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President of Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce resigns

**By HB Steadham,
Times Journal Executive Editor**

SCHOHARIE COUNTY – On Thursday, Aug. 1, at 10:52 a.m., the Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce released a statement on their Facebook page that the president of the organization, Ron Ketelsen, had resigned. From clarifying that Ketelsen was “no longer affiliated with the Chamber in any official capacity” to adding that “Any views, statements, or opinions expressed by Mr. Ketelsen are made in his personal capacity and do not reflect the views, values, or positions of the Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce,” local residents were left wondering exactly what had happened.

Ketelsen issued this statement to the Times Journal about his resignation: “I have really enjoyed my time as President of the Chamber for the past four years. We

have made some tremendous strides as a Chamber over that time. I wish them the best of luck in the future.”

Ketelsen’s resignation came seven weeks after oblivioni.org, a website described as “an idiosyncratic page about pretty much entirely obscure Art that we think everyone should know about,” published an article by writer and journalist Steven S. Drachman about his family’s history—and his own recent visit—to Sharon Springs.

Drachman’s piece, titled “The Rise and Fall of Jewish Sharon Springs,” explores his ancestors’ relocation to Sharon Springs at the turn of the 20th century, the heyday of Jewish tourism in Sharon Springs after World War II, and modern Sharon Springs as it stands today. In fact, Drachman not only visited to make sure that his current information was, indeed, current, but also recorded interviews with

several locals, including former Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce President Ron Ketelsen.

According to Drachman, when asked about bringing a Jewish spiritual life back to Sharon Springs, “almost all of them expressed...[it] would be a great idea, and one that they would welcome.”

With the exception of Ketelsen, Drachman wrote.

“The Jewish people kind of burned their bridges when they came here,” Ketelsen is quoted as saying. “The reason that they kind of burned their bridges is they were still coming when the synagogue was open, but they were so entitled and so demanding that people didn’t want them to come anymore, because they were—I mean, this is bad, but they were very dirty and they would leave trash everywhere, and they would just throw stuff down and walk away and leave it.”

Ketelsen went on to say that arson had been a problem with the Jewish population, saying that many fires in the village had been caused by “Jewish lightning.”

According to Drachman’s article, when Drachman pointed out that not all Jewish people are bad, Ketelsen agreed: “I know,” he allegedly said. “I have a very good friend. One Jewish person is left [in Sharon Springs], and he owns the Brustman House and, very good friend of mine. [...] He’s not, what do you call the very—where you practice the, you know, the kosher stuff.... I call him our ‘token Jew’ because he’s the last person here.”

Drachman’s interview with Ketelsen was recorded, and the Times Journal is in possession of and has reviewed the audio files.

When contacted for comment, Ketelsen had this to say about Drachman’s piece:

“Drachman’s article misrepresented my statements and presented them without proper context. I value my relationships with members of the Jewish community, many of whom are close friends. When they read the article, they found the characterization inaccurate and inconsistent with their experience of me. Having been a longtime resident of this community, I have great respect for the Jewish community’s contributions to Sharon Springs. The suggestion that I hold anti-Semitic views is both false and contrary to my record of community involvement. I remain committed to continuing my volunteer work and supporting initiatives that benefit our entire community.”

This wasn’t the first time Ketelsen had been recorded making controversial statements. At about the 1:01:43 mark of the video recording of the April 18, 2024, meet-

ing of the Village of Sharon Springs, Ketelsen is recorded saying “no speak English” in an accent when relating a conversation with developer Richard Cho.

Ketelsen has also come into conflict with architect Nick Drummond of Redpoint Design/Build, who was spearheading a project to turn the Pavilion Cottages into a queer-centric resort. According to emails obtained by the Times Journal and verified by Drummond, Drummond had asked for Ketelsen to recuse himself from the project review “due to inappropriate allegations, arbitrary and capricious enforcement of zoning application and historical society laws, and conflict of interest.”

The Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce has not responded to two voice-mails.

address label

Caverns Road closure creates ripple effects



Photo by Pete Lindemann

Bill Felter, of Serious Brewing Company, said the bridge closure and road detour has affected his “drive-by” business.

**By Pete Lindemann,
Times Journal Staff**

HOWES CAVE – Has the closure of Caverns Road in Howes Cave, between Route 7 and Barnerville Road, affected area businesses?

“Absolutely,” said Stepha-



Photo by Pete Lindemann

Construction is underway on the old bridge on Caverns Road by the Bramanville Grist Mill in Howes Cave.

nie Shultes, director of the Iroquois Museum on 324 Caverns Road. She said business is down 20 percent.

The road closure is due to the replacement of the bridge on Caverns Road by the old Bramanville Grist Mill. As a result, Caverns Road is open to local traffic only. That means the only way to get to the Iroquois Museum is from the Barnerville Road end.

Shultes said she has gotten calls from people trying to get to the museum, and she’s had to “talk ‘em back in from Timbuktu.”

She complained to the county, so they put up a highway sign at the intersection of Caverns and Barnerville Roads, which reads “Iroquois Museum open entrance 500 ft on left.”

Shultes said she’s confident business will pick up when school starts in September because she will be able to speak to the schools directly and explain the detour.

Bill Felter, owner of Serious Brewing Company at 116 Caverns Road—near the Route 7 entrance to Caverns Road—tells a little different story.



Photo by Pete Lindemann

Detour signs at the intersection of Caverns and Barnerville Roads.

“I can’t really say it has [affected business],” he said. But he does wish he had been better informed. He said they knew the bridge work was coming for five or six years, but “We didn’t know until they put the signs up,” he said.

The biggest impact he’s noticed is the loss of people who just happen to be driving by on the way to Howe Caverns who notice his brewery and decide to stop by on the way back.

One thing that’s helped him, he said, is Serious Brewing Co.’s inclusion—along with Middleburgh Winery—on the Capital District Beverage Trail. Plus, “We’re close enough to the road [Route 7],” Felter said.

“They should have never done that during tourist season,” said RJ Mallery, general manager of Secret Caverns. “They should have waited till fall.”

Secret Caverns is at 671 Caverns Road—but not the section of Caverns Road that is closed to local traffic only.

Still, “I would definitely say it’s slower,” Mallery said of business during the road closure. “They see the detour and change their mind,” he said.

Mike Lemyre, tour guide

and self-described jack-of-all-trades at Secret Caverns, agreed, saying business is “a little bit slower.”

Business at Howe Caverns has “not really” been affected by the road closure, according to Julian Galasso, manager of guest services at Howe Caverns.

“Most of the folks are for us here specifically,” Galasso said, and “Google Maps has picked up the detour.”

“Ninety-nine percent are not local,” he said of visitors to Howe Caverns, coming from places like California, Florida, or even Cooperstown.

Galasso, 23, started working at Howe Caverns 10 years ago, working his way through retail, photo, and now head of guest services.

As far as being informed of the road closure? “The county did an awesome job the way they handled the detour,” Galasso said.

So, how much longer will businesses have to put up with the detour? According to an employee of the Schoharie County Department of Public Works, the completion of the bridge and the reopening of Caverns Road between Route 7 and Barnerville Road is expected to be “middle to end of December.”



Photo by Pete Lindemann

RJ Mallery of Secret Caverns said, “They should have never done that during tourist season.”



Photo by Pete Lindemann

Julian Galasso of Howe Caverns said of their guests, “Ninety-nine percent are not local.”



OBITUARIES

Leah Carlson



Leah Carlson

Leah M. Carlson, 81, of North Grand Street, Cobleskill, previously of Summit, died Monday, August 4, 2025, at her home after a hard-fought battle with cancer.

Born on November 29, 1943, in Schenectady, she was the daughter of Blake and Alice (Matthews) Smith. She graduated from Scotia Glenville High School.

She worked for the Cobleskill Regional Hospital as a secretary for over 30 years.

She enjoyed sewing and the skillful art of embroidery.

Leah was predeceased by her parents, Blake and Alice; her son, Blake Brodeur; and her brother, David Smith.

Leah is survived by her husband, John A. Carlson, whom she married in Clarksville, Tennessee; her sons, Mark (Karen) Brodeur and Scott (Jackie) Brodeur; her seven grandchildren and her three great-grandchildren.

Friends and family are welcome to gather Wednesday, August 13, from 3-5 p.m. at the Mereness-Putnam Funeral Home, 171 Elm St., Cobleskill, NY with a service to follow at 5 p.m.

Burial will take place at Cobleskill Rural Cemetery at a later date at the convenience of the family.

Memorial Contributions in Leah's name can be made to Helios Care, 297 River Street Service Rd, Oneonta, NY 13820, or Marathon for a Better Life, PO Box 268, Warnerville, NY 12187.

Arrangements entrusted to the Mereness-Putnam Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be offered to the family at www.merenessputnamfuneralhome.com.

Fanchon Cornell



Fanchon Cornell

Fanchon Armlin Dewell Cornell, 95, of North Blenheim was taken to her eternal home with her

Savior, Jesus Christ on July 23, 2025.

Born January 17, 1930 in the town of Blenheim, she was the daughter of W. Everett Dewell and S. Evelyn (Safford) Dewell, North Road where she spent most of her life.

Fanchon attended the one-room school house in Blenheim and then Gilboa-Conesville Central School where she graduated as valedictorian. She then did a one-year post-graduate at the school and became the secretary to Principal V.B. Peckam.

On August 29, 1948, she married Lyndon B. Cornell upon his return from the Pacific serving in the U.S. Navy. They had two children, Lyndon Everett and Dianna Sue.

Fanchon held multiple positions in the Schoharie County offices as a typist and clerk. She was a Sunday School teacher for 24 years, and in the Presbyterian Union Christian Society for 44 years.

She led a home Bible Study for 40 years with several regular attendees. Lyndon B. and Fanchon supported their local church, the Blenheim Hose Co. and over the years supported the Foster Parents Plan, Asapalli Christian Hostel, Prison Fellowship Ministries, and many other Christian charitable organizations.

Lyndon B. and Fanchon collected for the Heart Fund for 13 years. Fanchon was in the GCS PTA as treasurer; and was in the Blenheim Hose Co. auxiliary. Fanchon was a Life Member of the Schoharie County Historical Society and the Blenheim Bridge Historical Assoc.

She was the town of Blenheim town historian for many years. In 1954 she compiled the first Blenheim History (1710 – 1954) and subsequently along with her granddaughter, Alicia Cornell published an update in 1994.

Quotes from this book are on the kiosks leading to the Blenheim Bridge replica dedicated in 2019. Lyndon B. made a scale model which they took to many parades, and which is now on display in the Historical Building at the Cobleskill fairgrounds.

Fanchon published a book of poems – “Poor Angel’s Sonnets” and authored additional poems: “Little Friends,” “The Little Locomotive’s Memorable Christmas,” and “The Realities of Christmas.” She was noted for her Christmas greetings and poems which went to over 200 people every year until 2022.

Fanchon was pre-deceased by her husband, Lyndon B Cornell on October 4, 1995, her daughter, Dianna Sue Cornell died in 2011 and her older sister, Phyllis Dewell Clapper died in 1966.

Surviving Fanchon are her son and daughter-in-law, Lyndon E. and Marie (Majoris) Cornell; her grandchildren, Alicia (Jim) Martin, Melissa (Keith) Graham, Rachel (Josh) Hyder, Matthew (Sabrina) Murphy and Sarah (Jerimiah) Castleman; her great-grandchildren, Larkin and Avyn Graham, and Eve, Bryson, Miram and Susanna Hyder.

With a health scare in July of 2022, Fanchon went on Helios (Hospice) care with full time home care provided by Uncommon Care with Cate McCoy and many other wonderful caregivers. Thank you for your care and support.

Fanchon’s Last Poem:
Jesus shed his blood for me on the cross at Calvary

And, as God’s child I humbly share

This heavy burden that I bear
And ask of them who seek and saves

For peace and trust my soul now craves.

The Spirit comes with power and rest:

God THREE IN ONE and I am blessed.

FDC

Flowers are welcome but it is requested that everyone consider donating to your favorite charity as your gifts to others will long outlast any beautiful blooms.

Fanchon’s funeral service was held on Saturday, August 2 at Coltrain Funeral Home, LLC, 134 River St. Middleburgh, NY with burial following in Old Stone Fort Cemetery, Schoharie.

Please visit www.coltrainfuneralhome.com to share online condolences with Fanchon’s family.

Alice Feidner

Alice M. Feidner passed away suddenly on Friday, August 1, 2025 at Ellis Hospital.

Alice was a homemaker who loved her family dearly, along with her poodles. Grateful for the simplicity of her life, she loved taking rides in the country, savoring her favorite chocolates, chocolate cake and reminiscing, especially about her first little red house, with the outhouse, on Brooky Hollow Road.

Alice was born 91 years ago in Middleburgh to Bessie (Wood) and Austin Weidman and graduated from Middleburgh Central school in 1951. She lived in Huntersland until marrying her husband Richard Feidner and moving to Rotterdam. They shared over 50 years together before he predeceased her in 2003.

Alice is survived by her daughter, Bonnie (David) Snyder; grandsons, Joshua Feidner and Christopher (Tammy) Smith; great-grandsons, Jared and Zachary Swint, Dylan, Kyle and Liam Smith; brothers, Ronald Weidman and Arthur (Marge) Weidman; sister, Linda Weidman.

She was also predeceased by her daughter, Susan Smith; her loving grandson, Todd Swint; brothers, Frank and Charles Weidman; sisters, Anita, Anna and Jeany.

All are invited to a graveside service at 10 a.m. on Friday, August 8, at Middleburgh Cemetery, Cotton Hill Road, Middleburgh.

Please visit www.coltrainfuneralhome.com to share online condolences with Alice’s family.

Melissa Guest



Melissa Guest

Melissa L. Guest, of Rogers Jones Road, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at the age of 49 in a tragic automobile accident.

Melissa was born on August 18, 1975 in Stanford, New York to the proud parents of Jean and Roger Doyle Sr. She graduated from Middleburgh Central School, where she created lasting friendships. Her passion for helping others led her to working at Cobleskill Hospital at the front desk and many years as a home health aide.

In her free time Melissa loved being Gaga and Gigi to her grandsons, going fishing, and traveling

with her boyfriend Larry. She also enjoyed spending money on craft supplies to keep her she shed fully stocked, we love you mom!

Loving Melissa forever are her life partner, Larry Bliss of Jefferson; her children, Catherine (William) Lupi of Lumberton and Matthew (Brooke) Duell of Broome; her grandchildren, Graysen (“Little Turkey”), Chase (Bubba), Elijah (“Elijahbug”), Lyra and Mathias; her parents, Jean and Roger Doyle Sr; her siblings, Roger Doyle, Jr and Mary Ann (Chris) Sperano; her niece, Adrianna (Brandon) Pebler; and two nephews, Christopher (Chloe) Sperano and Austin Sperano; many aunts, uncles, cousins and her “fur baby,” Oreo.

She was predeceased by both her maternal and paternal grandparents, especially her grandmother Leah Lobdell and her aunt Sharon Wright.

All are invited to visit with Melissa’s family from 4-6 p.m. on Sunday, August 10 at the Middleburgh Reformed Church, 178 River Street, Middleburgh. A celebration of Melissa’s life will begin at 6 p.m. at the church hall.

Melissa’s family kindly requests memorial gifts in her honor to the Middleburgh Emergency Volunteer Ambulance Corps, PO Box 817 Middleburgh, NY 12122.

Please visit www.coltrainfuneralhome.com to share online condolences with Melissa’s family.

Kenneth Meyers



Kenneth Meyers

Kenneth Tyler Meyers, 31, of Cobleskill, passed away July 18, 2025, at Albany Medical Center.

He was born in Ridgewood, New Jersey, and was the son of Michael and Kristin (Klee) Meyers. He attended Richmondville High School and earned his GED.

He was a hard worker and an amazing mechanic. He could fix anything. Kenny enjoyed driving in the demolition derbies at the Cobleskill Fair. He also enjoyed fishing and camping.

Most of all, he loved being a father. He was great with kids, and being a big kid at heart, would prefer to play with them during family functions.

He is survived by his children, Kayleanna Grace Bradt, Trinity Shay Folk, Jackson Lee Tyler Rutty, and Travis Bradley Meyers Folk; his parents, Michael and Kristin; his siblings, Brittany Arroyo, Matthew Christopher Meyers, Brianna Marie Meyers, and Michael Anthony Meyers.

A period of visitation was held on Thursday, July 31 at the Robert A. Guffin Funeral Home, 108 Chapel Street, Cobleskill.

You may send donations in Kenny’s memory to Catholic Charities DOS, 489 West Main Street, Cobleskill, NY 12043.

Please visit www.guffinfuneralhome.com for further information and to leave a special message for Kenny’s family and friends.

Sherry Reynolds

Sherry Reynolds of Bluffton, South Carolina passed away peacefully on July 24, 2025, at 6:15 p.m., surrounded by love and serenity.

A devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and sister, Sher-

ry was a memorable light to all who knew her.

She is survived by her beloved husband, Joseph, who was by her side during her final moments.

Sherry was the proud and loving mother of Jennifer, Timothy, Tara Reynolds and found absolute joy in having her granddaughter, Lillith see her.

Sherry is survived by her siblings, Bruce, Tammie, Chris and deceased brother Dennis.

She had a meaningful career dedicated to public service through her work with the State of New York, helping others.

Barry Rucker



Barry Rucker

Barry A. Rucker, of Robert Street, found eternal peace on Thursday, July 24, 2025 in the love and comfort of his home.

Barry was born 81 years ago on November 28, 1943 and attended Rome State School and Developmental Center. Barry came to the ARC in the early 1990s and started day treatment in 1993.

He lived at a couple of the residences in Schoharie County, where he made many friends including Gregg Horhota and his wife Lauren Milavec whom he became very close friends and would share weekends and holidays with.

He was involved with the TPI workshop and Coby Dayhab and in later years loved attending his classroom and enjoyed doing outings and spending time with his peers.

Barry loved his family at Robert Street and enjoyed making it his forever home. He loved Judge Judy, Walker Texas Ranger, old country western movies and music, Harry Potter, and the Wizard of Oz. Barry also loved old log cabins, deer, bird watching, fishing and being outdoors.

Barry was a strong stubborn gentleman that, no matter how he was feeling, always gave you that megawatt smile that always made your day better. He was a fighter until the end with grace and at peace in his home surrounded by those who love him. His Lexington ARC family will miss him very much and the light he brought to all of their lives every day.

A graveside service for Barry was held on Tuesday, on August 5 at Middleburgh Cemetery, Cotton Hill Road, Middleburgh. A Celebration of Barry’s life followed at the Lexington ARC, 121 Opportunity Drive, Schoharie, NY.

Please visit www.coltrainfuneralhome.com to share online condolences with Barry’s family.

Please visit www.coltrainfuneralhome.com to share online condolences with Fanchon’s family.

Marguerite Smith



Marguerite Smith

Marguerite J. Smith 89, of Locust Lane (Driftwood Apartments), passed away Sunday, August 3, 2025 at the Palatine Nursing Home where she had resided

since January.

Marguerite was born December 2, 1935 in Amsterdam, a daughter of Myron and Elizabeth (Colyer) Smith. She attended Schoharie School and would later work cleaning area homes for friends and family.

She also spent many hours with her nieces and nephews while they were growing up, which she cherished. Marguerite practiced her faith attending services at the Second Reformed Church of Howes Cave and enjoyed quiet times reading and gardening.

Marguerite was also passionate about stock car racing including NASCAR. Her pet poodles over the years included Tiny, Sambo, Princess, and Tanya which also meant the world to her.

Her family includes her brother-in-law, Richard Hotaling of Sloansville; her nieces, Lisa Fagnani and Amy Hotaling, both of Allen, Texas; her nephews, David Hotaling (Cris) of Sprakers, Jim Hotaling (Sandra) of Sloansville, Mark Millington of Sloansville, and Bill Dooley of Titusville, Florida; along with several grand-nieces and nephews.

Marguerite was predeceased by her sisters, Beverly Hotaling and Laura Dooley.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, August 8 at the Sloansville Valley Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Marguerite to the Animal Shelter of Schoharie Valley, PO Box 40, Howes Cave, NY 12092.

The Langan Funeral Home of Schoharie and the Robert A. Guffin Funeral Home of Cobleskill are assisting the Smith family.

Please visit www.langanfuneralhome.com for further information and to leave a special message for Marguerite’s family and friends.

Dana Todd



Dana Todd

Dana J. Todd 80, of Cumpston Street, Esperance, passed away Tuesday, July 22, 2025 at her home under the care of hospice, home health professionals and family.

Dana was born March 5, 1945 in Margaretville, a daughter of Judson and Wanda (Grey) Todd and graduated from Margaretville High School.

She had lived in Delhi and Schoharie before moving to Esperance. Dana owned and operated Dana Todd Realty based in Esperance.

She was passionate and dedicated to her second career in real estate and was known for providing exceptional client service.

She had previously worked at SUNY Delhi as a Secretary where her organization, editing and writing skills were appreciated and honed over many years.

Dana loved flower gardening and she created a beautiful setting of annuals, perennials, and flower boxes at her home.

She often spent the winters crocheting and donated many of her handmade blankets to charity.

Survivors include her husband, David Grosse whom she married on her birthday in 2002; her sons, Ryan Storey, DVM of Derry, New Hampshire and Todd Burnside (Rebecca) of Berne; and her granddaughter, Emilee of Berne.

As per Dana’s wishes, there will be no formal services. The Langan Funeral Home of Schoharie along with the Robert A. Guffin Funeral Home of Cobleskill are assisting the Todd family.

Please visit www.langanfuneralhome.com for further information and to leave a special message for Dana’s family and friends.

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LETTERS TO
THE EDITOR

TMP: Cares
A Lot

I have just returned from Timothy Murphy Player’s third and final show of “Cabaret” in Middleburgh at Middleburgh High School Auditorium. They had a large, enthusiastic audience. The actors, dance, direction, music and technical aspects of the show were exemplary.

The late Ron Cleeve, of the Theater Project of Schoharie County, often thanked actors, productions, and audiences in a letter to the editor of The Times Journal. Ron, who I loved doing plays with, I am trying to continue his tradition. If you are familiar with the 1972 movie or the 1966 play of “Cabaret,” or have seen a community theater version of the 1969 play; TMP’s version, and the versions with Alan Cumming, Eddie Redmayne or Adam Lambert, their songs are on YouTube, they are very different plays. In the older version Sally’s song “Cabaret,” with the lyrics “What good is sitting alone in your room, come to Cabaret,” is the primary song. Here’s it’s the anthem, “I Don’t Care Much,” sung by the emcee. When in the TMP production, they clearly *cared a lot*.

Isaac Simeon played the Emcee and Sally Bowles was played by Stella Beardsley for Timothy Murphy.

I am very glad to have seen this amazing production and I thank Timothy Murphy Players.

Julia Walter
Cobleskill

Defining
“trade deficit”

The term Trade Deficit is in the news a lot these days. Let’s pause and think about what a Trade Deficit actually is.

If I go to the grocery store and buy \$100 worth of groceries. I am happy, I have the groceries I needed. The grocery store is happy, they got paid for the groceries they wanted to sell. But I have created a \$100 Trade Deficit with the grocery store. The only way I can reduce that Trade Deficit with the grocery store is if I have something to sell them that they want to buy, which is rather unlikely. Happily, my Trade Deficit with the grocery store grows every week as I eat and buy more groceries.

Wayne R Stinson
Summit

In other words Trade Deficits are just a natural and harmless measure of almost any trade transaction. Be sure you don’t confuse Trade Deficit with National Debt which sounds similar but is completely different. And yes, if you are thinking this, it is reasonable to wonder why all the news and talk about Trade Deficits.

Elliott Adams
Sharon Springs

The social
contract

There is a social contract, perhaps best exemplified by the instruction you were provided by adults during your childhood: “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you,” also known as the as the Golden Rule.

Additionally there are rules promulgated by government which are intended to instruct and educate citizens as to how they are to interact with each other and society in general. These rules tell us to respect others’ person and property, to be cognizant of others’ beliefs and speech freedoms, and to act in such a way as to avoid causing injury to another. These rules are also part of the social contract.

The federal government, the president, his cabinet and his executive appointees, and the majority of Republican legislators fail to abide by the social contract. They are executing a colossal smash and grab larceny and perpetrating a terrible assault upon the people.

Succinctly, they are lawless. Lawless behavior on the part of one contract party will engender lawless reactions by the other. In a country awash with guns this is a very dangerous circumstance. Think Luigi Mangione’s fatal shooting of United Healthcare CEO multiplied many times over.

So far our citizens are holding up their side of the bargain. I am especially thankful for the honorable response of most judicial appointees. There is justification for optimism.

Regarding our response to illegal actions by the federal government, I suggest “Do Not Comply, Refuse, Resist, Revolt.” Peacefully of course.



Last weekend I went to a showing of the Timothy Murphy Playhouse’s production of “Cabaret” at Middleburgh High School.

And y’all...
It. Was. STUNNING.

In the spirit of full disclosure, I had never seen “Cabaret.” Not the Bob Fosse-directed, Liza Minelli-starring 1972 film; not a single Broadway musical starring Alan Cumming or Neil Patrick Harris or Bebe Neuwirth; not

even a community theater production, though I’ve been involved in community theatre for more than 40 years.

So, sure. I could have just been filled with the thrill of seeing a show that has endured for 66 years and won eight Academy Awards and more than a dozen Tony Awards (when you include winners for performances in the show as well).

But it wasn’t just the music or script itself.

It was the set design, which was stark, with colorful light projections that could make you feel both at home as well as deeply disturbed.

It was the cohesiveness of the directorial vision, with the American writer Cliff Bradshaw on the stage almost the entire time, working on a typewriter as if he were composing his memoirs.

It was the nuanced and complex portrayal of Cliff by Antonio Brooks. It was Isaac Simeon’s performance as the provocative and callous Emcee.

And it was standout Stella Beardsley’s madcap and ultimately unhinged embodiment of Englishwoman and cabaret star Sally Bowles. When she sang the title song, her world—and mine, in empathy—unraveled. Both her worlds—inner and outer.

My husband was shocked that I stood enraptured for the whole curtain call, as I absolutely hate curtain calls, especially long ones. “Was it long?” I asked him. Maybe it was. I don’t know.

But it wasn’t until the next day that yet another life-changing revelation about the experience came to me:

I am Sally Bowles.
More or less.
In my daily life.

I prefer to look at the good things. The happy things. The entertaining things.

Some prophet of doom
To wipe every smile away?
Life is a Cabaret, old chum,
Come to the Cabaret!

But, as portrayed by Beardsley, the sentiment isn’t real. Beardsley’s performance showed a manic unraveling under the surface as she smeared her lipstick and threw off her wig and physically crumbled onstage, revealing that life just can’t, always, be a cabaret. A party. A pure, unblemished celebration of anything and everything.

Sometimes we have to talk about kidney cancer and pedophiles and politics.

As much as we don’t want to.

“Why?” you might ask.

That answer also lies in the show.

In one of the last songs of the musical, the Emcee, who symbolizes the apathy and complicity of many German citizens in the 1930s, sings “I Don’t Care Much” after Sally has defiantly proclaimed that politics has nothing to do with her or her life. Then, at the end of the Timothy Murphy Playhouse production, the emcee throws off his Kit Kat Club costume to reveal a blue-grey striped prison uniform.



Photo by Scott Keidong

Stella Beardsley of Middleburgh slays as Sally Bowles.

Answers to last
week’s crossword

By Snow Steadham

I hope everyone enjoyed my first ever crossword! If you have any suggestions, ideas, or just want to tell the editors here to let me do more, feel free to write HB.Steadham@nyvtmedia.com!

	1	P	2	P	3	O			4	S	5	H	6	A	7	T	8			
9	P	A	R	K	10	T	H	E	A	T	R	E					12	P	H	14
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35	C	S	36	N	Y			37	P	T	D			38	E	39	A	40	R	
			41	E	S	42	A	T	E	S		44	B	R		45	N	E		
46	V	47	R	O	M	A	N	S	N	O	48	S	E		49	C	A	A		
50	I	E	L		51	K	C		52	D	D	A	Y		53	A	B	L		
54	C	H	I	55	M	E	R	56	A			57	B	O	58	N	S	A	I	
59	E	A	T	A	T		60	N	T		62	E	N	D	U	E	S			
63	S	B	H			64	W	A	Y	65	W	A	R	D	L	A	N	E		
						67	O	R	A	T	E				68	S	L	A		

When I write for magazines and newspapers, I almost always choose pieces that are, well, nice. I like to write about trips I take, about persnickety cats sitting in windows and disdainfully watching me as I walk past, about parades and concerts and painting with puppies at art stores. I don’t want to take up my brain space or writing time or column inches reflecting on my kidney cancer or pedophiles arrested in our county or contemporary politics that divide us rather than remind us that we are all in this life and this community together.

Sally Bowles never gets out of the “carefree” mindset.

In the last song she sings, “Cabaret,” Sally cements her decision to be willfully ignorant. Even as she has had an abortion and lost the man she loves and her county is being overtaken by Nazis, Sally insists:

What good’s permitting

When we don’t speak about the unpleasant things, they often lead to our own demons.

The last image of the Timothy Murphy Playhouse production is of Cliff in a World War II uniform, carrying a gun and sporting the most terrified countenance I’ve ever seen.

Is it terrifying to confront the ill in the world? It very often is.

I love a cabaret, but I live in the real world. Whether I like it or not (and believe me, I do not), I gave up on being Sally. It happened too fast. Too forcefully. Too sadly.

I’m going to cling to my sequins whenever and wherever I can, but, when it’s necessary, I’ll set them aside and put on my olive drab. And I’ll very likely be terrified.

What will you be wearing today?

HB Steadham
Executive Editor



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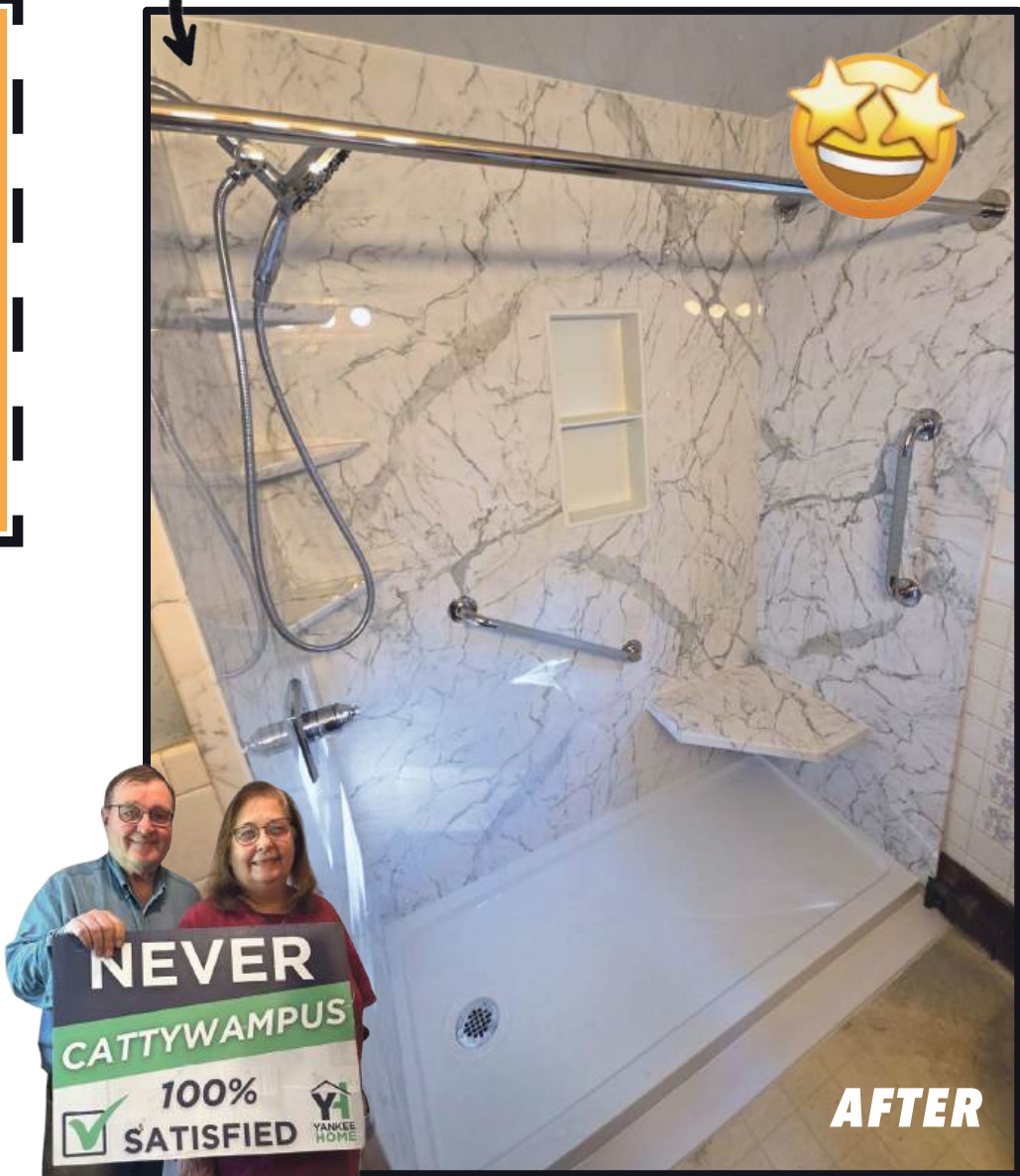
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Eyes on Education

University at Albany recognizes Schoharie County students



Photo from the University at Albany

University at Albany students celebrate commencement.

ALBANY – The Dean’s List at the University at Albany recognizes the outstanding academic achievements of full-time undergraduate students.

To qualify for the Dean’s List, students must earn a grade point average (GPA) of 3.25 or higher in their first semester of study and a GPA of 3.50 or higher in subsequent semesters.

The following local students have earned Dean’s List at the University at Albany in Spring 2025: Jodee Arnold of Schoharie, Kaitlyn Bertola of Cobleskill, Misha Cater-Smith of Schoharie, Matthew Conover of Howes Cave, Ashley Crandall of Warnerville, Lejhan Crooks of Middleburgh, James Davieau of Canajoharie, Benjamin Diamond of Middleburgh, Andrew Fagergren of Schoharie, Lilianna Fujita of Middleburgh, Alivia Kaelber of Middleburgh, Honor Kilpatrick of Canajoharie, Megan Krohn of Schoharie, Samantha Nelson of Sharon Springs, Jaxon Oneil of Cana-

joharie, Alexandria Parsons of Sharon Springs, and Scarlett Rose of Central Bridge.

The University at Albany is one of the most diverse public research institutions in the nation and a national leader in educational equity and social mobility. As a Carnegie-classified R1 institution, UAlbany faculty and students are advancing our understanding of the world in fields like artificial intelligence, atmospheric and environmental sciences, business, education, public health, social sciences, criminal justice, humanities, emergency preparedness, engineering, public administration, and social welfare. Our courses are taught by an accomplished roster of faculty experts with student success at the center of everything we do. Through our parallel commitments to academic excellence, scientific discovery, and service to community, UAlbany molds bright, curious, and engaged leaders and launches great careers. For more information, visit www.albany.edu.

CRCSD sets temperature policy

By Pete Lindemann, Times Journal Staff

COBLESKILL – How hot is too hot?

That’s a question the Cobleskill-Richmondville Board of Education addressed at its July 28 regular meeting.

The answer? Eighty-two and eighty-eight degrees.

Those are the temperatures at which schools, according to the law – and now school policy - must take mitigation steps.

According to the policy adopted by the board, the school district must take action when the room temperatures reach 82 degrees; these actions “may include, but are not limited to:

- a) Turning off the overhead lights;
- b) Pulling down shades or blinds;
- c) Turning on fans;
- d) Opening classroom doors and windows to increase circulation, if permitted;
- e) Turning off unused electronics that produce heat; and
- f) Providing water breaks.

Air conditioners, where available, may also be used to keep room temperatures from reaching 82 degrees Fahrenheit.”

And when the room temperature hits 88, there are new procedures. According to the policy, at that temperature, “The Superintendent or designee may direct building principals to evacuate the space by:

- a) Moving students and

staff to cooler spaces within the school building(s); or

- b) Moving students and staff to cooler spaces in other school building(s) within the District; or
- c) Closing school early and sending students and staff home according to the District’s emergency school closing policy and/or procedure which include communicating with parents and persons in parental relation.”

And how is the room temperature determined?

The policy states, “Room temperature means the temperature measured at a shaded location, three feet above the floor near the center of the room.”

The policy may be new, but the practice is not, said Superintendent Matt Sickles. “The policy – as required and as written - exactly matches what we’ve done during the last two heat waves, June 25 and June 24...”

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CRCSD writes policy from NYS internet-enabled device ban

By Pete Lindemann, Times Journal Staff

COBLESKILL – As reported in the July 24 issue of the Times Journal, every school district in New York state is required to implement a “Bell-to-Bell” ban on internet-enabled devices with the upcoming school year.

The new law is prescriptive, said Matt Sickles, superintendent of the Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District, describing it as “a required policy with... little room for customization.”

But the district had some leeway on one issue.

“The first thing we had a little bit of say over was storage of devices,” said C-R High School Principal Brett Barr. “So we are in kind of a fortunate situation where every student is issued a locker with a unique combination. [...] it kind of makes sense to use what we already have, so

we will be using lockers at the middle school and high school as the primary storage option for students.”

The secondary option, Barr said, is the school office for “students who may not be comfortable with [using their locker]. We couldn’t necessarily pinpoint a reason why they might not be comfortable with that, other than somebody having their combination. But we did want to offer a secondary option for students.”

And it’s not only smartphones that are affected.

The new policy applies to any internet-enabled device, such as a tablet, smartwatch, “or any other device capable of connecting to the internet and enabling the user to access content on the internet, including social media applications.”

Under the provisions of the new law, the state is allocating \$13.5 million for “school storage solutions.” Bruce Tryon,

school board president, said that even though there should be no cost associated with the new policy, CRCSD should receive the “standard distribution” based on student population; that’s about \$7,000 for CRCSD.

If a parent needs to get a hold of a student during the school day, they can call the school office phone. Office staff will relay the message to the student or call the student to the office to speak with the parent.

As far as violation of the policy, the district is “prohibited from suspending a student solely for accessing internet-enabled devices in violation of this policy.”

The school district will establish a “progressive system for handling violations of the policy,” said Barr.

The law also requires that, no later than September 1, 2026—and each September

1st thereafter—each school district publish an annual report on its website detailing enforcement of the policy within the school in the prior school year.

Barr believes the new policy will ultimately help students.

“If you were to walk into a study hall...I don’t think it’s any secret that a vast majority of students are on their device during that time...” Barr said.

He anticipates that the internet-enabled device ban will lead to an increase in student “soft skills,” meaning more “face-to-face interactions” and “eye contact with other people.”

And as far as enforcement, Barr said, “If anyone is thinking that random backpack searches are part of this, I can assure you, they are not.

“The last thing that we want to do is spend our time going on phone witch hunts.”

Jayna Manko of Sharon Spring and Elegy Sinclair of Middleburgh earn distinction

ONEONTA – Jayna Manko of Sharon Spring and Elegy Sinclair of Middleburgh have earned the distinction of being on the SUNY Oneonta Dean’s List for the Spring 2025 semester.

To qualify for the Dean’s List, a student must earn a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher while carrying a course load of 12 hours or more.

SUNY Oneonta is a public, four-year university in Central New York, enrolling

about 5,300 students in a wide variety of bachelor’s degree programs and more than a dozen graduate certificate and degree programs. Celebrating its 135th anniversary, the university is known as both an exemplary residential campus that values inclusion, service, and sustainability, and a nurturing community where students grow intellectually, thrive socially, and live purposefully. Learn more at <https://suny.oneonta.edu>.

Madelyn Palmer of Richmondville travels the world with SUNY Oneonta

ONEONTA – SUNY Oneonta students have taken the world by storm this summer, with nearly 70 embarking on a record number of immersive, international learning adventures, including Madelyn Palmer of Richmondville.

This year, the university offered seven different summertime faculty-led programs (FLPs), which are short-term study abroad opportunities. Lasting anywhere from one to four weeks, FLPs incorporate coursework, cultural experiences, and, often, service-learning opportunities. Students get to apply their classroom knowledge in a completely new setting and learn unique subject matters not regularly taught on campus.

This is the most extensive summer offering SUNY Oneonta has had, and the Office of Global Education hopes to offer seven FLPs again next year.

“Faculty-led programs give our students a ‘mini study abroad,’ if you will, and foster deep academic exploration while enhancing cultural awareness, making the learning experience truly unforgettable,” said Office of Global Education Director Michelle Lopez. “We’re incredibly happy to be able to offer so many life-changing opportunities for experiential learning, something we prioritize at SUNY Oneonta!”

For more information, visit suny.oneonta.edu.

Local students named to SUNY Cortland Dean’s List

CORTLAND – There were 2,737 students recognized for academic excellence on the SUNY Cortland Dean’s List for the Spring 2025 semester. The Dean’s List is the highest ranking for undergraduate students in their respective academic areas of the university. Students must earn a minimum 3.3 grade point average for the semester to make the list.

Among those recognized are Matthew Croote of Middleburgh, Kara Dumas of Jefferson, Lia Fraleigh of Cobleskill, Aaron Henry of Warnerville, Silas Lindstead of Cobleskill, Nicholas Maniscalco of Cobleskill, Hannah Mulhern of Esperance, and Anna Rightmyer of Richmondville.

SUNY Cortland is one of New York’s top public universities, offering a high-value education spanning 68 undergraduate majors in diverse fields. This mid-sized institution, located in the geographic heart of New York state, provides a high quality of student life, outstanding faculty and extensive out-of-classroom educational experiences. Learn more at Cortland.edu.

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more information at www.hobartrotary.com/festival



Times Past

**100 Years Ago
August 7, 1925**

Fitting observance of the 50th anniversary of the Cobleskill Agricultural Society will be made if tentative plans of presenting an historic pageant on the second day of the annual fair in September are developed. President Charles A. Wieting has asked Governor Smith to be present to give an address on the occasion. The governor was not at Albany yesterday and his reply has not been received.

Rain and lots of it, preventing the onrush of customers at Fairground Field yesterday when the Bloomer Girls' baseball team was advertised to meet the local league club in a twilight hour encounter. But the girls were here. A guarantee of \$100 had been made and they collected, smiled, and walked the streets apparently enjoying new pictures on new streets as well as the excitement on the paths of the baseball field.

Members of the Cobleskill Automobile club and guests will visit Canadarago Park, near Richfield Springs, next Thursday, Aug. 13, on their annual run. Notice of the event has been mailed to members by Milo R. Kniffen, secretary.

Proud Father – I understand, son your school now boasts of a glee club. Son – No, sir, we don't boast of it. (Laugh With Us).

SHARON SPRINGS, Aug. 6 - With a new swimming pool opened, Sharon Springs people feel that another step forward has been taken in keeping this health resort village abreast of the times in recreational advantages. The opening of the pool occurred last Friday. There was music by the band and a large crowd of happy people witnessed the sports.

**85 Years Ago
August 8, 1940**

CHERRY VALLEY - In an electric storm last week, Harry Bogardus had eight cows and one bull killed by lightning. The animals were all in the group under a large tree. The bolt went down the tree, struck the bull, and then went through the rest of the herd.

There was little sleep in Delhi Thursday night as nearly 100 in more than a score of cars put the traditional practice of "horning" newlyweds on a wholesale basis and favored with serenades 12 couples who in recent months have embarked upon the seas of matrimony.

The General Electric Co., of Schenectady was awarded contracts for \$836,061,129 for radio transmitting equipment and \$476,718 for artillery guns by the Federal government.

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One hundred years of progress in agriculture and agricultural education will be the theme of New York state's annual fair this year at Syracuse. The 100th anniversary will be held from August 25 to September 2, Fair Director Paul Smith has announced.

**45 Years Ago
August 6, 1980**

With flooding becoming an increasingly devastating and destructive force in Schoharie County the Office of Disaster Preparedness has decided to start a creek clean-up operation in flood zones across the county. While this program is not the final solution, it is a beginning and at least a step in the right direction.

The Town of Blenheim contains only 287 people, according to the Bureau of Census, but if the census takers had been in Blenheim on Saturday, they would have found that the 287 had increased tenfold. The large crowd - estimated at 3000 - were on hand to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Blenheim bridge, the longest single span covered bridge in the world.

SOUTH VALLEY – On July 19, the hottest day of the year, a Westchester softball team called Noodles Nuts challenged The Brook to a game. The game ball was delivered to second base by sky diver, Les Burton on the Breezy Acre field, South Valley.

It seems that the board of the Town of Wright will again be faced with their recent controversy over parachuting and skydiving in their area at their board meeting tomorrow evening. Some town residents have complained that the skydivers many times have landed on their property and are causing a hazard with the dropping of certain pieces of equipment from the air.

The 1978 market value of agricultural products sold by the 670 farms in Schoharie County amounted to \$25.4 million or an average of \$37,921 each, up from \$19 million in 1974 with an accompanying increase in production costs, according to a preliminary report of the 1978 Census of Agriculture released this week by the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**35 Years Ago
August 8, 1990**

Cobleskill's creative playground will reach its fundraising goal, thanks to an agreement reached by village board members Monday night. Trustees agreed to pledge \$16,000 from a federal loan repayment fund to the playground - assuming the playground meets federal requirements for the money.

Leo J. Scholet, founder of Scholet Furniture Company of Cobleskill in 1933, will celebrate his 99th birthday on August 29.



This old photo is labeled on the back 'Mill Dam on Quarry Street.' Anybody know anything about the dam? Regarding the old photo in our July 17 edition, we got a bite. Joan Laurent from New Jersey contacted us about the photo, of two boys in front of a store. Joan didn't recognize the kids, but she recognized the store. It was her parents' store, Shafer's Meat Market, 13 West Main Street, Cobleskill, across from the park. She said it was right next to the old firehouse, and they lived upstairs from the market. Her parents were Franklin and Enfield Shafer. Although Joan lives in New Jersey now, she still gets the Times Journal by mail. "I can't do without that thing," she said.

A group of former JJ Newberry's co-workers gathered July 14 for a reunion at Howe Caverns. Those attending were Florence Terk, Regina Freiermuth, Betty Harrington, Judy Lewis, Lela Vroman, Eldeen Weaver, Cherie Clapper and Emma Jean Slater.

Area athletes Frank Masterson and Bill Shrader came home winners from the recent Empire State Games held in Syracuse. Masterson took first place in the 20-kilometer race walk event in the 50-55 year old age group; Shrader, in the 70-74 year-old age category, placed first in the 20 kilometer race walk.

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**30 Years Ago
August 9, 1995**

One half of the race for Schoharie County judge was settled Wednesday. Cobleskill attorney George Bartlett Wednesday easily defeated attorney Russell Langwig of Schoharie in a Republican county caucus in Schoharie. At the end of the balloting, 50 committee members voted for Mr. Bartlett, five for Mr. Langwig. Mr. Langwig then made a motion to make the nomination unanimous.

After a 53-year hiatus, Schoharie County's "free street original open-air movies" are returning as part of the year-long celebration of

the county's bicentennial. The outdoor movies will be shown on August 17 at the Old Stone Fort in Schoharie and on August 24 at the NYPA Visitor's Center in North Blenheim, rain or shine.

Middleburgh village residents can start watering their parched lawns and gardens and wash their dirty cars, but only once a week. The village Monday lifted the voluntary ban and outside watering that has been in effect since June.

After nearly two years, the Middleburgh Historical Society has a home. The society, formed in the fall of 1993, will share a room in the new Middleburgh Town Hall on Railroad Avenue with the town historian, Helene Farrell. "We're all excited about it," said society President Diane France.

Construction of the new Schoharie Dunkin' Donuts started last week in anticipation of an October opening. Foundation work started Thursday as crews poured

concrete and a wall was poured Friday, said developer Matt Fagnani.

**18 Years Ago
August 8, 2007**

A full House of Republicans Thursday picked Roger Cohn to be their candidate for Cobleskill supervisor in November. Mr. Cohn, former councilman, defeated Linda Angell 80-62 in the party's caucus at the Best Western. Mr. Cohn, 67, served 18 years as a town councilman and has been with the Kenneth Fake Agency for 30 years. He's retiring at the end of this year.

Cobleskill Regional Hospital started the next two phases of its 10-year renovation plan on Monday. The projects will include extending fire-protection sprinkler system and asbestos removal on the ground floor and first floor and moving the pharmacy from the ground floor to the first floor.

It may not become Holly-

wood East but for a few days in October, Middleburgh will be the setting for an independent movie. Middleburgh village officials were notified late last month that the movie The Locals will be filmed in and around the village and Crystal Lake from October 5 to 22.

Jillian Smith of the Animal Shelter of the Schoharie Valley has been awarded a GameStop Youth grant to continue her training of shelter dogs for potential therapy dog certification.

John Michael Iseman, 17, of Quaker Street., a graduate of Duanesburg High School, has been awarded the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank within the Boy Scouts of America. He is a member of Duanesburg Troop 51. For his service project, John Michael coordinated the construction of duck boxes and placed them in the Schenectady County Forest located in the Town of Duanesburg.

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In Brief

Middleburgh crash claims a life



Contributed photo
Melissa L. Guest of Jefferson died in Middleburgh car crash.

New York State Police responded to a two-car crash at the intersection with NYS Route 145 and Schoharie Hill Road on Tuesday, July 29, that claimed the life of 49-year-old Melissa L. Guest of Jefferson. The victim was a passenger in a vehicle attempting to make a left turn onto Schoharie Hill Road when it was struck by the oncoming car. According to troopers, Guest sustained serious injuries and was declared deceased at the scene. The drivers of both vehicles and four other passengers were all transported to the Albany Medical Center for treat-

ment of what was believed to be non-life-threatening injuries.

Cobleskill man charged with strangulation



Schoharie County Correctional Facility photo
Joshua Decker of Cobleskill was arrested on multiple charges.

With the assistance of the Schoharie County Sheriff's Office, New York State Police arrested 41-year-old Joshua Decker on a warrant for strangulation in the 2nd degree, criminal mischief in the 3rd degree, assault in the 3rd degree, as well as criminal obstruction of breathing, unlawful imprisonment, and unauthorized use of a computer. It is alleged that on July 26, after accessing the victim's phone, Decker struck

and strangled the individual. During the altercation, the report indicates Decker prevented the victim from fleeing the scene to request help.

Troopers say that, after a time, the victim was able to leave and flagged down a passing state trooper to report the attack.

Decker was no longer in the area and a warrant for his arrest was issued. He was located by deputies on July 28 in Cobleskill and taken into custody. He was arraigned and remanded to the Schoharie County Correctional Facility.

Cobleskill Central School class of 1985 seeks alumni

If you graduated from Cobleskill High School in 1985, have not been contacted by someone about the 40th class reunion, and would like to attend, please contact one of the following people: Randy Pacatte at 518-231-4885; Lisa (Van Steenburg) Wayman at 518-231-4930; Bonnie (Cole) Bradbury at 518-528-9551; Butch Pickett at 607-643-8224; George Sommers at 518-573-4062; or Jim Morrell at 518-701-4049.

Middleburgh man arrested for child pornography

A 31-year-old Middleburgh man is under arrest after the execution of a search warrant at his residence. State Police have charged James R. Paige with promoting a sexual performance by a child, a class D felony, and possessing a sexual performance by a child, a class E felony.

Paige was processed and transported to the Schoharie County Correctional Facility to await arrangement.

The investigation and arrested followed the receipt of a tip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

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Looking Ahead

Meet the Authors at the Schoharie Mercantile

From 1-3 p.m. TODAY, August 7—as well as August 9, 14, 16, 21, and 23, Schoharie Mercantile will host “Meet the Authors” sessions at their shop, 303 Main Street in Schoharie. Customers can chat with local authors and get copies of their signed books. For more information, contact Schoharie Mercantile at 518-295-6030.

Floyd's Final Lap

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 9, a car show will be held in celebration of the life of Floyd Armlin III 4453 Route 30 in Middleburgh. General admission costs \$5 for spectators, with kids under the age of 12 free; \$10 to register cars for the show. All proceeds will go towards the cost of Armlin's service and to his surviving family. Additional donations are appreciated. For more information, find “Floyd's Final Lap” on Facebook.

Camp Forget-Me-Not

Camp Forget-Me-Not is

a safe place for kids to make new friendships, share big feelings, and learn how to cope with grief. Camp is free and facilitated by Helios Care Grief Professionals and welcomes children ages 6-12 and teens ages 13-18 who have experienced the death of a loved one. The camp will take place on Thursday, August 21st at Riverside Elementary School in Oneonta from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registration is required by August 11th. Visit www.helioscare.org for more information.

Open Call for Art

Friday, September 19, is the deadline to submit to the Jefferson Historical Society's The Spirit of Community Art Show. Any two-dimensional art not to exceed 18 inches by 18 inches is eligible for submission. For more information and to sign up to participate, contact historicalsocietyjefferson@gmail.com

If you have events that you'd like to see listed in “Looking Ahead,” email HB.Steadham@nyvtmedia.com.

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Open call for art



Contributed photo

Photo of a concert in the big tent on Heritage Day could also be an art show entry.

JEFFERSON – The Jefferson Historical Society seeks entries to an art show to be held in Judd Hall in October. The show has been titled The Spirit of the Community, encouraging people to express

their own take on what aspect of this community means the most to them. This could be an appreciation for hometown heroes, the beautiful natural landscape, the working farms, a snowy winter scene, or a

gathering of friends or family in a club or reunion. Entries for the show will be limited to two-dimensional art (no sculptures, for the sake of convenience). Submitted works could be a photograph,



Contributed photo

Jefferson barn painting by Werner Rentsch speaks to “The Spirit of Community.”

a painting, a sketch, a quilt block or other textile—anything that fits the requirement of 18 inches by 18 inches or less. Prizes will be given according to age groups: 10 to

18, 19 to 30, and 31 and up. Deadline for submissions is Friday, September 19. For more information and to sign up to participate, contact historicalsociety-jefferson@gmail.com. You

may drop off your art with a filled-out entry form (ask for one at the email address) at Judd Hall, 163 Main Street, Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. until Labor Day, or by appointment.

Jefferson Historical Society presents Dave Ruch

JEFFERSON – Dave Ruch, performer and teaching artist, will give a special concert entitled “Traditional and Historical Songs of New York State” on August 13 at 7 p.m. in The Maple Museum, 221 Creamery St., Jefferson. A professional musician and educator based in Buffalo, Ruch gives hundreds of concerts and workshops each year for schools, libraries, music festivals, historical societies, museums, and community events both at home and abroad. For this

concert, Ruch will present and tell the stories behind the songs of real-life “Yorkers” from days gone by—farmers, lumbermen, children, housewives, lake sailors, cannellers and more—collected through considerable research and interpreted for all to enjoy with mandolin, banjo, guitar, jaw harp, and more. This free event is sponsored in part by The Apple Barrel, Catnap Books, Fenimore Asset Management, Scoville-Meno Honda, an Upstate Fairgame Grant, and

the Statewide Community Reigrants 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 CRE-ATE Council on the Arts. For more information about Dave, visit www.daveruch.com. For more information about this particular event and/or the Jefferson Historical Society, visit thejeffersonhistoricalsociety.com.

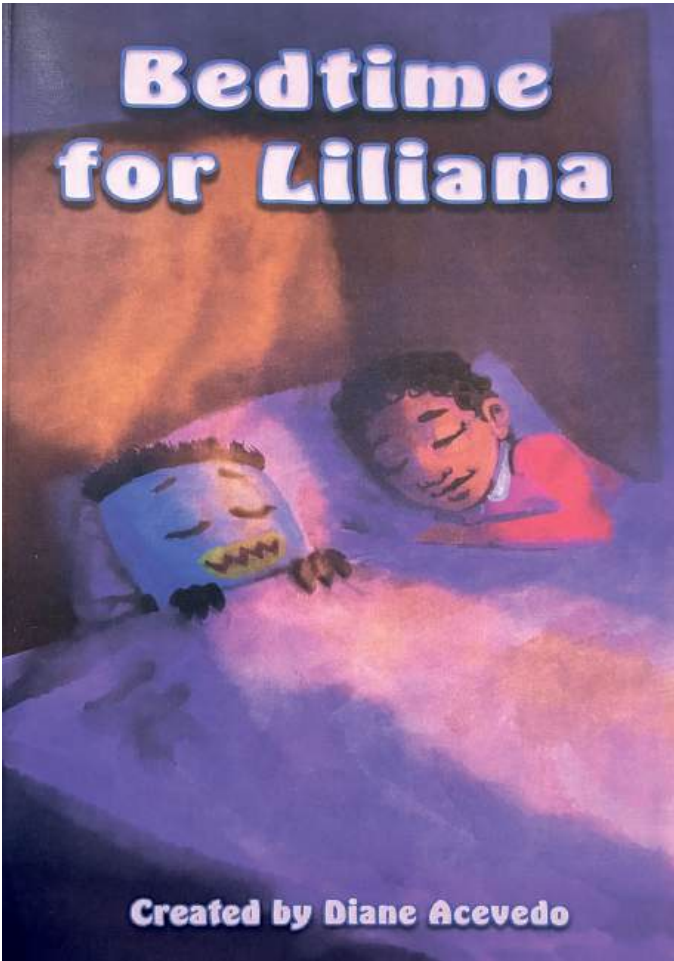


Contributed photo

Performer and teaching artist Dave Ruch plays banjo, mandolin, guitar, jaw harp, and more.

Local children’s author signs books at Schoharie Mercantile

SCHOHARIE – Diane Acevedo will be presenting copies of her new book, “Bedtime for Liliana,” at the Schoharie Mercantile, 303 Main Street, Schoharie on Saturday, August 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. Diane Acevedo helped to raise over 125 children over a 25-year career as a daycare provider. One child, Liliana, was afraid to go to sleep at night, so Diane created a bedtime story featuring Liliana and a small, friendly monster that needed her help to overcome its fear of the dark. To go along with this book, Diane sewed a stuffy monster friend to hold at bedtime. The book and monster helped ease Liliana’s fears and allowed her to sleep better at night. The book was illustrated by Diane’s son Alec and has now been published. Alec is an illustrator who enjoys working on everything from children’s books to fantasy and role-playing games. Diane also creates various arts and crafts and is a member of the Schoharie Chapter NS-DAR. For more information, visit schohariemercantile.com.



Contributed photo

Diane Acevedo will sign copies of her new book, “Bedtime for Liliana,” at Schoharie Mercantile.



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Sports

CNY Pioneers win championship

Rising Senior pitchers Eddie Wright (Oriskany) and Elijah Barr (Cobleskill-Richmondville) showed out in dominant fashion to lead the CNY Pioneers to the championship of the Eastern New York Travel Baseball College Tour League.

In the semifinal game on July 30, Wright dazzled with a two-hit shutout against the Frozen Ropes Outlaws in a 4-0 Pioneers victory. After loading the bases in the first inning, the Outlaws were unable to gain any momentum against Wright, who struck out nine batters.

Offensively, the Pioneers were led by a Thomas Eck (Frankfort-Schuyler) three-run homer in the top of the seventh to blow open a tight 1-0 game. Eck and Barr each collected two hits, while Simon O’Neil (Cobleskill-Richmondville) contributed a hit, two walks, and two runs. Wright, Isaac Maxwell (West



Contributed photo

The CNY Pioneers celebrate their win in the ENYTB College Tour Championship Game.

Canada Valley), Broc Barker (Sauquoit Valley), and Kieran Sullivan (Sauquoit Valley) each collected a hit.

The championship game on August 1 played out similarly for the Pioneers with another standout pitching performance, as Barr shut down the Top Level Athletics with a two-hit shutout of his own in the 5-0 win. Like Wright, Barr allowed the Athletics to load the bases in the first inning before escaping with back-to-

back strikeouts. Settling in, Barr held the A’s without a hit for the remainder of the game, striking out 14 batters. Josh Martinez (Proctor) starred at the plate, with a leadoff home run and a triple. Barr, Wright, O’Neil, Barker, and Sullivan each contributed a hit.

This wraps up play for the Pioneers, who finished the season with an overall record of 21-8-1, two tournament championships, and many great memories.



Multiple drivers celebrate first wins

By Ed & Betty Biittig

Cody Clark and Alex Yankowski each won a Modified feature at Fonda on Saturday night; Yankowski took the June 28 make-up race, while Clark earned his second win of the season in the Modified main event of the night. Points leader Jack Lehner overcame a flat tire in the second feature and came back to finish sixth. With only two nights left for the points, Lehner now sits second in points, tied with Bobby Hackel, IV. Yankowski is on top of the point standings by 12 points.

The annual Bill Ag Elimination race was also one of the makeup events on Saturday and Jack Lehner took on Ronnie Johnson for the final leg of the match race and was able to move ahead of RJ to win the championship.

Other winners at Fonda on Saturday included Tyler Bobar (Sportsman), Andy Graves (Pro Stocks), Mason Gray (Limited Sportsman), Jay Ingersoll (Four Cylinder, dual cam), and Tim Warner (Four Cylinder, dual cam).

Bobar, Graves, and Warner each celebrated their first victory at Fonda in Victory Lane on Checkerboard Square.

Andy Graves of Middleburgh celebrated his first Pro Stock win at Fonda after 22 years of racing, making his weekend even more memorable. He also took victory on Friday night in the Mohawk



Photo by Biittig

Andy Graves of Middleburgh celebrates first Pro Stock win Saturday at Fonda after 22 years of racing.

Valley Vintage Dirt Modified Series at Utica Rome Speedway, driving his father Terry’s vintage Modified and beating Jack Miller. Graves’s win at Fonda was in the Bill and Cindy Yurkewecz-owned Pro Stock, and Graves thanked them several times in his victory lane interview. Graves’ racing career has encompassed several area tracks where he has recorded wins: Afton Raceway, Brookfield Speedway, Glen Ridge Motorsports Park, and Utica Rome Speedway.

This Saturday, August 9, Doug’s Pool & Spa Sales & Service will present the third Thunder on the Thruway Series event of the 2025 for Modifieds (\$4,000 to win), Sportsman (\$1,500 to win), and Pro Stocks (\$1,000 to win) along with all regular divisions. Doug’s Pool & Spa Sales & Service will also award bonuses in the Limited Sportsman division.

Albany Saratoga Speedway hosted Native Pride Night, featuring extra prize money for Modifieds, the 358 Shoot Out, Limited Sportsman, and other divisions. Peter Britten claimed his first Modified win of the 2025 season, while Mike Mahaney took the 358-Mod Shootout. Other winners included Derrick McGrew Jr. (Sportsman), Chris Stalker (Pro

Stocks), Adam Tranka (Limited Sportsman), PJ Cram Jr. (Street Stock), Adam Montville (Four Cylinder, dual cam), and Ken Hollenbeck (Four Cylinder, single cam). This was Ken Hollenbeck’s first win at the track this season; he and his brother, Kerrie usually competes at Fonda but are out testing the waters at different venues.

Glen Ridge hosted the Sportsman Super DIRTcar Series on Sunday, and winner of the event was Gavin Eisele of Lafargeville. Other winners at Glen Ridge were Bodie Marks (Limited Sportsman), C.J. Castelletti, (358 Mods), Slater Baker (Pro Stocks), Adam Montville (Mini Stocks), Carson Hamlin (Junior Slingshots), James Hatch (All Star Slingshots), and Jordan Zakrzewski (500cc Mini Sprints).

As we close, we send our prayers for a speedy recovery to Stewart Friesen, who was seriously injured in a racing accident in Canada last Monday. After initially being treated in a hospital in Canada, he was transferred to a hospital in New York this past week where he underwent surgery that went very well, and he is now resting and recovering.

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

Helios Care hosts charity golf tournament

Helios Care’s Annual Chip in Fore Hospice Tournament will be held on Wednesday, September 17, at the scenic College Golf Course at Delhi. This annual event is one of Helios Care’s biggest fundraisers, ensuring that hospice patients and families have access to the care and support they need during one of life’s most difficult moments.

The tournament begins with breakfast and registration at 8 a.m., a shotgun start out on the course at 10 a.m. with a bagged lunch and 2 p.m. drink tickets, an awards reception after the tournament with heavy hors d’oeuvres, and a complimentary gift for every player.



Contributed photo

New York Central Mutual’s 2024 team at the 2024 Chip in Fore Hospice Tournament. From left to right: Dan Robinson, Mike Perrino, John Holdorf, Jeremy Robinson.

All are invited to attend.

Registration can be completed on the Helios Care (formerly Catskill Area Hospice and Palliative Care) website for individual players or teams of four, at HeliosCare.org/

Events. Exclusive Sponsorship opportunities are also available for organizations; contact Kathryn Dailey, Director of Development at Helios Care, for more information at (607) 432-6773.

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A weekend in Schoharie



The sun sets the sky ablaze over the Iroquois Museum.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY – Residents of Schoharie County are never without opportunities to spend time with family and friends. This past weekend included no fewer than ten events, including the Schoharie Colonial Heritage Association’s Summer Youth Programs Band Camp performance at Depot Lane, the Market in the Meadow at Wayward Lane, and Drop-In Storytime at the Middleburgh Library.

Last Friday, the Iroquois Museum in Howes Cave hosted Roots, Rhythm, and Ale, followed by a Mixed Media Workshop the next morning. On Saturday, Helderberg Meadworks in Esperance hosted a National Mead Day celebration, while Schoharie Mercantile hosted a book signing by Dan Dial, author of “Abby’s View.” And Saturday night and Sunday, the Timothy Murphy Playhouse performed “Cabaret” at Middleburgh High School.

If you’re able, be sure to explore the wealth of our community before these delightful summer days turn into memories.

Photo by HB Steadham

The Museum grounds were full of people enjoying the live music.



Photo by HB Steadham

George Thom of Howes Cave beams with pride.



Photo by HB Steadham

The Iroquois Museum was host to a whole litter of patrons.



Photo by HB Steadham

Roots, Rhythm, and Ale served up tasty morsels.



Photo by HB Steadham

Roots, Rhythm, and Ale proved to be groovy.



Photo by HB Steadham

Erin and Emilia Keaton of Delanson get tips from instructor Kit Thomas.

A weekend in Schoharie



Band “Monkey and the Crowbar” filled the open air with song.

Photo by HB Steadham



Helderberg Meadworks introduced many new patrons to their selection of mead.

Photo by HB Steadham



A longboat stood strong in the field in front of Helderberg Meadworks.

Photo by HB Steadham



Dan Dial cheerily signed copies of “Abby’s View.”

Photo by HB Steadham



Behind the doors of Schoharie Mercantile laid a book signing.

Photo by HB Steadham



Middleburgh High School’s auditorium was bursting at the seams.

Photo by HB Steadham



“This production was better than the last two Broadway shows I saw,” said Times Journal Executive Editor HB Steadham.

Photo by HB Steadham



Antonio Brooks knocked his performance of Cliff Bradshaw out of the park in “Cabaret.”

Photo by HB Steadham

Government News

Dana Salazar announces candidacy for state Supreme Court

TROY – Rensselaer County attorney Dana Salazar today announced her candidacy for state Supreme Court in the Third Judicial District. The Third Judicial District encompasses Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Schoharie, Sullivan, and Ulster Counties.

Salazar, an Albany Law graduate and practicing attorney for almost 20 years, is seeking the Republican and Conservative Party nominations at judicial conventions

which will be held on August 8 and 10, respectively. Salazar resides with her family on their small farm in Rensselaer County.

“I’m pleased to announce my candidacy for state Supreme Court in the Third JD. As a practicing attorney in the Capital Region for almost 20 years, I understand the vital role the courts play in ensuring equal justice for all,” Salazar said. “It is critical for our judges to be fair and impartial. While we must seek en-

dorsements of political parties to run for this office, I pledge that if elected, politics will play no role in my decisions. I look forward to campaigning across the seven counties of the Third JD over the summer and fall and having the opportunity to meet and discuss my candidacy with all of the voters of our district”, said Salazar.

“Dana Salazar brings an unmatched combination of legal expertise, integrity, and community commitment to

the bench,” said Mayor Carmella R. Mantello, City of Troy. “From representing children in family court to handling complex litigation and serving on the Committee on Character and Fitness, Dana has demonstrated the fairness, compassion, and judgment we need on the State Supreme Court. As a proud Rensselaer County resident, Dana understands our values and will serve the entire Third Judicial District with distinction.”

Salazar previously ran



Contributed photo

Dana Salazar runs for Third Judicial District of state Supreme Court

for Supreme Court in 2023, losing that race by just over 2%. In 2024, she became the first woman appointed Corporation Counsel for the City of Troy. She practices law with her mother and daughter in the firm of Salazar and Erikson, LLP in East Greenbush, a three-generation female-owned law practice.

The election for State Supreme Court in the Third Judicial District will take place on Election Day, November 4, 2025.

Pigeons and F-words in Middleburgh

By Pete Lindemann, Times Journal Staff
MIDDLEBURGH – Among other issues, the Middleburgh Village Board Monday night dealt with what Mayor Timothy Knight called, sarcastically, “our wonderful pigeon-infested building.”

The building, at 111 Railroad Avenue in the village, is slated for demolition. The board received five bids for the demo work: MSL Construction \$31,000; Jackson Demolition, \$37,900; Dan’s Hauling & Demo, \$45,800; Valley Restoration & Con-

struction, \$59,184.29; and Schoenecker Construction, \$75,000.

All of the bids were for demolition and backfill, except for the Schoenecker Construction bid, which was for demo only.

Mayor Knight was happy with the five bids, saying they were “...exactly in the range we were hoping for.”

After discussion, Trustee Robert Tinker moved that the board accept the lowest bid—MSL Construction. The motion passed unanimously.

As far as a time frame for the demo work, Mayor Knight said “two to three weeks.”

Once the building is taken down, the lot will become a parking lot. The mayor said he will hold a special meeting on the project with the neighbors of 111 Railroad.

As if a pigeon infestation wasn’t enough to deal with, the F-word came up twice during the course of the meeting.

The first was during discussion of the contract to re-



Photo by Snow Steadham

Sign at the corner of River Street and Middlefort Road (with portions of the F-word blurred).

place the sidewalks on Scribner Avenue.

The village received two bids: one from Schoenecker Construction for \$24,684 and the other from MSL Construction for \$29,000.

Trustee Robert Tinker said that when Schoenecker Construction did work in the village previously, “We had comments from people in the village of profane language,” he said, including use of the F-word.

“I don’t think we need to put up with that nonsense in

the village,” he said.

Trustee Amanda Fernandez agreed, saying the MSL bid—while a bit higher—was more detailed.

Referring to the board decision minutes earlier to award MSL the bid to demolish a derelict building at 111 Railroad Avenue, Fernandez said, “They’re already going to be doing the demo work on Railroad, so...”

The vote was taken and the board unanimously agreed to award the Scribner Avenue sidewalk replacement job to

MSL Construction.

The second time the F-word came up was during the discussion of drivers speeding in the village. Mayor Timothy Knight mentioned that there is a sign on the lawn of a resident at the corner of River Street and Middlefort Road that has the F-word.

The sign—actually two, one facing north, the other south—reads, “Slow the [F-word] down!!! Toddlers at Play, Please!”

“It’s just vulgar,” said Trustee Tinker.



Photo by Snow Steadham

The “pigeon-infested building” at 111 Railroad Avenue in the Village of Middleburgh should be demolished in “two to three weeks.”

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Community News

Nominations sought for community leader award



Contributed photo
Dr. Ben Friedell receiving the 2024 Dr. Yoshiro Matsuo Compassionate Care Award.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY – Helios Care, a nonprofit agency focused on assisting patients and families facing serious illness or end of life (formerly known as Catskill Area Hospice), seeks nominations for the 3rd Annual Dr. Yoshiro Matsuo Compassionate Care Award.

This prestigious award honors one individual who lives or works in Otsego, Delaware, or Schoharie Counties and selflessly serves individuals in any discipline—community leaders, volunteers, first responders, teachers, to name a few.

The winner must exhibit Dr. Yoshiro Matsuo’s attributes of leadership, selfless service, benevolence, and compassion, and will

receive a \$500 cash prize, a commemorative award, and recognition at the Grand Oneonta Opry Country Music Fundraiser for Hospice on Friday, October 10, at Foothills in Oneonta. Tickets for the fundraiser can be purchased at <https://www.helioscare.org/all-events/grand-oneonta-opry-2/>.

The deadline to make a nomination for the Dr. Yoshiro Matsuo Compassionate Care Award is Friday, August 22nd. Nomination forms can be completed on the Helios Care website: <https://www.helioscare.org/compassionate-care-award/>

For more information, contact Kathryn Dailey, director of development at Helios Care, at (607) 432-6773.

SEEC offers workshops to level up digital-age skills

SCHOHARIE COUNTY – The Schoharie Economic Enterprise Corp (SEEC) is excited to announce the final two sessions of the interactive 2025 Digital Power Hour workshop series, Canva 101 and AI Tips & Tricks. Hosted in a hybrid format, both sessions will be held both virtually on Zoom and in person at 287 Main Street in Schoharie.

This free series supports entrepreneurs and small businesses in enhancing their brand visibility, improving customer engagement, and streamlining operations through digital tools—all with the goal of boosting sales and maintaining a competitive edge in today’s digital economy. Each one-hour workshop will be led by experienced local and regional experts and will feature real-world examples, live tutorials, and practical strategies for immediate application.

Canva 101 will be the topic of discussion from 10 to 11 a.m. on Monday, August 11, where attendees will learn how to use Canva to create high-quality, professional designs for social media, mar-



Photo from Linked In
Paul Fahey, Vice President of Primeau Fahey & Associates, will lead Canva workshop.

keting, and more. The session will cover templates, brand kits, layout customization, and practical design tips. The session will be led by Paul Fahey, Vice President of Primeau Fahey & Associates—a leading marketing and media agency known for its expertise in sto-

rytelling, video production, and content strategy.

“You don’t need fancy software or a big budget to create eye-catching content,” said Fahey. “Canva is a simple, powerful tool—perfect for small businesses looking to level up.”

From 10 to 11 a.m. on Monday, September 15, Greg Chanese, Assistant Director at the UAlbany Small Business Development Center, and Chris Vitale, a local entrepreneur and coworker at 287 Main will lead the final session of the 2025 Digital Power Hour series, on AI Tips & Tricks. This workshop will introduce attendees to practical ways AI can streamline their operations, enhance content creation, and support smarter business decisions. Topics include automation tools, workflow integration, and best practices for using AI in everyday tasks.

Both sessions are free to attend and are part of SEEC’s ongoing commitment to supporting small business development and digital literacy through its Digital Revolution initiative. This broader effort focuses on expanding broadband access, promoting digital innovation, and ensuring Schoharie County businesses have the tools to compete and thrive in an evolving economy.

For more information and to register, visit www.seecny.org or contact marketing@seecny.org.

Vendors and apparatus needed for Touch a Truck Event Sept. 13

CONESVILLE – Conesville Fire Department’s Touch a Truck Event has become an annual fall tradition. This year’s main event is scheduled for September 13 from noon to 4:00 p.m., with a square dance in the evening at 7:00 p.m. hosted by the Conesville Historical Society. A wide variety of trucks and machinery

will be present at the Fire Department and Town Field at 1292 State Route 990V, Gilboa.

Vendors and local organizations interested in being part of the Touch a Truck Event are encouraged to reach out to the Fire Department at conesvillefiredept@gmail.com to sign up/get additional

information.

Anyone with a vehicle (fire apparatus, classic car, construction equipment, etc.) wishing to participate should reach out to Tom Buel at 518-965-7962 or email the fire department at conesvillefiredept@gmail.com.

Admission to the event is free. There will be refresh-

ments and items available for purchase from an array of local vendors. In addition, the fire department will be hosting a chicken BBQ during the event.

The Conesville Fire Department is fully volunteer and appreciates your support during this event and throughout the year.



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ON THE FARM TIRE SERVICE

Worcester

By Kathleen Gasperini

Sweet corn. Just after I submitted my first column last week, which included a shout-out to my neighbor Tauzel Farms and their upcoming sweet corn at their farmstand, their massive Sweet Corn signs went up.

You can't miss them if you're driving on Route 7, located at the border of Schenevus/Worcester.

They're also selling blueberries, peaches, zucchini, mini red potatoes, onions, cantaloupe, watermelon, and local beef.

It's been pretty busy already, and I can attest that the corn and peaches are outstanding. Orders: 607-434-5691.

And because I'm adding pictures this week, I wanted to also remind locals that Chief Schenevus Café at 83 Main St. in Schenevus has reopened. You can check out my interview from last week.

The vibe is similar as before with excellent breakfasts and lunches served from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day but Tuesday. They also plan to add merch soon such as T-shirts, mugs, and postcards.

Personally, in the past, I've purchased their merch for Christmas presents, which were a big hit with my brothers and sisters around the country.

Their new number is 607-638-6008 and their Facebook page is now current.

If you're needing to cool down and go for a swim and haven't visited Schenevus Lake Park, now's the time. This small gem of a lake often goes unnoticed, but has been gaining in popularity.

Last month, the Schenvus/Worcester/Westford Scouts troop, led by Scout Leader David Mellor, had a summer camp-out at Schenevus Lake. He said it was super fun for his troop kids and encourages others to stop by. The lake is a gem and has become popular for canoeing, camping and fishing.

On Aug. 16, the 9th annual Luke Hazen Memorial Regatta will take place at Schenevus Lake at 1 p.m. It's a fun, family friendly event with canoe and kayak races, and a competition for the most unique and fastest sprint paddler. The winning team gets \$250 and the honor of holding the Hazen Cup for 2025.

The water carnival also includes a corn hole tournament, roller ball, balloon darts and a concession stand. Registered paddlers get a free T-shirt.

Proceeds go to the Schenevus Lake Park Capital Improvement Fund created by the Town of Maryland Board, which is also applying for recreational grants.

Check it out, register, or just swing on by: LukeHazenMemorialRegatta.com.

Who was Luke Hazen? He was a dairy farmer born in Decatur in 1895, but lived most of his



Contributed photo

Chief Schenevus Café at 83 Main St. in Schenevus has reopened.



Contributed photo

Tauzel Farms just put up their sign on Route 7.

life in Schenevus.

According to the site, after selling their dairy farm just outside of Schenevus, the Hazens moved into the house on the corner of Race and Main streets and opened a hardware store in Schenevus on the corner of West and Main.

Luke had a successful business and hired local kids to "keep them out of trouble" and was the driving force behind the Schenevus Drum Corps, which he led starting in 1946 for 22 years.

The Drum Corps earned a reputation of excellence that culminated in an appearance in a parade in Albany.

Luke passed away from a heart attack while leading the Drum Corps in practice for the Memorial Day parade.

The annual Regatta is in his memory.

Let's support our volunteer fire departments: the auxiliary's annual lawn sale is Aug. 9 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the firehouse in Schenevus. A map is being made of local lawn sales for those interested, so give them a call to get included on the map.

Finally, the Iroquois Chapter of the DAR has been busy this summer, including an ongoing historic preservation project at Draper Hill Cemetery in conjunction with the Town of West-

ford to clean up and preserve the cemetery and the American Revolutionary patriots' marker stones who are buried there. If you think you may have a relative there, please let us know.

We also want to thank the businesses and individuals who have contributed each year to the chapter for our annual student awards, Good Citizenship recognitions, and our work with Veterans Affairs and education projects in the community.

If you have an American Revolutionary War ancestor, or think you may be related to one, and are interested in joining, please let us know. Many of our members do not necessarily reside in area but stay current with the chapter through our Zoom meetings and email updates.

Our meetings are held at the Wieting Memorial Building, Worcester, NY 12197, and on Zoom. Please contact Iroquois-ChapterNSDAR@gmail.com.

Once again, I wanted to give a big thank you to Karen Butler for writing this column in the past. Her words kept us up to date on the local scene.

Please feel free to send me any news and information moving forward to Kathleen@Snow-Lovers.org. Thank you.

7 p.m. in the Squad Building, located at 388 Main St. There are many positions available if you are looking for a way to help out the community.

August 14 — Town of Richmondville will have their monthly meeting at 6 p.m. in the Town Office Building, located at 104 Municipal Lane.

Richmondville Ecumenical Bible Study group will not be meeting during the month of August but will resume again in September.

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

Have a great week everyone.

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Central Bridge

By Janice Wilkens

Quote for the Week: "Patience is the strength of the weak, impatience is the weakness of the strong." ~ Immanuel Kant, German philosopher, 1724-1804.

THE KINDNESS OF A STRANGER

It's been hot for too many days in a row and Tuesday was no exception.

Both of my boys had doctor appointments (Wally the dog to the vet for the day for a teeth cleaning) and Chris, the husband, had an appointment at the hospital.

Since Winny has never been left home alone, I brought her along, having to stay parked in the shade while waiting for Chris to be done.

No sooner had I dropped Chris off at the hospital door, a woman observing his gingerly movements approached my car and assisted him. I thanked her and proceeded to park the car, positioning it so that I could have a view of the door as he left the building upon the completion of his appointment.

Not long after, the same woman came to my car and explained that she did not speak English. She took her cellphone out and after typing, showed me the translation of what she wanted to tell me.

She said that she had escorted my husband into the hospital and perhaps I would like to join him. I pointed to my small dog in the back seat, indicating that I could not leave her.

I thanked the woman — we told each other "gracias" and I was left with a warm heart, which had nothing to do with the 90-degree weather.

MY FUN WEEKEND

On Friday, Chris and I enjoyed a summertime ice cream social at the Gathering Place in Cobleskill while listening to Ya Ya Sol, a musical duo made up of Don Williams, guitar and harmonica player, and Greg Speck on accordion.

That night, my brother Peter and I went to the Iroquois Museum in Howes Cave for the Roots, Rhythm and Ale fundraiser event to benefit the museum's educational programs.

We certainly enjoyed the music of The Rubber Band and it was especially fun since we both know a few of the band members personally. So many young and older guests danced to their lively music.

On Saturday, Chris and I joined our son Ben and his family, Cait, Aiden and Charlotte, at the Cobleskill Golf Course where Ben, Cait and I played the first nine holes. This was my first opportunity to play on this course, which has breathtaking views.

FARMERS MARKET – CENTRAL BRIDGE

The farmers market held at the Community Park continues to offer a variety of produce and assorted items every Wednesday, 4:30-7:30 p.m., August through October, sponsored by the Civic Association.

There is a new banner on the infield fence advertising the association. We welcomed Steve Miller and family BBQ with a gift basket of local products.

Items at the market include honey, maple products, jam, jelly, fruit, baked goods, eggs, meat, flowers, vegetables, candies, crafts and catnip. The snack bar is open.

Please come on over and help support your community, local farmers and artisans.

OUTDOOR FESTIVAL FARMERS MARKET - COBLESKILL

The annual outdoor Festival Farmers Market held at the Gathering Place located at 127 Kenyon Road in Cobleskill continues through Saturday, Oct. 25.

Fresh produce, baked goods, home goods and much more will be available. Come and see for yourself.

JOSHUA PROJECT LUNCH

The Summer Lunch program serves lunch at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints on Church Street on Monday through Friday every week through Friday, Aug. 22, from noon until 1 p.m. for anyone who would like to partake.

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

All of the food is fresh, nutritious and delicious.

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

August 10, worship service and Holy Communion with Pastor Jeff at 9 a.m.

Serving as lector will be Venus Louise and usher will be Todd Countryman and Holy Communion bread will be provided by Carol Wilber.

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 pencil cases, markers, colored pencils, erasers and looseleaf paper.

Monday, Aug. 11, the food pantry will be open from 10 a.m. until noon. Please help replenish the food pantry as you are able. Needed items include mustard, jelly, canned potatoes, canned chicken, toothpaste, paper towels and facial tissues.

Wednesday, Aug. 13, Bethany Ladies Auxiliary meets at 10 a.m. in the church. Email: bethanycentralbridge@gmail.com.

CBMC

The Central Bridge Methodist Church has a church service every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. For the month of August, the services will be held in the church hall where there is air-conditioning. The doors are open to everyone.

There will be no meetings for the month of August.

There is a great need for food pantry items. Please bring any non-perishable food items and put them in the basket in the back of the church. If you can bring more than one item, that would be appreciated.

The church is collecting the tabs from cans. The proceeds will go to the Ronald McDonald House in Albany.

There will be index cards on the table as you come into church. If you have any questions about how the church is run or questions about any of the seasons that we celebrate or why we celebrate them or any questions at all, please fill the card out and Caye will get the answers for you and explain them to us during church. Your name does not need to be on the index card, just your question.

If you would like to get a hold of someone in the church or have an emergency, please call 518-68-4226. Please speak slowly and loudly and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

There is still time to sign up for the 2025 Summer Reading Program, which is for all ages.

This year's theme is Color Our World, celebrating the many ways that art enriches our lives.

Come into the Community Library to sign up and track your reading progress through the summer.

The program wraps up on Saturday, Aug. 23, with their annual party.

Library hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The digital library is always open with the Libby app on your cellphone and the library Wi-Fi is always available on their property at 110 Union St. in Cobleskill.

BOOK REVIEW

I'm pleased to report that I'm a third of the way done with my goal of reading 12 books in the Color Our World adult summer reading challenge.

After reading "Heartwood" by Belva Plain, I realized it was the final book written of the Werner family saga. There were a few unanswered questions I had after reading it and decided to seek out the first book in the five-book saga, "Evergreen."

Whereas, the final book, "Heartwood," focused on Iris, the main character in "Evergreen" is Anna, a Jewish immigrant from Poland who is the mother of Iris.

In my review of "Heartwood," I mentioned a family secret which occurs in Evergreen. If you are interested, you can read "Evergreen" and find out for yourself.

AUGUST EVENTS AT LOCAL STATE PARKS

Saturday, Aug. 9, there will be a Full Moon Hike at Mine Kill State Park in North Blenheim.

Saturday, Aug. 16, Cruise-In at Mine Kill State Park in North Blenheim.

Saturday, Aug. 16, Monthly movie night at Max V. Shaul State Park in Fultonham.

Friday, Aug. 29, Sunset Bat Walk at Mine Kill State Park in North Blenheim. For more information, please call 518-827-6111.

EVENT AT THE BLENHEIM-GILBOA POWER PROJECT

Mark your calendars for Sea Perch at the Power Authority, Aug. 18-22. Pre-registration is required for this event. Please call 800-724-0309 for more information.

CENTRAL BRIDGE POST OFFICE HOURS

The lobby is open from 7 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. on Mondays through Fridays. On Saturdays it opens at 7 a.m. and closes at 11 a.m.

The retail window is open Mondays through Fridays beginning at 8 a.m. until noon, then re-opens at 1 p.m. and closes at 3 p.m. On Saturdays, it is open from 8 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.

GOT NEWS?

If you have community events or anything to share, please send a message with the subject line "Central Bridge News" to Wwilkensjan@aol.com or call 518-868-2790 no later than 6 p.m. on Sunday to meet next week's deadline.

Richmondville

By Ann Lape

Hi readers.

It's August and sunflowers are blooming.

I researched the many meanings and symbols of sunflowers, which include positivity, joy, adoration, loyalty, longevity and resilience. The titles stem from the sunflowers facing the sun throughout the day.

Their bright yellow color (although they can have other colors) and their ability to thrive in many conditions also make them symbolic.

Sunflowers are native to North and South America and are believed to have originated in 1000 BC, in the area of Arizona and New Mexico. Their bountiful, edible seeds have been ground for flour and extracted for oil. In the 1700s they became popular in Europe, Russia and Ukraine.

Sunflowers are easy to grow. Pick a spot that gets a lot of sun and has well-drained soil. When cut, sunflower bouquets can last up to two weeks by changing the water every other day.

Van Gogh's painting of sunflowers is famous and recognizable throughout the world.

August 9 — Scrap Metal Day at the Town of Richmondville

Highway Department, located at 121 Municipal Lane, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. All sorts of metals are accepted, including vehicles and parts, batteries, grills, appliances, lawn mowers, computers and printers, and more. Any questions or needing pick up, contact Jimmy at 518-701-4049.

August 9 — Richmondville Historical Society will be meeting at the Bunn Mill, located at 111 High St., at 3 p.m. The Berry family will be sharing interesting stories of Irene Marquardt Berry and the historic family farm, located on Bear Gulch Road. All are welcome to hear how life once was and what the Historical Society is doing to preserve it.

August 9 — Full Sturgeon Moon. This is the last full moon of summer and named for the once abundant giant sturgeon freshwater fish, found in the Great Lakes, Lake Champlain, along with other lakes. This fish was a crucial food source for Native American tribes and early settlers. A few nights following the full moon, the Perseid meteor showers will be visible, if the weather is clear.

August 12 — Richmondville Volunteer Emergency Squad monthly meeting will be held at

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Summit



By Karen Cuccinello
We had quite a splash of rain last Thursday, then back to a stretch of summer days.

Have you been to the Schoharie County Sunshine Fair yet?
It was wonderful to see and chat with the nice “lady from Fancher Road” at Summit Lake last week. Also saw the eagle flying over the lake.
Picked blueberries again at Hillhaven Farm, 181 Peraglie Road, Jefferson, and the owner said picking should last just into September, then the birds pick the bushes clean before they start heading South.
They are open Friday through Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

On Aug. 3, I had a nice time at the Fulton Historical Society Community Covered-Dish and Quilt Show and bought some jam from Carl Clapper. Monies from the sale of the jam are donated to the West Fulton Methodist Church. Later I led a very well-attended Walk-About of Eminence that was coordinated by Kevin Berner of the Jefferson Historical Society. The tour started at the Eminence Walled Cemetery.

Got four age four-month-old chicks that will start laying eggs the end of September. I got one each of breeds: Americana, Rhode Island red, buff orphington and barred rocks, so I will have all kinds of different colors.

Two of my chickens are at least five years old and stopped laying eggs a couple months ago.

I sent a small package to my mom in Maryville, Tennessee, last Wednesday and Andy followed the tracking. It went to Albany, to Springfield, Massachusetts; Fairburn, Georgia; Pensacola, Florida; and Knoxville, Tennessee. Supposed to get delivered today Monday.

Holy mackerel.
August 8 — “Music on the Mountain” with Pat Fowler at the Charlottesville School House 6-8 p.m. Stewart’s famous ice cream will be served. Sponsored by Summit Community Inc.

August 9 – Book sale at Stamford Library, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 117 Main St.

August 10 — Summit Summer Event. Don Williams music 12:30-1:30 p.m. at 2861 Route 10 in the pavilion above Seventh Day Adventist Church, call 518-287-1660 for information.

August 12 — Revolutionary Schoharie 250! meeting at 7 p.m. at Lasell Hall in Schoharie.

August 13 — Dave Ruch will give a special concert entitled “Traditional and Historical Songs of New York State” at the Maple Museum, at 221 Creamery St. in Jefferson, at 7 p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

August 17 — Charlottesville Schoolhouse Breakfast

8-11 a.m. Breakfasts are all-you-can-eat, family-style dining including: pancakes, French toast, eggs made to order, sausage patties, sausage gravy, homestyle potatoes, coffee, tea, and orange juice 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. Homemade baked goods will be available for purchase.

August 17 – Summit Summer Event: Wildlife Alive! 12:30-1:30 p.m. at 2861 Route 10 in the pavilion above Seventh Day Adventist Church, call 518-287-1660 for information.

August 19 — Summit Seniors meeting at the firehouse pavilion for a picnic and BBQ at noon, rain or shine. New members welcome. Bring a dish to share.

August 19 — SCOPE meeting 7 p.m. at the Carlisle Town Hall.

August 20 – History Hour at Stamford Library 1 p.m. Sarah C. Stevens of Zephyr Preservation Studio will review ideas for repairing our 1894 Signature Quilt Cover.

Sarah C. Stevens, of Cohoes, is a textile conservator with 25 years of experience. Visit www.zephyrpreservation.com for more information.

This is a special time



Contributed photo

The Fulton Historical Society enjoyed a covered-dish picnic on Sunday.



Contributed photo

A quilt show was part of the Fulton Historical Society picnic on Sunday.

for the history hour that is normally 10 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month.

August 21 – Summit town board meeting at 7 p.m.

August 22 – Middleburgh 4th Friday Street Fest 5:30-8:30 p.m.

August 23 and 24 – Family Farm Days.

August 30 — 12th Annual Lighting of the Fire Towers

Event 8:30-9:30 p.m. Rain date lighting Sunday, Aug. 31. Mt. Utsayantha in Stamford is the closest to Summit

HISTORY

July 28, 1972, Albany Knickerbocker News: OFFICIALS OF the Beards Hollow Society have announced a “bee” was held Thursday to get the “little white church” ready for annual August ser-

vices, which were initiated by the late Rev. John Van Schaick more than 25 years ago.

Dr. Eugene B. Umberger, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Oneonta, and formerly of Cobleskill, will speak Aug. 6 and 13; the Rev. William Kantinen, Aug. 20. and the Rev. John Van Schaick, Aug. 27.

Gilboa-Conesville



By Dorothy Pickett
Several Town of Gilboa residents were at the public hearing last Wednesday evening. Four county supervisors, including the chairman, were there as well.

Each spoke on the bond that camp Oorah is looking to have for their 9,500-square-foot building on So. Gilboa Road, which is now in the process of being built.

When the meeting was opened for public comment, many residents spoke.

On Aug. 11, there will be a public hearing at the Gilboa Town Hall beginning at 7 p.m. with regards to the NYC DEP purchase of 517 acres of land across from the Bari Valley Farm. The town board meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

Lots of people were out and about all day on Saturday for the annual Conesville/Gilboa yard sales.

Over 20 places were available to stop and purchase many usable items at great prices. The chicken BBQ was sold out by noon, much to everyone’s delight. I stopped at quite a few places and yes, I did buy three items I just could not resist.

Arriving at church Sunday morning I was so blessed to see my longtime friends Pastor Gary and Ann Elizabeth Kitchen walking in for the service. They have a camp near me and were up for the weekend. Pastor Gary is now retired and hopes someday they both will be moving to Gilboa from Connecticut.

I have known Anne Elizabeth for about 70 years. She came to the boarding house with her mom and dad and brother Johnny every summer. Her dad John was best man at our wedding. Both, like my late hubby Vern, are with the Lord in heaven. Pastor Gary did the closing prayer.

Pastor Gary, Anne Elizabeth and Pastor Paul had a wonderful conversation at coffee time after the service.

On Friday, with the weather being so nice and not so humid, I put down four loads of #2 stone out back to level off what had been put down last year. As I finished up, I weeded out part of the bank that holds the shrubs. Hopefully both jobs will be completed this week.

Around five o’clock I attend-

ed the auction along with my friends Barbara and Manfred at Wayman’s. Lots of people were there.

The bidding was ongoing. There were some nice items that I believe came from an Airbnb. If you go to Wayman’s auction on the internet, beginning on Wednesday you can view the items that will be up at the next auction. Telephone bids are accepted as well on the night of the auction.

Prayer Concerns: All who may be ill at this time.

Birthdays: Aug. 8 Elizabeth Cline, Aug. 9 Beatrice Mattice and Jean Merwin, Aug. 12 Margaret Tompkins. Everyone enjoy that special day, blessed in the Lord.

Upcoming Events:
August 8, Rockland Cidery opens from 3-7 p.m.

August 9, The Cidery offers yoga 11 a.m. to noon, live music from Wyld Blue Band 3-6 p.m. Ty’s Taco-Ria food truck will be available.

August 10, line dancing at the Cidery 1-3 p.m. then live music from KC Johns and Tim Baumgartner 3-6 p.m., with Wake N Baked Up food available.

August 11, at 5:30 p.m. the Conesville Historical Society Board of Directors will meet at the Town Hall. Beginning at 7 p.m. at the church there will be a committee meeting about the Turkey Trot 5K to be held Nov. 29.

August 12, at 6 p.m. there will be a talk on preserving meats with Michael Solyn of Solinsky’s Meats at the Gilboa Museum.

August 13, at 7 p.m. there will be a Dave Ruch concert at the Jefferson Maple Museum.

August 9 FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) youth rally 9 a.m. to noon at Archibald Park in Stamford.

August 16, from 1-3 p.m. Gilboa Historical Society will hold its annual Ice Cream Social (free) with thanks to Stewart’s. The Fisher Cats will be the music for the afternoon.

Sunday Worship Services:
Gilboa Methodist: 9 a.m., located on Route 990V.

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

Conesville United Methodist Chapel: First and third Sunday of the month 4 p.m. Route 990V.

Jefferson



By Diane Dubshinski

Welcome to the coolness of this mid-August.

This week at The Awen Center, what’s happening?

August 9 at 6:30 p.m. — Saturday, virtual and in-person Full Moon Labyrinth Walk

Join in for a magical evening under the glow of the full moon! There will be a variety of activities, including a drum circle and a guided labyrinth walk experience.

Weather permitting, there will be a telescope set up and a camp-

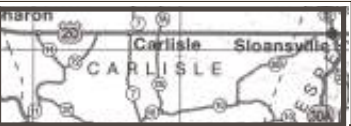
fire. Participants are welcome to bring a snack and/or beverage to share.

The suggested donation is \$10 per person. The virtual walk start time is 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. for the in-person walk.

Thursday, August 21 —Mark your calendars for the magic of sisterhood by joining the Women’s Circle. Please arrive at 6:15 p.m. for a 6:30 p.m. start. Please bring a snack to share.

The Awen Center has a full calendar of different events for the rest of the summer. Please vis-

Carlisle



By Chris Keefer

Greetings, Carlisle. Best wishes to those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and other significant occasions this week. Carlisle hopes you have a terrific day.

EMTs and drivers are urgently needed. The Carlisle Rescue Squad is desperately seeking people from the community to step up to keep the ambulance in service.

The Carlisle Fire Department Rescue Squad is at a critical point of staffing the rig. Volunteers are needed to keep the ambulance on the road and responding to calls.

For information on how you can make a positive impact on your community, stop in the fire hall Monday nights at 7 p.m. or email carlislechief2011@yahoo.com.

Fairgoing? If you attend the annual Sunshine Fair this week, let us know what you think, what you saw, what you rode, what you ate.

I plan to go on Tuesday to look for Carlisle entries, livestock and neighbors. Hope to see you there.

Travels & Visits: Debbie and Frank Bradt were treated to dinner at the Water’s Edge in Scotia by their daughter and family, Rachel, Kyle and Ayla McCormick of Altamont recently.

James Strasser of Knoxville, Tennessee, is visiting his parents, Frank and Debbie Bradt, for fair week. On Saturday they enjoyed a delicious meal at the Fancy Farmer in Sharon Springs.

Debbie, Frank and James enjoyed a game on Thursday at Yankee Stadium in the Legends Section where they were six rows from the field by home plate. The Yankees won.

Plus, there was a dining room connected to the section with a

huge variety of food all included. What a memory.

Your humble correspondent spent four days in Barnstable Cape Cod with three girlfriends. We enjoyed a nice dinner at the Marshside restaurant, a tour through the gardens and Cranberry Museum at Heritage Gardens and lots of sightseeing, metal detecting, and relaxing after shopping.

Bus Route: Schoharie County Transportation’s Route 5 is available for Sharon Springs, Seward and Carlisle (west of firehouse).

Transportation services are currently being offered every other Tuesday with pickup at your home. The route brings you into Cobleskill for approximately 2 ½ hours to do your shopping, medical appointments, and personal errands.

This bus is dedicated to the riders, so there is no need to carry packages if you are choosing multiple destinations; you can leave your packages on the bus while you shop at another location. Reservations are required by noon at least one day prior.

The cost is \$10 round trip, \$5 for riders 60+.

To receive the discounted

rate, when making your reservation simply request silver tokens, which will be available for you when you board the bus.

To make reservations, or if you have additional questions, please call 518-234-0952.

Color Run: The first annual Carlisle Color Run is an exciting new family fun run taking place on Aug. 16 at 9 a.m. at the Carlisle Walking Trail.

Hosted by Cobleskill-Richmondville’s Future Business Leaders of America, the FBLA students are working on raising money to send their qualifying members to Nationals this fall.

The Carlisle walking trail is located on 541 Crommie Road in

Carlisle. Walk or run and join in the fun.

Please register now to secure a T-shirt. The entry fee is \$20 per person or \$40 for a family of four. Kiddos under 5 run for free. The children’s 1K starts at 9:15 a.m. and the 5K starts at 10 a.m.

Register by using the following link: Carlisle Color Run Early Registration. Spread the word. Hope to see many smiling familiar faces there.

Got news? Send news of birthday greetings, announcements about town, good news, happy thoughts, travels and visits, and good birds to carlisle.news12031@gmail.com or call 518-339-3664. Have a great week.

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Esperance



By Linda Feuz
Profound prose for pondering people: From the humorous wisdom of David Frost – “Having one child makes you a parent; having two, you become a referee.” A fun riddle for the kid in all of us: what five-letter word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it? Shorter.

Esperance Historical Society and Museum — The museum’s open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m., but only for the month of August. There are some great activities planned for some of the weekends. Come and see.

The deadline for our best soups and bread recipes for a new cookbook is Aug. 15. Type up your recipes and send them to esperancehistoricalsociety@gmail.com. Be sure to list your name, the ingredient list and detailed instructions, and, if pertinent, any history connected to the recipe.

This is for new recipes not included in our now-famous bicentennial 2018 cookbook. A reliable source indicates there’s some good stuff rolling in.

While you’re visiting the museum, be sure to check out our library; it’s hands-down the best place around to research your family genealogy.

There’s a program about the Blenheim Bridge with Richard Christman on Sunday, Aug. 10, beginning at 2 p.m. at the Stone Church. Come, check it out.

Rehearsals began this

week for “Esperance Remembered,” a casual read-through presentation of a skit that Dorothy Edwards wrote in 1970, the year the Historical Society was formed.

The premise is a gathering of village ladies back in the 1930s to plan a harvest dinner but end up reminiscing about Esperance’s changing times. Willard Martin has “embellished” the script to provide relevant commentary.

Put this event on your calendar for Saturday, Aug. 23, at 2 p. m at the Stone Church at the Village Commons to take a step back in time in Esperance. Refreshments will be served following the presentation.

An addition to this learning experience of all things Esperance, Andrea Oliver has docent duty the next day, the 24th, and she will have the local scrapbooks open and available for people to peruse and marvel at all the old photos and newspaper articles that include some of the events and ladies portrayed in the skit performed on that Saturday.

Landis Arboretum activities — A Full Moon Night Walk is scheduled for 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 8, at the Meeting House.

The annual Perennial Forest 5K Run is set for Saturday, Aug. 9, beginning at 8 a. m., gathering at the Meeting House field. You’ll definitely need to access the website for more information at landisarboretum.org.

Our post office window hours are Monday-Friday from 7:15-11:15 a.m. and 12:15-2:15 p.m.; Saturdays, 9-11 a.m. 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 7:30-11 a.m. and 2:30-7 p. m., and Fridays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Her email is esperancetownclerk@outlook.com.

Town Justice Tom Slater conducts court on Wednesday nights at 6 p.m. at 1216 Hwy Route 30A in Sloansville. The court office phone is 518-868-5165 and the email address is EsperanceTownCourt@nycourts.gov. The town board meets on the third Thursday at 104 Charleston St., starting at 7 p.m.

Village of Esperance — Village phone: 518-875-9044 at the office on Church Street. Village Clerk Michelle Parks’ office hours are on Thursdays from 2-6 p.m. or by appointment.

The Village Board meets on the second Monday at 7 p.m. in the Village Hall at 113 Church St.

Esperance Methodist Church — Service is at 11 a.m. on Sunday morning and is meeting in Tiffany Hall for the summer.

Special services coming up: MOSAIC Summer Worship on Sunday, Aug. 31, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Peace

Garden Pavilion at the Landis Arboretum. There’s a drop-off area past the greenhouses, with limited parking by the barn, but the main parking area by the kiosk will be available.

The big event, set for Sunday, Sept. 14, at 11 a.m. is the Community Worship Service to honor our firefighters and EMS volunteers at the gazebo on the Village Commons. More details to follow in future issues.

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 pastoralisyn@gmail.com

Presbyterian Church (the Stone Church on Church Street) — Sunday services are at 9:30 a.m.

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

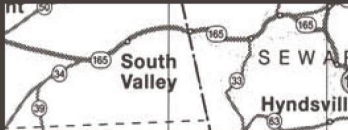
Schoharie Reformed Church service is at 10 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study have finished their lessons until fall.

Wanted: Got a double boiler in good condition that you don’t need and is just taking up space? Let me know. I’m willing to purchase it for a friend who needs one.

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

Contact me anytime at 518-875-6443 or email to lfeuz27@gmail.com.

South Valley



By Carol Brodie
Quote for the week by former President Ronald Reagan: “The most fertile and rapidly growing sector of any economy is that part that exists right now only as a dream in someone’s head or an inspiration in his heart.” **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Birthday wishes go out this week to Donna Van-Horn, Claudine Haig, Corey McMillen, Tom Thompson, Brian Kruppenbacher, Joanie Hoke, Audra Wood and Esther Miller.

Anniversary wishes go to Laurence and Gertie Burke, Ed and Judy Schneegas, Adam and Susan Brodie celebrating 25 years, and Dan and Kathie West.

MABIE FAMILY REUNION (Part 1)

The 100th annual Mabie Family Reunion was held on Sunday, July 13, at the historic Jan Mabee Farm, in Rotterdam Junction, in conjunction with the National Mabee Family Reunion, which is held every five years.

It was a beautiful hot sunny day and everyone enjoyed visiting with one another.

There were 32 attendees for our Mabie family group and seven attendees for the National Mabee group.

Our attendees came from Gloversville, McGraw, Mohawk, Moravia, Oneonta, Otego, South New Berlin and South Valley, New York; Monticello and Summerfield, Florida; Douglas, Massachusetts; and Centerville, Meadville and Downingtown, Pennsylvania.

There were two tables set up in the pavilion. One was for signing in for both our 100th reunion and for the national reunion members.

The other table was set up to distribute the 100th reunion T-shirts that folks had ordered, and also to purchase tickets for the raffle.

A few people enjoyed touring the Mabee Farmhouse, Dutch Barn, and other buildings throughout the morning. Then shortly after lunch, a man dressed in clothing from that time period gave guided tours.

Beau and Blake Brodie, Sonny and Linda Brodie’s teenage grandsons, were among those who took their own tour prior to lunch and explored where no one else went.

As they were in the farmhouse, they went down into the basement and followed the tunnel that leads to the river until they came to where it was collapsed. They commented later in amazement as to how neat it was to see.

Prior to lunch, everyone from both reunion groups gathered by the small cemetery, where a photographer from The Daily Gazette took a group photo. Then Barb Kineke had him take a group photo with her camera of our Mabie family group.

The next day, we were all scrambling to find copies of The Daily Gazette because they did a cover story on the reunion, along with a photo of the large group.

Charley Brodie asked the blessing on the food. Then everyone enjoyed the delicious meal, which was a variety of covered dishes and desserts brought by our Mabie group. The national group provided sandwich meats, rolls, chips, and beverages.

Following lunch, Kim Mabee, of the National Ma-

bee’s, welcomed everyone.

Then Donna Brodie-Hatch read a report on the past reunions that had been prepared by Barbara Brodie-Kineke.

After that, Barbara read a report on William and Sophia Mabie’s line, going in depth on where they lived, their children, and where their children ended up, etc.

Lastly, the Schenectady County Historical Society archivist gave a report on the Mabee collections currently in the SCHS. Various books were set up to look at on the Mabee house and grounds. The gift store was also open for purchases.

See part two of the reunion in next week’s column. **BITS AND PIECES**

Charley and Joanne Brodie enjoyed camping at Sampson State Park at Seneca Lake from Monday through Saturday, July 21-26. While there, they drove nearly an hour one day to visit the cemetery in Reed Corners, below Canandaigua, where some of Joanne’s relatives are buried.

They found the grave of her great-grandparents, James and Martha (Watson) Sherburne, and placed artificial flowers on it. The family was originally from Sherburne, New York, and the town was named for their family.

Neighbors Kenny and Barb Olsen visited me one evening last week.

On a shopping trip to Cobleskill last Thursday with Charley and Joanne, I ran into Jim Cain and we enjoyed a nice visit.

Joanie Hoke phoned me last Friday evening and we had a great visit. She had returned home the week before after going to the hospital in April and then having to be in a couple of different nursing homes for physical therapy.

She is so glad to be back in her own home again, where family members are there to help her each step of the way.

This was the year of her 65th reunion, having graduated from the Cherry Valley Central School. Being in the nursing home, she was unable to attend the alumni banquet and class reunion.

However, two classmates, Doris Reynolds-Herring and Cynthia Kovak-Steenburgh, went to visit her in the nursing home. She said she was so glad to see them and enjoyed a great visit with them. Doris told her they had a very small class reunion at her Middlefield home with just a handful of classmates.

Joanie also reported that her two sisters, Norine Lundy and Shirley Webster, had just visited her. They brought sandwiches and salad, and they enjoyed a great time together.

23rd ANNUAL ANTIQUE POWER DAYS

This year’s event will be Friday through Sunday, Aug. 15-17, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the old Grange Hall in Roseboom. Admission is free but donations are greatly appreciated.

The VanBuren family graciously hosts this event every year so let’s help them out. Donation boxes are located around the grounds all three days. Check them out at www.AntiquePowerDays.org

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

Seward



By Dana Cudmore
There’s a lot going on in and around the Town of Seward this August. Here’s a few items to keep on your calendar.

FARMERS MARKET, AUG. 13, 27
The Farmers and Artisans Market returns Wednesdays, Aug. 13 and 27. Hours are from 4-8 p.m. at the intersection of Route 10 and Lowe Road. Shoppers can expect about 15 vendors, all from the Seward area.

(Thanks to organizer Angela Clapper, who provided the photos from the event that have appeared in the TJ.)

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

Seward’s community-wide garage sale returns on Aug. 30, with hours from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Interested sellers in the Town of Seward are encouraged to contact Town Clerk Brenda Southworth about being included on a map of sales locations, or to secure table space for their items in the town barn.

The clerk’s contact information is below. Maps to the sellers’ locations will be provided at the town office on the day of the sale.

BUILD-A-BOUQUET AT SHARON LIBRARY

The Sharon Springs Free Library will host a “build-a-bouquet” hour for teens and adults on Tuesday, Aug. 12, from 6 to 7 p.m.

Those planning to attend are urged to call the library at 518-284-3126 for reservations.

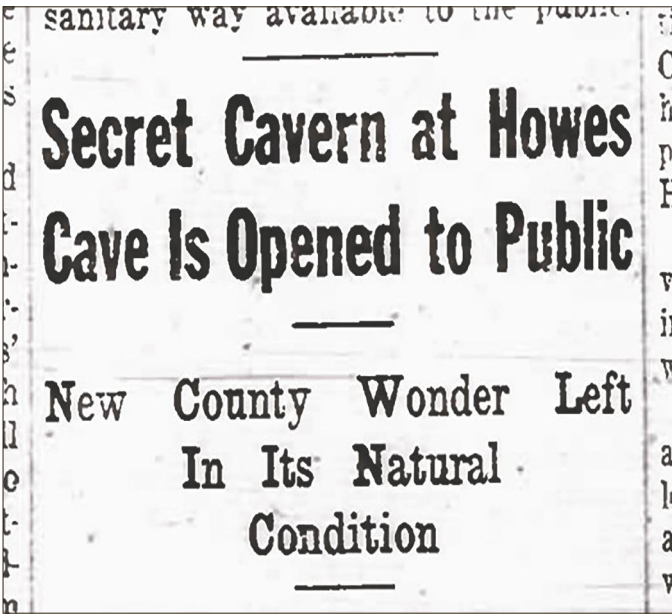
FRIENDSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, Aug. 10 is “bring a friend to church” day at Zion St. Lutheran.

A coffee hour will be held following the 9 a.m. service at the church, located at 114 Mesick Ave., just off Route 165 in the Seward hamlet.

WHERE’D OUR STONE GO?

I’m at The Cave House in Howes Cave at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 10, to talk about where limestone and cement from local quarries ended up in some of New York’s engineering marvels of the early 20th century.



Contributed photo

Headline from the mid-August 1929 Cobleskill Index announcing the opening of Secret Caverns.

Copies of my book, “Farming With Dynamite: The Forgotten Stone Boom in Schoharie County” will be available.

AUGUST IN THE CAVE COUNTRY

Secret Caverns, now in its 96th year, was opened to the public in mid-August 1929. Developed by engineer Roger Mallory and landowner Leon Lawton, the popular cave is now a third-generation Mallory family attraction.

On Aug. 8, in 1853, Lester Howe’s oldest daughter, Huldah Ann, was married to Henry Northrup in the cave’s Bridal Chamber. All three of the Howe children were married in the cave, and underground nuptials there were more common in that era than most people realize.

The first recorded wedding in the cave took place two years earlier, on Aug. 18, 1852.

Special thanks to all who have expressed an interest in these monthly tidbits of Cave Country history.

TOWN BOARD MEETS NEXT WEEK

The Seward Town Board meets Monday, Aug. 11, at 6:30 p.m. at town offices on Lowe Road.

As usual, the meeting is just ahead of the TJ correspondents’ deadline, so I’ll try to follow up the following paper.

Meetings are open to the public and time is usually set aside for public comments and questions.

Private, off-the-record meetings by officials are sometime called for to discuss legal or confidential personnel matters.

RECYCLING ON SATURDAY

The Seward recycling center at the town office and barn on Lowe Road is open Saturday, Aug. 9, from 8 a.m. to noon.

Recycling bins are available on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month.

THE BUS COMES TUESDAYS

Schoharie County Public Transportation’s Route 10 bus service from Cobleskill to Sharon runs every Tuesday, including to/from the Seward area—if reservations are made by noon the day before. The number to call is 518-234-0952.

The Seward-Sharon-Cobleskill route is SCPT’s “Route 5 Demand Response” service. Pick-ups on Tuesdays start in the Seward area at 7:30 a.m.

“The bus will pick you up at your home and bring you to Cobleskill for shopping, medical appointments, and other errands,” said Lora Newell, the business manager at SCPT.

The service provides shuttle service to riders be-

tween multiple stops, including Walmart and Price Chopper.

At noon, the bus starts its return trip, departing from Cobleskill after giving passengers approximately three hours to complete their errands.

The round-trip service is \$10 cash, or five tokens, available to seniors over the age of 60 for \$5.

Information about SCPT and their other route schedules can also be found online, www.ridescpt.com.

CURIOUS ABOUT SEWARD GOVERNMENT?

Residents and others can always keep track of Town of Seward business either online or in person.

The phone number at the town office is 518-234-2292. You can send questions and concerns about town business to Seward officials 24/7 at Town.seward.clerk@sewardtown-ny.gov.

Town Clerk Brenda Southworth holds office hours at the town building on Lowe Road on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 5-7:30 p.m. and on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month from 8 a.m. to noon.

The Times Journal is now a legal paper for the Town of Seward. Important public notices will appear in that section of the paper.

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 demedi@aol.com to have them included in this column.

You can also reach out to me at my website/blog, www.howecavernstales.com. The deadline is Sunday before the Thursday of publication.

Readers’ feedback is also welcome, as are suggestions.

You can support local journalism by subscribing to the Times Journal. Go online to cobleskilltimesjournal.com or call 518-234-2515.

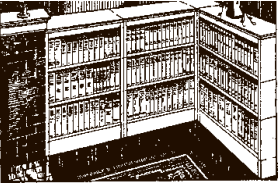
It’s a great medium to advertise in as well – I do it myself.

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Library News

THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY, COBLESKILL

The 2025 Summer Reading Program for all ages is underway.

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 along the way for prizes.

Registration is open and the last day to submit your tracker is August 21. Annual wrap up ice cream party is August 23.

Visit our Summer Reading page <https://www.communitylibrarycobleskill.org/summer-reading-program/> At the bottom of the page view all of the Schoharie County Libraries programs and events. Visit all of your libraries this summer!

August 5 through August 9 Kids Nature Art Institute Join naturalist George Steele for this weeklong exploration of art and nature for kids.

Each day will focus on a different art activity with close ties to the natural world.

Participants may attend as many days as they wish

Day one: make recycled paper.

Day two: make animal track bandanas.

Day three: try block printing.

Day four: try leaf printing.

Day five: make shaving cream prints and accordion booklets.

Tuesday through Thursday 2-3 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Thursday, August 7 at 6 p.m. Diamond Painting. Relax with the soothing craft of diamond painting at the library.

Each participant will make a colorful keychain covered in sparkly rhinestones. For ages 14 and up. Registration is required.

The Library's Local History Room is open by appointment or on Fridays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 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.

Tuesday, August 12 at 4 p.m. Kids 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.

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 p.m. Tuesdays, August 12 and 19 with either Stevie or Lily and 10:30 a.m. on Thursdays, August 14 and 28 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.

Tuesday, August 12 at 6 p.m., Teen 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, August 12 and 26 at 6 p.m. 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 weekly Story Time with Ms. Courtney at 10:30 a.m.

Young children and their caregivers are invited to join each week for fun stories, songs, and early literacy activities. No registration necessary.

Wednesday, August 13 at 6

p.m. Senior Planet Lecture Intro to Smartphone Photography

Interested in learning more about your smartphone camera? In this lecture, we'll discuss common camera icons on Android and iPhone devices, simple editing tools, managing and sharing your photos, and editing date and location details on your phone.

We'll also go over how to check your camera settings so that it can scan QR codes. An AARP program for adults.

Thursday, August 14 at 1 p.m. the Library Board of Trustees monthly meeting.

Meetings are open to the public.

Thursday, August 14 at 2 p.m. We're so excited to welcome the Utica ZooMobile and their animal friends for their Shiny Scales and Feathery Tails program.

We'll learn all about how animals' appearances-skin, scales, feathers, fur, and more -help them to succeed in the wild.

Thursday, August 14 at 4 p.m. 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.

Tuesday, August 19 at 5 p.m. Teen Dungeons & 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, August 19 at 6 p.m. Adult Dungeons & Dragons Club:

Join our Adult Gaming group on the first and third Tuesdays of the month for board games, card games, and D&D.

Wednesday, August 20 at 6 p.m. Senior Planet Lecture Intro to Photo Editing Tools

Blurry vacation photos? Random people in the background? Come learn about photo editing tools and how they can enhance your photos.

In this lecture, you'll get an overview of what photo editing tools can do as well as an introduction to easy-to-use photo editing apps.

You'll be on your way to "photoshopping" with these popular free apps. An AARP program for adults.

Thursday, August 21 at 6 p.m. Trivia Night is Back.

Assemble a team and join us for our monthly trivia contest covering a range of general knowledge categories.

Wednesday, August 27 at 6 p.m. Senior Planet Lecture Digital Scrapbooking Tools

Do you like scrapbooking but want a more convenient way to organize and arrange your photos and mementos?

Come learn about these digital scrapbooking tools that make it easy to digitize your memories.

In this lecture, you'll get an overview of a few different tools that make it easy to create, share, and print your scrapbooks.

You'll also learn about common features across the different platforms. An AARP program for adults.

Saturday, August 30 the Library is closed in celebration of Labor Day.

Reminder that our digital library is always open with Libby. The library Wi-Fi is always available on our property.

Library of Things - did you know the library has museum passes, fishing poles, binoculars, Blu-ray player, and board games that you can borrow with your library card?

Educate Station - A free access to worksheets, activities and learning plans with your library card.

The site has practical and easy to use online resources for parents, guardians and educators working with students in grades k-5. Continue learning all summer.

Plastic Donation Box - 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.

Library Information: Location: 110 Union St, Cobleskill, across from the Post Office

Curbside Pickup: Give us a call at 518/234-7897 to schedule a pickup.

Returns: silver bin at the end of the ramp or bring inside to the return box.

Website: www.Communitylibrarycobleskill.org

Library ENews: <https://bit.ly/CommunityLibraryNews>

Facebook: [thecommunitylibrarycobleskill](https://www.facebook.com/thecommunitylibrarycobleskill)

Instagram: [commlibcobleskill](https://www.instagram.com/commlibcobleskill)

Event Calendar with age-appropriate programs <https://bit.ly/CommunityLibraryEvents>

Library Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MIDDLEBURGH

August 11 - Reptiles & More - 2 p.m.- Discover the fascinating world of reptiles and other cool creatures when Via Aquarium brings their live animal program to the Middleburgh Library.

See them up close and learn all about these amazing animals from the experts. **For all ages. Registration required.**

August 12 - 10:45 a.m. - Colorful Characters Storytime: Bluey Bash! We'll finish out the summer with our favorite colorful character, Bluey.

Play freeze dance and keepy-uppy with us, make Bluey crafts and watch an episode of Bluey while having a Bluey snack.

Registration is required. For little ones 2 - 6 with their caregivers.

August 12 - 1-4 p.m. - Mahjong - Join the ladies for games of Mahjong. If you don't know how to play, they will help you. Men are welcome also.

August 13 - 1-3 p.m. - Tie Dye Celebration - Celebrate the end of Summer Reading and join us for **The Colors of Summer: Tie-Dye Celebration**, a hands-on event for kids of all ages.

Bring a white T-shirt—or anything else you'd like to tie-dye—and get ready to create your own wearable art.

We'll have **lawn games, snow cones**, and plenty of ways to soak up the last rays of summer fun.

Come color your world, celebrate your reading achievements, and make some vibrant memories with us.

For kids of all ages. Registration required.

August 14 - 1-2:30 p.m. - Teen Iron Chef - Put your cooking skills to the test in our Annual Teen Iron Chef competition.

Inspired by the popular TV show, you'll face off against fellow aspiring chefs in three rounds of a timed cooking battle.

With a mystery ingredient and limited time, you must create a unique and delicious dish to impress our panel of judges.

Showcase your culinary creativity, learn new techniques, and compete for the title of Teen Iron Chef.

This program is for teens going into 6th- 12th grade. Registration is required.

August 24 - 4 p.m. - Not So Quiet Concert - Zach Stevenson - "Zachary Stevenson... is the epitome of effortless cool with a gorgeous voice and a star-quality stage presence." - *Mark Robbins, Vancouver Presents.*

Zachary is an accomplished songwriter and active frontman for several bands including his original trio: the Oh Boys, a Tribute to Buddy Holly, and The Fortunate Sons.

He's been featured as an original artist at countless festivals including the Ottawa Folk

Fest, Blue Skies Festival, Summerfolk, Winterfolk (Toronto), Folk Alliance (Memphis, Ottawa and Kansas City), and the Ottawa Blues Festival.

Zachary has proudly raised over \$10,000 for MSF (Doctors Without Borders) through CD sales. *Tickets are available at the door. A \$10.00 donation is suggested.*

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

SCHOHARIE

Schoharie Library Hours: Tuesday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday, noon-7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.. Closed Sunday and Monday. 518-295-7127 www.schoharielibrary.org

Storytime with Yvonne: Fridays at 10 a.m. Stories, songs, fun activities.

Lunch at the Library: Tuesdays and Fridays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. through August 17.

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.

Writers' Group (Virtual): Mondays at 7 p.m. <https://bit.ly/WritersGroupSHO>

Discovery Tuesday: August 12 at 10 a.m. Old-fashioned Fun w/the Old Stone Fort. No registration necessary.

Art Wednesday: August 13 at 1:30 p.m. Yarn Wrap Turtles. Wrap colorful yarn around popsicle sticks to make a cute turtle decoration. Registration appreciated: <https://bit.ly/DiscTuesArtWed2025>

Board of Trustees Meeting: Wednesday, August 13, 7 p.m. The public is welcome - come share your thoughts.

Shibori-style Silk Scarf Workshop*: Thursday, August 14, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Use wrapping techniques and dye to create a beautiful silk scarf with a unique pattern.

Ages 12 through adult. Registration required, space is limited: <https://bit.ly/silkscarfdye>

Health & Wellness Fair: Tuesday, August 19, noon-5 p.m. Meet representatives from local health and wellness organizations, learn about what services and assistance they offer, and try some fitness activities.

Summer Reading Wrap-up Party: Tuesday, August 19, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Karaoke, book giveaways, ice cream, fun activities with the Youth Bureau.

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>

For a schedule of summer programs for all Schoharie County libraries, visit <https://bit.ly/SchoCoLibrariesSummer25>

Schoharie Village-wide Yard Sale: Saturday, September 6, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The library will host our annual Book Sale and Trustees' Treasures porch sale.

Limited spots for vendors/private sales are available by \$20 donation. Stop in to the library to reserve your spot today.

*This project is made possible with funds from the State-wide 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.

SHARON SPRINGS

Join us for our End-of-Summer Ice Cream Social.

We're teaming up with the Sharon Youth Commission again to celebrate summer and our amazing summer reading participants.

Stop by the REC Center (Town Pool) on Friday, August 15 at 1 p.m. for free ice cream sundaes and a fun way to close out the season.

Ice cream will be limited to REC and Summer Reading Program children only.

This month's Adult Book Discussion is diving into the colorful world of art, artists, and creativity.

Choose any book that connects to the theme—whether it features artists or art collectors, museums or galleries, famous artworks or art heists, or characters who paint, sculpt, or create.

All participants will earn a ticket toward our summer reading program raffle prizes.

To help organize your thoughts, pick up a "book review" slip at the front desk and bring it with you to the discussion on Friday, August 22 at 6 p.m.

Our monthly Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Thursday, August 28 at 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

WORCESTER-SCHENEVUS

Art at the Library: Charles Dalton III, Paintings, Mixed Media.

Free Matinee Movies: Wednesdays at noon at the Wieting Theater. August 13 "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial"

August 20 "Dog Man."

August 27 "Wild Robot."

Raffle: win a handmade embroidered garden scene. \$1 tickets. Drawing on August 15.

Blind Date With a Book is back.

Like with any blind date, it could end in tears. Or you might discover an author that you love.

All the books are recently published. If you like the book, keep it. If not, return it.

Cell phones for Senior (or anyone) Wednesday Aug. 20. One-on-One instructions. Make an appointment at either 11:15 a.m. or noon.

Summer Reading Program: Reptile demonstration Friday, August 15 at noon. Strawberry Hall.

Exercise class Mondays and Thursdays 9 a.m.

Yoga on Fridays at 10 a.m.

StoryTime Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

Crochet Circle at 3 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Library Used Bookshop: Fridays noon-4 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Danielle Steel books on sale, 50 cents.

worcesterfreelibrary.org. 607/397-7309.

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LEGAL & CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Schoharie County NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF SCHOHARIE, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, FOR MANUFACTURED HOUSING CONTRACT SENIOR/SUBORDINATE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATE TRUST 1998-7, Plaintiff, vs. SCOT SPEENBURGH, AS HEIR-AT-LAW OF THE ESTATE OF LARRY ALLEN SPEENBURGH A/K/A LARRY ALLEN SPEENBURGH; and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or generally or specific lien upon the real property described in this action: such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs-at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of LARRY ALLEN SPEENBURGH A/K/A LARRY ALLEN SPEENBURGH, deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs-at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff, et al., Defendant (s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on June 24, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Main Lobby of the County Courthouse, 290 Main Street, Schoharie, NY, 12157, on August 28, 2025 at 10:00 AM, premises known as 1114 N ROAD, JEFFERSON, NY 12093 F/K/A SCHOHARIE CO RD NO 2A, BLENHEIM, NY 12093. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Blenheim, County of Schoharie and State of New York, Section: 170., Block: 3, Lot: 13. Approximate amount of judgment is \$40,863.03 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 2022-399.

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee's attorney, or the Referee.

MICHAEL SHULTES, Esq., Referee

Roach & Lin, P.C., 6851 Jericho Turnpike, Suite 185,
Syosset, New York 11791, Attorneys for Plaintiff

**Schoharie County
LEGAL NOTICE**

The Town of Carlisle Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing at their regular meeting, on Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at 7:15pm at the Town Hall, 541 Crommie Rd, Carlisle NY. The purpose of this hearing is to discuss a proposed subdivision on land owned by Katie Dolen, 299 Lawton Rd, Town of Carlisle, tax map# 36-3-2. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend. By Order of the Carlisle Planning Board
June K. Collin Planning Board Secretary

**Schoharie County
NOTICE OF
FORMATION OF A
LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY**

WOOD ROAD
RESOURCES LLC, Arts.
of Org. filed with the
SSNY on 05/02/2024.
Office loc: Schoharie
County. SSNY has been
designated as agent
upon whom process
against the LLC may be
served. SSNY shall mail
process to: The LLC, 374
95th St, Brooklyn, NY
11209. Purpose: Any
Lawful Purpose.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY NOTICE OF MEETING

REGULAR AUGUST BOARD MEETING CHANGE

The regular monthly meeting of the Village of Richmondville Board of Trustees has been changed from August 18, 2025 to August 25th, beginning at 5 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 295 Main Street, Richmondville.

By Order of the
Board of Trustees

Jenifer Fisher
Clerk-Treasurer

**Schoharie County
NOTICE OF
FORMATION OF A
LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY**

Notice of Formation of The Very Vegan Sweet LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/24/2025. 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 Sarah Preston: 177 Charleston St Esperance, NY 12066. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

**Schoharie County
NOTICE OF
FORMATION OF A
LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY**

Notice of Formation of
The Intelligent Emotion
Institute LLC. Articles of
Organization filed with
Secretary of State of NY
(SSNY) on 06/18/2025.
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
Thomas R Mims: 625
Myers Rd, Howes Cave
NY 12092. Purpose: Any
lawful purpose.

**Schoharie County
NOTICE OF
FORMATION OF A
LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY**

Notice of Formation of
Sauds Detailing LLC.
Articles of Organization
filed with Secretary of
State of NY (SSNY) on
06/24/2025. 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
Sauds Mobile Detailing :
916 State Route 443.
Purpose: Any lawful
purpose.

Schoharie County NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT
COUNTY OF
SCHOHARIE U.S. Bank
National Association, as
Indenture Trustee for
Towd Point Mortgage
Trust 2017-2, Plaintiff
AGAINST Schoharie
County Treasurer, as
Limited Administrator of
the Estate of Nancy St.
Pierre a/k/a Nancy Jean
St. Pierre; Schoharie
County Treasurer, as
Limited Administrator of
the Estate of Paul L. St.
Pierre, Jr. a/k/a Paul St.
Pierre; et al.,
Defendant(s) Pursuant to
a Judgment of
Foreclosure and Sale
duly entered June 16,
2025, I, the undersigned
Referee, will sell at public
auction at the Schoharie
County Courthouse
Lobby, 290 Main Street,
Schoharie, NY 12157 on
August 28, 2025, at
12:00PM, premises
known as 2111 Route
165, Cobleskill, NY
12043. All that piece or
parcel of land, situate in
the Town of Seward,
County of Schoharie,
State of New York
Section 41 Block 1 Lot
14. Approximate amount
of judgment \$60,817.35
plus interest and costs.
Premises will be sold
subject to provisions of
filed Judgment Index#
2022-262. Michael J.
Shultes, Esq., Referee
LOGS Legal Group LLP
Attorney(s) for the
Plaintiff 175 Mile
Crossing Boulevard
Rochester, New York
14624 (877) 430-4792
Dated: July 15, 2025
86458

SCHOHARIE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

Please take notice that the Village of Cobleskill Planning Board will conduct a public hearing on August 13, 2025 at 7 p.m., at 378 Mineral Springs Road, 1st Floor, Cobleskill, NY 12043, on a site plan application submitted for 172 Settles Mountain Road Cobleskill, NY SBL#55.20-1-16, townhouses. All interested persons will be heard. The preliminary site plan is available for review during regular office hours of the Planning, Environment, and Codes office, 378 Mineral Springs Road, Cobleskill, NY.

Maureen Loupin
Codes Office Assistant
518-234-4661



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The advertisement is set against a dark grey background. At the top left is the Jacvazzi logo, which consists of the word "Jacvazzi" in a white serif font inside an oval border. Below the logo, the text "BATH REMODEL" is written in a white, all-caps, sans-serif font. To the right of this, a dark grey rectangular box contains the text "SPECIAL OFFER" in a small, white, all-caps, sans-serif font, followed by "Waiving All Installation Costs!" in a large, white, all-caps, serif font. Below the main text, "CALL NOW" is written in a white, all-caps, sans-serif font, followed by the phone number "855.564.2680" in a larger, white, all-caps, sans-serif font. At the bottom right, a small white text block states: "Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 9/28/25." At the bottom of the advertisement is a photograph of a modern bathroom. The photo shows a walk-in shower with a glass door and a textured wall, a bathtub, and a vanity with white cabinets, a mirror, and three light fixtures. A window with blinds is visible on the left side of the photo.

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Spotlight on...HISTORY

100th anniversary of death of the 'Great Commoner'

Pete Lindemann, Times Journal Staff
This week marks the one-hundredth anniversary of the death of a national political figure with some local ties.

William Jennings Bryan, three-time Democratic candidate for president, died on July 26, 1925, at age 65, in Dayton, Tennessee.
The Cobleskill Index of July 30, 1925, ran a front-page article: "County shocked by death of W.J. Bryan, who once spoke at the Cobleskill fair grounds in 1896 presidential campaign."

Bryan's sudden death "is felt considerably in Schoharie county where the Great Commoner had had a large following of political adherents."

When Bryan came to Cobleskill, he "ingratiated himself into the heart of Schoharie county."

The "Great Commoner" so impressed the record-sized crowd that Schoharie County was the only county in the state that year to vote for Bryan—all the rest went for McKinley, who won.

The other local connection to Bryan was through James Tanner. Tanner was born in Richmondville in 1844. During the Civil War he lost both legs below the knee at the Second Battle of Bull Run.

He was fitted with prosthetic legs and learned standard phonography—shorthand—at the Ames School in Syracuse.

Tanner got a job in the Ordnance Department in Washington, D.C., and roomed near the Petersen House.

It was to the Petersen House that the mortally wounded Abraham Lincoln was taken on April 14, 1865.

A stenographer was called for, to record witness depositions, and thus 21-year-old James Tanner of Richmondville sat next to the room where Lincoln lay dying.

Tanner stated that he was among those around the deathbed when Lincoln breathed his last at 7:22 a.m. on April 15, 1865.

He later became a stump speaker for Republican candidates, and helped to get Benjamin Harrison elected president in 1888.

In return, Harrison made Tanner United States Commissioner of Pensions—a position he held only seven months before he had to resign, for being considered too generous with public monies to his fellow Civil War veterans.

Tanner eventually became Commissioner of Wills in Washington, D.C., which is where he was when Bryan died.

In a letter that Tanner wrote to his friend, Barner Aker, Esq., of East Cobleskill, reprinted in the Cobleskill Index of August 14, 1925, Tanner said of Bryan, "I have been much impressed recently by the sudden departure from life of William Jennings Bryan...I found myself constrained to stand alongside of him in the views he expressed of his belief in the Bible."

Tanner was referring to Bryan's role as prosecutor in the Scopes Monkey Trial—officially The State of Tennessee v. John Thomas Scopes.

Scopes, a teacher in Dayton, Tennessee, was charged under the Butler Act, a state law that prohibited the teaching of evolution in public schools.

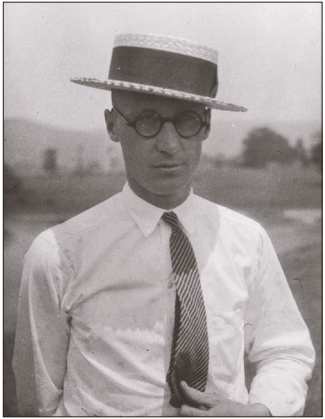
Scopes was represented by the renowned defense attorney Clarence Darrow. Bryan was on the counsel for the prosecution. The trial was covered nationwide, with H.L. Mencken, the famed journalist, covering it for the New York Times.

The trial lasted from July 10 to 21, 1925. In terms of publicity, it was considered the trial of the century, surpassed only by the OJ Simpson murder trial 70 years later.

The jury returned a guilty verdict after deliberating for just ten minutes. Scopes was fined \$100, a punishment later overturned by the Supreme Court on a technicality.

Just five days after the trial, Bryan, after having attended the First Methodist Church, died in his sleep at the home of a friend in Dayton, Tennessee, on Sunday, July 26, 1925.

When James Tanner heard of Bryan's death, he was himself 81, and the questions of evolution, the Bible, and the afterlife were certainly on his mind, when he penned a letter to Aker.



Historical photo

John T. Scopes, a 24-year-old teacher, was charged under the Butler Act, which prohibited teaching evolution in Tennessee public schools.

Two years later, upon his death on October 2, 1927, James Tanner would join William Jennings Bryan at Arlington Cemetery.

Tanner's letter, printed in the Cobleskill Times of August 14, 1925, is reprinted in full below:

My dear Friend: you ask me what I know about Evolution, and I answer frankly nothing. When you come to consider it closely that query, "What do you know?" is a very serious proposition to tackle.

We believe in many things; we know mighty few.

All the education I was able to achieve in my younger days was achieved in the district schools of Schoharie County, beginning in the school within a stone's throw of your residence.

No scientific matters were included in the curriculum of Schoharie's then educational institutions.

Whatever knowledge I may have acquired since that time has come to me as I have journeyed through a long life and have to some degree more or less improved the opportunities which have come to me in my progress to the great University of Experience.

But one thing I did acquire in Schoharie, and that was the beginning of a faith, the inception of which is based in my mother's teachings and the precepts instilled in my very youthful heart in the Sunday School where she led me Sunday after Sunday in that old church which you good people have so beautifully rejuvenated within a very short time.

There I imbibed the seeds of a faith which has grown with the years, and is now stronger in my mind, as I near the close of my life, than at any other period thereof.

I tell you, my friend, I have come to view with pity the workings of the mighty solar system, which envelops us, the coming and going of the seasons with their regularity through all the years we know anything about, the budding and blossoming of the flowers, contemplate the sun and moon and stars; study their regularity of appearance and disappearance, the growth of our trees – oh, all the things that exist, and that tend to show with incontrovertible force that there is a great over-seeing all-seeing Power that is so great that no human mind ever existed that should grasp its dimensions, and then sit back and say, "There is no God!"

What man has ever lived who could grasp the meaning of the word, "Forever?"

We know not whence we came; we know not where we go, and yet we know as much about it as any other person on earth knows.

If we go on wandering in the dim recesses of the past, looking for that original ancestry, I am frank to say that if it comes to a choice, I prefer to choose mine in the Garden of Eden, irrespective of whatever peccadilloes Adam and Eva [sic (probably a reference to the 1923 silent film "Adam and Eva" starring Marion Davies)] may have indulged in during their residence there, rather than to choose from among the ancestors of those

who swing by the tail in any or all of the zoological gardens of the earth.

If you adopt evolution you eliminate God as the author of our being. I cannot subscribe to that.

Three times in my life I have been almost through the Gate of Death, and on one of those occasions, I recall that I thought the end of this life had come to me and the dominant thought in my mind was, how easy it is to die after all!

Those around me thought that my end had come. Both surgeons and nurses jumped for nitroglycerin or strychnine (I forget which) but they reinvigorated my failing heart, and so I came back to life.

A dear old comrade of the ward days was at my bedside, and he sobbed out the words, "If I could only see the old boy smile again," and I rallied enough to gasp out to him that if he had his flask with him. I would join him in one more "smile."

My wife, who was hovering over me, arose at once and said, "He's back; he's coming through alright."



Historical photo

Clarence Darrow, left, and William Jennings Bryan at the Scopes Monkey Trial in 1925.

Years ago a New York reporter took occasion to write me up with a pretty free hand in which article he said that my intimates had always ascribed the fact that I had survived the numerous strokes that Death had made at me to the fact that I had always preferred a joke to a moan, a laugh to a sigh.

In olden days when I was a lad in Schoharie and attended the funeral services of our neighbors who had died, it was a custom of most of the ministers of that time when they officiated at funeral services to reserve for the last part of their addresses the remarks directed personally at the mourning relatives of the deceased, and they seemed to think that the more intensely they could work on the feelings of these mourners, the more sobs and tears they could extract, the greater was their success, as they pictured the joys of Heaven and the horrors of Hell.

I attribute to my communion with Henry Ward Beecher the fact that many years ago, I discarded all belief in a God, who could consign to eternal punishment the souls of those he had created.

I believe that the Hell that man endures he creates himself by his course here on earth.

My faith is centered on a God of love.

It had its inception up there in Schoharie, as I was taught at my mother's knee and in your Sabbath School, the trust and the faith embodied in that simplest of all expressions which we find in those words:

"Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep,
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take."
It has rested with me through all the years and grown in strength and for many years I have not ventured to close my eyes and sleep without voicing that expression of faith and trust in the God I believe in.

It was a grain of faith no larger than the mustard seed perhaps, but that faith has grown with me to be a power of consolation that sustains me in opposition to all the isms which the brains of unbelievers and doubters may be able to formulate.

I have been much impressed recently by the sudden departure from life of William Jennings Bryan. My personal relations with Mr. Bryan were extremely pleasant. At various times we had come together, speakers on the same platform, dealing with subjects that were non political.

Mr. Bryan was courtesy itself. He was a man of large information. He impressed me as being a mighty sincere man, and in no case more sincere than his belief in the religious doctrines he supported. It was his delight to be engaged in the contest in which he was at the close of his life, fighting for the olden faith, and as he believed, for the good of the world.

In his three campaigns for the presidency, I had mingled very actively in opposition to him, and now when he was at the very verge of his departure from life, I found myself

said, "How does he size up?"

"Well," she said, "Jim, it isn't fair to judge a man hastily, but frankly speaking, I do not think that he is equipped to size up to the mark set by his predecessor. He seems to me to be pretty narrow between the eyes."

Now, following this I was afflicted with a great deal of nervous trouble, agonizing pain in fact, centering in my amputated limbs. It destroyed sleep and there came a time when for two full days and nights I had absolutely no sleep whatever.

I went home early one afternoon, racked with pain, threw myself on a couch in the library, where my wife sat reading and very soon thereafter, the bell rang and the maid brought in the card of the new minister.

I immediately flopped with my face to the back of the couch, saying in an undertone to my wife, "Do not arouse me. I am asleep," and the reverend gentleman was shown in.

After the usual greetings, the conversation which immediately succeeded, told me that he was on a pastoral call, as he proceeded to make inquiries about the spiritual

in my heart as I lay there, I said, "Thank you, you blessed liar."

She said, "You may have heard of the terrible misfortune he met with out here at the Second Bull Run in our war days, resulting in the amputation of both his legs on the battlefield."

"Oh, yes," he said, in deeply sympathy sympathetic tones, "I have heard and I sympathize deeply with the poor man."

"Well," she said, "you know his legs were amputated on the field under fire, and as were not paying much attention to whole human forms that had been slaughtered on that field, it is not to be presumed that they paid any attention to his amputated limbs, and I fancy they were left for enrichment of Virginia soil."

"Yes," he said, "but Sister, we were speaking about the doctrine of the resurrection of the material form."

"Yes," she said, "I am coming to that Dominic. Now in 1880, when we were living in Brooklyn the condition of his limbs were such that it necessitated another amputation, and some reason or other connected with medical science, the surgeon who operated that time desired to preserve in one of his laboratory jars the fragments of Mr. Tanner's limbs."

She said, "He is suffering greatly and I would not be surprised if it resulted in his having to undergo still another operation (which I did in 1894). It is a dream of his life to be able to indulge someday in some foreign travel. How easily it may occur, if he is ever able to do that, while over the ocean he might be stricken with some contagious disease that would end his life there and under circumstances which might render necessary Interment of his body abroad."

"But, my dear Sister, we were speaking of the resurrection of the body."



Historical photo

James Tanner, from Richmondville, penned his thoughts on the Bible, evolution, and the material resurrection of the body, in a letter written two years before his death.

"Yes, that is just what I am coming to Domine. Now assuming that the doctrine of the material resurrection of the body, set forth in the Bible, is true, taking into consideration the fact that the part of him, which was amputated on the field of Bull Run, and which undoubtedly wasted way, assimilating with the forces of nature in the soil, and there remains preserved in alcohol in the Brooklyn Surgeon's laboratory another portion of physical being, and then it may be necessary if he dies and foil foreign soil, to have his remains interred there, then, don't you think, Domine, if this doctrine is true, that Jim will have a hurrying kind of a time Resurrection Morning to gather himself together?"

It was a great shock to the Domine, and he rallied to the extent of saying to her that she stated an improbable case, but he must concede, not one impossible, but that in considering the Bible, many things must be taken on the strength of faith. He did not seek any further information as to the condition of her mind.

He never made another pastoral call, and Madam never went to hear him preach again.

Cordially yours, James Tanner