [www.schohariecounty-ny.gov](http://www.schohariecounty-ny.gov).

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This work involves responsibility to serve as a personal secretary to the Chief of Police, relieving the Chief of Police of administrative tasks and resolving operational problems. This work involves responsibility for performing complex legal secretarial duties. A general understanding of law and legal procedure is required in exercising independent judgement in performing these duties. Work is performed in accordance with general instructions received from the Chief of Police, or by the Lieutenant in the absence of the Chief of Police.

Minimum qualifications: (A) Graduation from a regionally accredited college or university or one accredited by the New York State Board of Regents to grant degrees with and Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice, Business or closely related field; OR (B) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and two (2) years of clerical experience which involved the operation of a computer for word processing, database or spreadsheet applications.

NOTE: Part-time employment can be pro-rated to count towards full-time (based on number of hours worked per week) and a higher level of education can be pro-rated for experience up to a year.

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