

Important stories shared at candlelight vigil

by Pete Lindemann, Times Journal Staff

COBLESKILL – Amanda Cuccinello summed up the theme of Thursday evening at the Opioid Awareness Candlelight Vigil: “My goal is to spread awareness about addiction,” she said.

The vigil—in the Hall of Agriculture at the Cobleskill Fairgrounds—was organized by the Schoharie County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (SCCASA). There were information booths, a chance to make connections with local mental health advocates, and a presentation on Narcan by Dave DeSando, a retired pharmacist. Narcan is a nasal spray that rapidly reverses the effects of an opioid overdose.

The goal of the vigil, according to the SCCASA site, was to “raise awareness about the ongoing overdose crisis, remember those we’ve lost, and stand in solidarity with those still fighting.”

And remembering “those we’ve lost” was a big part of the evening.

Before an audience of 50, Cuccinello from Cobleskill spoke first. She lives in Cobleskill now, but her story takes place in Summit.

“He started abusing drugs about 16 or 17,” Cuccinello said of her son Bryin. She said he overdosed seven times, and seven times he was revived by Narcan.

Bryin eventually died from an overdose of fentanyl and cocaine a few weeks before his 20th birthday. Toward the end, “he became skinny,” Cuccinello said, as pictures of her son were shown on the projector screen behind her.

He used to be short, Cuccinello said, but one time Bryin told her, “I’m gonna outgrow you, Mom.” When the autopsy report listed Bryin as six feet, two and a half inches, Cuccinello remembers saying, “You got me.”

Jen Urrey of Middleburgh spoke next about her son Ryan. “He had a heart of gold.” He went to rehab in California, Urrey said, and after he was back home a week, he hooked up with old friends.

She said she would get calls from his friends at night, and the first thing she would ask is, “Is he alive?”

Then, on July 10, 2022, she got a call and was told, “I think you need to go to this house.”

When she got there she was told by police, “They couldn’t bring him back.” She asked to see him.

“He was a color I never want to see in my life,” she said. “He was cold...I kissed him.”

“Ryan was a heroin addict,” Urrey said. But when they did an autopsy, they found no heroin in his system—only fentanyl and cocaine.

Pat Costello is 34 years sober. He described himself as a “cross-addicted alcoholic.” He said, “When I was drinking, I would do any drug put in front of me.”



Amanda Cuccinello shared the story of her son Bryin at the Opioid Awareness Candlelight Vigil Thursday evening at the Cobleskill Fairgrounds.

After rehab, he was told to go to 90 meetings in 90 days. “I went to 180 meetings in 180 days,” he said. “I learned how to cope without alcohol and without drugs.”

Then, “My oldest son started to show signs,” Costello said. He started wrecking cars and wrecking his life. Costello said he urged his son to get help, but it didn’t work.

However, “Ten years ago he made that decision on his own...he got sober, and he has been sober for 10 years.”

When Costello’s other son got involved in drugs, he became “quietly defiant,” Costello said. All he wanted to do was use drugs.

He ended up at a halfway house in Albany, Costello said, pointing out the lack of



Chrystal Bushnell grew up in the '80s and '90s, when drugs were “a choice, not a disease.”

such facilities locally. “When he left the halfway house,” Costello said, “people were outside the door offering him drugs.”

Finally Costello got the call. “Your son is overdosed and he is gone,” he was told.

Costello said the son was doing crystal meth and “his heart just blew up.”

The final speaker was Chrystal Bushnell of Greenville. “I celebrated 10 years in June,” she said. She grew up in the ‘80s and ‘90s, and drugs then were “a choice, not a disease.”

She said her father became addicted to painkillers after

surgery, and she moved out as soon as she graduated high school.

Her son was born in 2007, and three months later she got hurt at work. She was prescribed hydrocodone—up to 230 pills a day.

“The doctor said if taken as directed, it was not addictive,” she said. She was taking six to eight pills every hour.

“They tell you to take [the pain medication] before the pain kicks in,” she said.

Then she was prescribed oxycontin, which at that time was considered “a breakthrough medicine.”

“At this point, my mar-

Sobriety, she said, “wasn’t something I knew I wanted until I had it.”

Bushnell now works as a certified recovery peer advocate. When people thank her for helping them, she says, “I’m selfishly doing this job.” Helping other people helped her.

The evening concluded with the candlelight vigil. Standing in a circle, holding electric candles, participants took turns saying aloud the names of loved ones lost.

SCCASA is located at 597 East Main Street in Cobleskill. Contact them at 518-234-8705 or www.sccasa518.org.



Pat Costello and Sarah Nies at the candlelight vigil.



OBITUARIES



Walter Berdan

Walter Berdan

Walter G. “Buck” Berdan passed away peacefully on August 27, 2025, surrounded by family after a long battle with Alzheimer’s disease.

He was born on July 29, 1949 to Leonard and Margaret (Bliss) Berdan. Buck grew up hiking, camping, swimming and caving all over New York with his brothers, and his many cousins and friends. He was an Eagle Scout, a certified scuba diver, enjoyed sailing his numerous boats over the years, and he was an avid winter camper.

Buck graduated from Schoharie Central School in 1967 and enrolled in Union College. His education was interrupted when he volunteered to serve two tours in the Vietnam War. From 1970 to 1972 Buck was a cryptographic Specialist 5 with an armored cavalry unit of the 23rd “Americal” infantry division.

Following his return from Vietnam, Buck began working with troubled youths at group homes in Albany and Troy. He then became a teacher at Camp Cass, a correctional facility for juvenile offenders. In addition to working to rehabilitate troubled kids, Buck dedicated himself to helping people who struggled with drug and alcohol addiction. He celebrated 40 years of sobriety in 2025.

Following a serious car crash in the 1980s, Buck became an EMT and joined the Middleburgh and Schoharie Volunteer Ambulance Corps. He served for 30 years, responding to over 1800 emergencies and his service was recognized by a special award from the New York State Legislature.

A lifelong skier, he also volunteered with the National Ski Patrol at Plattekill and Royal Mountain for over a decade.

Aside from a call to service, Buck discovered a newfound faith in Jesus following his accident. He worshipped at the Schoharie Reformed Church regularly for the rest of his life.

Following his retirement, he volunteered regularly with church events and the town church camp. He taught Sunday school for many years, and frequently brought friends and strangers alike to church with him. On his last Sunday before passing, he attended his grandson James’ christening ceremony.

Buck’s large extended family was very important to him. He is survived by his children, Rebecca and Garrett (Ama); his grandson, James; his brothers, Leonard (Margaret) and William (Carey Anne); his longtime companion, Sheila Kennedy; and many Berdan, Snyder and Grogan cousins, nephews, and nieces.

The family would like to extend special thanks to Joseph Tetteh for his kindness and care during Buck’s final years.

Visitation with Buck’s family from 5-7 p.m. Friday September 12 at Coltrain Funeral Home, LLC 134 River Street Middleburgh, NY 12122.

A Memorial service will be held, at noon on Saturday, September 13, at the Schoharie Reformed Church, 258 Main Street, Schoharie, NY 12157.

Inurnment will follow in the Old Stone Fort Cemetery, Schoharie.

Buck’s friends and family are invited to gather afterward at the DAR Lasell Hall, 268 Main Street, Schoharie, NY 12157.

Please honor Buck’s request to volunteer time or resources to help the church, a local EMS/fire agency, or any other charitable cause dear to them.



Ralph Harvey

Ralph Harvey

Ivan Harvey, 58, unexpectedly passed away on August 29, 2025. Though his journey took him through many places—Fort Lauderdale, FL, Phoenix, AZ and Howes Cave - his heart was always with the people he loved.

Ralph was predeceased by his father, Wendell Eugene Harvey.

Ralph is survived by his devoted wife, Angel Harvey; and his beloved mother, Adah Muncy Harvey. He was a cherished brother to Wenda (Fritz) Nonnemacher, Wanita (John) Brooker, Randy (Maria) Harvey, and Wilma (Troy) Volker; and several nieces and nephews.

Family was his anchor, and his presence—full of warmth, humor, and a bit of stubbornness—will be deeply missed.

Ralph’s life was not without struggles, but his courage and resilience defined him. He faced adversity head-on and was proud to have reached 10 months of sobriety, a milestone that reflected his strength, determination, and hope for brighter days.

He will be remembered

not only for his perseverance but also for the love and laughter he shared with those closest to him. His journey reminds us all that even in the hardest battles, there can be moments of grace, triumph, and deep connection.

Plans for a memorial service will be shared with family and friends at a later time.

Contributions in memory of Ralph Ivan Harvey may be made to the Animal Shelter of Schoharie Valley, PO Box 40, Howes Cave, NY 12092 or to the Bramanville Prospect Cemetery, PO Box 304, Warnerville, NY 12187.

Ralph’s story lives on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.

Online condolences may be offered at www.mereness-putnamfuneralhome.com.



David McCabe

David McCabe

David L. McCabe, of Mill Valley Road, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, August 26, 2025 in his home, with his family, after a courageous fight with cancer.

Courage was born with David, 69 years ago on October 16, 1955 as he was delivered prematurely to Tressa Osterhoudt and William J. McCabe at St. Clare’s Hospital in Schenectady and was held in an incubator until he was strong enough to come home.

David graduated from Middleburgh Central School in 1974 and remained close with his classmates and friends throughout his life, even attending a gathering with them days before he passed.

David earned an Associates Degree in Food Service Administration from SUNY Cobleskill in 1976 and enjoyed many years living in California before moving back to Middleburgh.

Locally, he was the assistant manager for Pizza Hut in Ballston Spa and worked for Stiefel Laboratories, Blenheim Pharmacal and most recently at the Valley Market in Middleburgh.

David’s passion for Coca Cola memorabilia was unrivaled, he loved cooking, his cats, cruising in his Thunderbird convertible, vacationing to Maine and attending local auctions.

Holding his memory forever are his sister, Mary E. McCabe of Middleburgh; his brother, Kenneth J. McCabe of Duaneburg; his nephew, William J. McCabe of Middleburgh; his cats “Frick & Frack,” and many friends.

A gathering for family and friends will be held privately and they thank you for remembering David and them through this time.

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



James Spencer

James Spencer

James A. Spencer, 91, of Middleburgh, passed away peacefully on August 25, 2025, in Cobleskill.

A lifelong resident of Middleburgh, Jim was born on July 6, 1934, at the former Bull’s Head Inn in Middleburgh, the son of the late Frank R. Spencer and Matilda (Rivenburg) Spencer.

He was married to his beloved wife, Eleanor (Borgelt) Spencer, for 52 years until her passing in 2024. Together, they built a strong family and a lasting legacy of service and devotion.

After graduating from Middleburgh Central School, Jim attended Northeastern University before enlisting in the United States Air Force.

He proudly served five years on active duty as a navigator on B-29 aircraft, performing midair refueling missions.

He later continued his

service with the Air National Guard for 10 years, occasionally flying cargo planes into Da Nang, Vietnam.

Following his military service, he attended the State University of Albany and Albany Law School. Upon graduation, he practiced law for more than 25 years before serving as a Family Court Hearing Examiner with the New York State Office of Court Administration for nine years, retiring in 1994.

His dedication to public service extended throughout his career, he served as Village Attorney, Town Attorney, School Attorney, and as a member of the Middleburgh Central School Board.

He was also a member of the Schoharie County Board of Ethics.

Jim was deeply devoted to his faith and his community. A member of the Middleburgh Reformed Church, he served faithfully as a Deacon and Elder for 26 years. He was a founding member of the Schoharie County Council on Alcoholism and a member of the County Narcotics Council for several years.

A proud veteran and community leader, he was a member of American Legion Chapter 248. He was also a Past Master of Middleburgh Lodge #663, a current member of Schoharie Valley Lodge #491, a Mason for 65 years. A Rotarian since 1966, he was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow, served as President of the Rotary Club of Middleburgh, and as District Governor of Rotary International District

#7190 from 1999–2000. From 2006–2008, he represented Rotary International as an Alternate Representative to the United Nations in New York.

Jim is survived by his brother, Robert Spencer and five children, Kim (Hoerz) Smith, Robert Hoerz, Allen Spencer, Stephen Hoerz (Vicky) and Lane Spencer (Brenda); nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Jim will be remembered for his lifetime of love and faith, his service, and his unwavering commitment to family, community, and country. His kindness, steady guidance, and devotion to community will continue to inspire all who knew him.

All are invited to visit with Jim’s family from 5–7 p.m. on Friday, September 5, at Coltrain Funeral Home, LLC 134 River Street, Middleburgh, NY 12122 and to the Memorial service at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 6 at the Middleburgh Reformed Church, 178 River Street Middleburgh, NY 12122.

Military Honors will follow the funeral service at the church. Private inurnment will be in the Middleburgh Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Middleburgh Reformed Church, PO Box 112 Middleburgh, NY 12122 or the Middleburgh Rotary Club, PO Box 1100, Middleburgh, NY 12122.

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



Lappeus Funeral Home
POB 130 – 113 Park Street
Sharon Springs NY 13459



Celebration of Life for Bob Ihrig

We have a place, date and time for Bob’s Celebration of Life and 80th party. It will be held at Greenside Clubhouse at the Cobleskill Country Club on **Sunday, September 7** from **2:00 to 5:00 PM**.

We will be offering light sandwiches and salads.

I have decided that I will get his life celebration/birthday cake after all. (80 Candles!!). Figuring his “peers”, full of hot air, can blow them out for him. (Maybe the fire department should be on standby)?

There will be bulletin boards and a memory table, so that guests may hang up messages, cards, pictures, or various mementos they may have from stories with Bob.

A microphone will be available for sharing stories and roasting our guest of honor.....because laughter is the best healer.

As a special treat, coach Eric H. will be putting together a 3 hour “mix tape” of Bob’s music. (Del Shannon, Fats Domino, Roy Orbison, and of course Stevie Nicks). Thank you, Eric, for putting this together for us!

Finally, we will have release balloons with “blue butterflies” for everyone to send out, carrying heartfelt messages to Bob. (Don’t worry everybody...They’re biodegradable).

We invite you to come share your jokes, your stories, your memories and keepsakes, and help us celebrate the man known as “Poncho”, “Che Harry”, “Mr. Foxx”, Robert...aka Bob.



HERITAGE MEMORIALS

MONUMENTS • MARKERS • ENGRAVING • CUSTOM DESIGNS
• CLEANING

Specializing in In-Home Counseling • Call for an Appointment
DUANESBURG, NY 12056 PHONE: (518) 875-9294

“Family Memorials with Personal Service”

Jerry Waddell

INSIDE

Times Past & Historic Photo.....

Looking Ahead & In Brief.....

Arts & Entertainment.....

Sports.....

Iroquois Arts Festival.....

4

5

7

8-9

10

Times Journal

The News of Schoharie County

USPS ID #630-940

Published Thursdays by

Capital Region Independent Media

MARK VINCIGUERRA, President

Capital Region Independent Media

WARREN DEWS, JR., Publisher

HB Steadham, Executive Editor

HB.Steadham@nyvtmedia.com

Pete Lindemann, Reporter and Proofreader

Pete.lindemann@nyvtmedia.com

Snow Steadham, Multimedia Journalist

Tjournalnews@yahoo.com

Periodical postage paid at Cobleskill,

NY 12043 and additional Post Offices.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Times Journal,

PO Box 339, Cobleskill, NY 12043-0339.

Please allow two weeks advance notice for change

of address.

HOW TO REACH US

OFFICE HOURS:

Mondays and Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fridays, 9 a.m. to noon

Other times by appointment

108 Division Street

Cobleskill, NY 12043

518-642-4129

www.nyvtmedia.com

DEADLINES:

Advertising/Classifieds/Legal Notices:

Thursdays at 5 p.m.

News/Press Releases/Arts & Entertainment:

Fridays at 5 p.m.

Obituaries: Tuesdays at 8 a.m.

ONLINE NEWS: No deadline!

TO SUBSCRIBE:

One-year subscription: \$66

Six-month subscription: \$33

EZ PAY Quarterly: \$16.50

Scan the QR code or visit <https://www.nyvtmedia.com/pages/times-journal-subscription>

Please allow two weeks advance

notice for change of address.



I have to admit—I make a lot of decisions as the executive editor of the Times Journal.

Even in that first sentence, I had a decision to make: Do I hyphenate the name or not? Is it Times-Journal or Times Journal? I’ve seen it both ways.

On the sign outside our office? No hyphen. On our Facebook page? Hyphen.

I ultimately decided to go with how it looks at the very top of page one (the “flag,” for those interested in newspaper lexicology): no hyphen.

I just made another decision—do I use the word lexicology?

Well, I did. Twice.

But I digress.

Sure, every word choice is important, in my opinion. But if each individual word deserves at least momentary consideration, how much more weight must be given to decisions about whole stories? About recurring columns? And, most especially, about people?

Because people—and by this I mean individual persons—are of great, if not the utmost, importance, right? Can we all agree on that?

I know some folks might not think people are of the utmost importance. But I think those folks might reconsider if the people in question are them.

It’s a delicate balance, isn’t it?

I can say doing no harm is of utmost importance to me,

but if someone were physically attacking my child? Forget my principles. My daughter is more important.

I can say doing the right thing is of utmost importance to me, but if I were literally dying of hunger? It’s easy to imagine stealing some food so that I could live another day.

If people, then, are of great—and maybe even the utmost—importance, then maybe how we treat people is of great—and maybe even the utmost—importance.

Especially when that treatment is in print.

Because, see, what gets printed can’t be taken back.

It’s out there, in black and white, for anyone who is able to read to do just that.

And it’s been shown that people tend to believe what they read—which apparently starts as soon as kids learn how.

According to a study summarized in the Smithsonian Magazine, “As soon as kids acquire a basic understanding of letters and reading, the research team found, they exhibit a greater trust in printed textual information than in oral or visual information.”

Through a study in which kids were given the option to choose one colored tube over another, 75% of the time kids who had at least some reading skill chose the tube with the color written on a card rather than the tube with the color that someone verbally instructed them to pick. On the other hand, kids who couldn’t

yet read were equally likely to choose either color with verbal instructions. The research team concluded that the act of learning to read caused children to “rapidly come to regard the written word as a particularly authoritative source of information,” a tendency that continues well into adulthood.

So...why is this a problem?

Well, for one, there are plenty of less-than-credible sources out there. But, since the Times Journal is clearly credible (admittedly, I might be a little biased here), I don’t feel the need to dig into this issue.

Maybe why the Times Journal is credible will be my next Front Porch.

But, for two, it has proven to be incredibly difficult to change people’s minds once they’ve read something and consider it to be the truth. The possibility of changing someone’s mind once they read and believe something to be true, “isn’t zero, but it’s not high,” Kurt Gray, an associate professor in psychology and neuroscience at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, said.

In short, what folks read in print, they tend to believe. And once they believe it, for most folks most of the time, it will always be true.

So that means I have some decisions to make. AGAIN.

Because what I print can be expected to be taken as the forever truth.

And I don’t hold that responsibility lightly.

And I consider people to be of utmost importance.

So, when I hear through the grapevine (and I do, thankfully, hear a lot through the grapevine) that an appointed official is dirty, I don’t run to print it.

When I receive word that a beloved member of the community has said some terrible things, I don’t rub my hands together like some animated villain, ready to spread that word far and wide in the county.

Because I know darned well that what I print can be expected to be believed and taken as the forever truth.

Am I repeating myself?

Yeah, I’ve decided to. Because that’s an important concept—whatever I write can be expected to be believed and taken as the forever truth.

So if that appointed official

isn’t actually dirty, it doesn’t matter, because my written words have declared it so.

If that beloved community member didn’t say something terrible, but I print it? It might as well have happened.

And this, my friends, is why I’ve decided not to run the police blotter.

It’s weird—once the topic came up one day this last week, it kept coming up. It started with my right-hand man Pete Lindemann asking me if I was going to run it again.

I didn’t know the Times Journal had ever run it.

But we had.

I told Pete I didn’t think we would. I didn’t see the point.

He challenged me (I love it when he does that—he totally keeps me in check) and said, “What if someone big was in it?”

“I’d do a story on that, not just run it in the blotter.”

He kind of shrugged his shoulders and said, “Something to think about.”

I agree. It’s something to think about.

I saw my friend Joyce Hodder at the Republican BBQ and later, on the phone, she asked about running arrests in the paper. “People like to read that,” she told me.

I figure she’s right.

Then my friend Paige Bulmer and I got to talking, and she said she didn’t like the police blotter. “Once someone reads about you in the police blotter, it’s always true, even if it’s not true.

“People forget that in this country, you are still presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.”

In the court of public opinion, however, you’re often guilty when the written word declares you to be.

Even if, in later print, your innocence is also declared. Because once people believe something, it’s true for them forever, most likely.

So, no, for now, I won’t be running the police blotter. I want to do my level best to print what folks can read, believe, and not ever have to do the nearly impossible work of changing their minds about later.

Wish me luck.

HB Steadham
Executive Editor



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

‘Let’s hear it for the turkey’

I enjoyed reading Ann Lape’s article of August 21st, especially the educational part about turkeys. She mentions that Benjamin Franklin wrote a letter to his daughter stating that he would have preferred the wild turkey, instead of the bald eagle, as our national bird. I agree. A crow is thought to be a very intelligent bird, but not very good eating and neither is the eagle. The turkey is very popular and a lot better eating. There are already a lot of “Turkeys” in Washington, DC. Let’s hear it for the turkey.

As a side note, there is a Babcock/Smith museum in Westerly, Rhode Island, I believe, and a Doctor Babcock was alleged to have been a friend of Benjamin Franklin. Research has shown that a James Babcock was an early settler to this country, having arrived on the good ship, the “Ann.”

John H. Babcock
Chico, California
Former Richmondville resident

Questions of checks and balances

How can an executive order override a supreme court decision. The

Highest Court in the Land made the decision in the 80s that they didn’t like people burning the Flag but that was their constitution right to do so. Same branch of the Law should arrest the president for committing a crime against America. And what Branch of government allowed one person to make a decision that affects America without any oversight.

Gary W. Bivins
USMC 1964-1967
Cobleskill

Applying spiritual principles

Last week I was unable to attend Elise Stefanik’s stump speech, so I appreciated the TJ article all about it. What stood out was Senator Oberacker’s comment about being slow to anger and quick to forgive. It’s a lovely sentiment, but for the not-so-subtle guard rails included: “We Republicans need to be slow to anger amongst ourselves, quick to forgive amongst ourselves....”

I guess he means, apply these spiritual principles when, say, one of ours commits a sexual assault (or brags about it,) lies daily, incites an insurrection, or pardons the criminals who carried it out, brings our military to our own cities (but only the blue ones, even though crime’s at a 30 year low, and the red cities are worse,) and all in the name of fighting crime (with more felony convic-

tions himself than cabinet members), deports people without due process, some of them citizens...or when spineless congresspeople stand by and do nothing as our democracy gets bludgeoned to death, one sickening abuse-of-power at a time. We should be slow to anger and quick to forgive when 5,000 children are separated from their families at the border, with abysmal record-keeping so that as much as eight years later, more than 1,000 are still not reunited.

We should apply these spiritual principles to the best of our abilities, amongst ourselves. But not, I guess, when our political opponents attempt to create a society which cares for those in need. Happy Labor Day.

Mary-Kate Willett
Warnerville

‘Elected officials are trying to divide us’

The cynicism on display at the County Republican Committee BBQ, as reported by last week’s Times Journal, was astounding. The extensive use of name-calling and dog whistles serves only to mask the fact that so many of our Republican representatives have NO PLAN to actually serve the people of Schoharie county in meaningful ways. The child poverty rate in here is above 12%, yet our congresswoman (and presumptive gubernatorial candi-

date), Elise Stefanik, has been an outspoken cheerleader of the big, ugly bill that will significantly scale back nutritional benefits and health-care for children and families living in poverty. I truly would like to know how the congresswoman can look herself in the mirror knowing that she is responsible for taking food off the tables of families that are already struggling, in order to give more tax breaks to America’s wealthiest citizens. Instead of addressing the real lives of real people, Mrs. Stefanik and Assemblyman Chris Tague threw out childish taunts to their opponents, calling them “crazy,” “communist,” and even “anti-semite.” Mr. Tague also had the nerve to question the faith of people protesting the event! Instead of actually serving our communities, these elected officials are trying to divide us by casting anyone who questions them as the enemy. Don’t fall for it.

Rebecca Brown
West Fulton

Policing with the National Guard

Civilian policing and military (which includes the National Guard)

Submit your Letters to the Editor to HB.Steadham@nyvtmedia.com.

are incompatible tasks, which require different equipment, attitudes, and especially different training.

I see this because I am a combat veteran and grew up in a law enforcement family.

Policing depends on building community relations. The military depends on instilling fear.

The police uphold law and order by arresting suspects and turning arraignment, trial, and prosecution over to the courts. The military maintains order by killing and terrorizing.

When receiving incoming fire the policing strategy is to take cover, protect all civilians, call in the negotiation and the SWAT teams. The military strategy is to use suppressive fire, firing out enough lead that even a cockroach doesn’t dare lift its head, with no regard to civilians.

If we choose to use the National Guard in our streets we risk repeating the mistakes of Kent State and Greensboro.

And all of this is not discussing the consequences of political or ego driven deployment of the Guard.

Elliott Adams
Sharon Springs



Times Past

**100 Years Ago
September 4, 1925**
RICHMONDVILLE, Sept. 3 – The A & P company has leased from Dr. G. W. Simmons of Oneonta the store at Richmondville formerly occupied by Reightmyer’s studio, and expects to obtain possession September 12. It will be open evenings. The store is being repainted inside and out.

MIDDLEBURG, Sept. 3 - The European corn borer is now doing damage to sweet, flint and silage corn in the Middleburg area. This is not the first appearance of the insect. For some time the town of Middleburg has been under quarantine.

DELANSON, Sept. 3 - The young people enjoyed a hot dog roast on the Hogs Back (Blanchard Field) Tuesday night. About twenty boys and girls attended, chaperoned by Mrs. Robert J. Putnam.

Ox teams and covered wagons and shy maidens of the New England country will help picture the early history of Old Tryon County as the historical pageant, now in process of preparation, features the golden anniversary of the Cobleskill Agricultural society at the annual fair scheduled for Sept. 28 to Oct. 2.

President Charles A. Weiting, enthusiastic about the event, is exerting every influence to make the pageant a crowning fixture of the “Big Sunshine Fair,” and says that all the Indians from the State’s reservations that he wants, to give color to the picture, are at his command.

**85 Years Ago
September 5, 1940**
Arthur H. Van Voris found a perfect specimen of American Indian stone tomahawk on the shore of Summit Lake near his cottage on Monday. Mr. Van Voris states that an Indian encampment was located near this spot, according to history, as Summit Lake was on one of the principal Indian trails leading south from Canada, this one swinging down through the Susquehanna into the Charlotte valley, thence around Summit Lake and down into the Schoharie valley, and on to Schenectady and Albany.

Cobleskill’s only bowling alleys, The Olympian on Center street, will reopen for the winter season next Monday and will be available for use evenings of that week. After being closed during Fair week, they will open again at all times, according to Leon L. Roarick, proprietor. Alleys have been resurfaced and put in their usual good condition.

Schoharie county 4-H boys will learn how to cook and to make homemade sweets at a training school to be held at the Cobleskill state school on Friday, September 6. Miss Elizabeth Traver, home economics instructor at Richmondville central school, will assist the boys with the cooking.

The Buick special sedan

for 1941, introducing a new type of masstreaming body lines, has been placed on display by Cobleskill Garage Co., local dealers. On a longer wheelbase, with a more powerful motor, and introducing many innovations, the car attracted many visitors over the weekend.

If the conscription bill passes in approximately its present form, Schoharie county will likely be called upon to furnish 65 young men between 21 and 30 years, for compulsory military training in the first enrollment.

**45 Years Ago
September 3, 1980**
In the wake of speeches, a drum and march performance and a ribbon cutting ceremony, the 7.6 mile stretch of Interstate highway between Cobleskill’s Shad Point and Richmondville was opened last Wednesday morning as another step forward in the overall I-88 project linking Schenectady with Binghamton.

The Cobleskill High School varsity soccer team returns five full-time starters from last year’s 14-5 team. Heading the group are the 1979 Tri-Valley All-Stars Pat Garrity and John Garner, who represent the Red Devils as captains.

Skip’s are 1980 Schoharie County Softball champs. The Skip’s team had a record of 27-2, behind great pitching of Steve Foland (25-2) and Ted Rorick. The only team to defeat Skip’s in league play was Wohl’s of Cobleskill.

The Cobleskill area received only 1.46 inches of rain during August, 1.76 inches below the norm of 3.22, according to weather observer Austin Christman. There were no entirely clear days during the month, and there was one cloudy day and 17 with precipitation. The eight-month total for 1980 is 21.49 inches, 2.47 inches below the average of 23.96.

The House of Guerlain, the oldest family-owned fragrance company in the world, celebrated its 150th birthday last year. The company, founded by Pierre Francois Pascal Guerlain in 1828, when he opened a perfume boutique in Paris, still has six members of the Guerlain family active in the business.

**35 Years Ago
September 5, 1990**
More than 2000 people moved into Schoharie County over the past decade, raising the population by 6.9 percent up to 31,757 people. The preliminary figures were released late last week by the US Census Bureau and show population gains in all Schoharie County towns except Sharon. For months, organizers for Cobleskill’s creative playground have been looking for money. Now they’re looking for people. Volunteers - more than 300 per day - are what’s needed most when construction on the Imagination Creation begins next Wednesday.



This drawing was donated to the Cobleskill Historical Society by Paula Wainwright of Cobleskill. At the bottom it says, “‘Little Egypt’ First New York 1896-97, Owned by C.H. Proper, Schoharie, N.Y.” Anyone know anything about it?

Amy White of Gardnersville wrote in about last week’s old photo: “I saw your picture of Lambert’s Clothes Shop on Division St. You asked if anyone remembers it on Main Street. I do.

“Lamberts was on Main Street, on the corner of Union St . When I was a kid, in the 1960’s, we always used to buy our school shoes there. I remember the creaky wooden floors! Also, Ray Lambert (the owner then) always tied up the shoebox with string.

“Later, the store was purchased by Harmony Acres/Partyland; and they expanded into that area (they had just been in a smaller space in the back.) That’s where they were until the building burned.”

And Gordon Angle called us about the old photo in our August 7 edition, labeled ‘Mill Dam on Quarry Street.’ Angle, who grew up on Quarry Street in Cobleskill, remembers a sluice at the site. It was about six to eight feet deep and 10 feet wide. The dam is gone now he said.

“Everything else is pretty much in order,” said Donna Gunzinger, one of the coordinators. “We just need people there when the construction begins.”

Schoharie County Cooperative Extension agent Ken Hotopp has been elected president of the 150-member state Association of County Agricultural Agents. He was named to the top post at the annual meeting of the association. Mr. Hotopp has been a Cooperative Extension agent in Schoharie County for the past 22 years and has also worked as a forester for the state Department of Environmental Conservation and a private land management group.

Anyone who wanted to update equipment and hone trapping techniques could do so at the Cobleskill Fairgrounds over the weekend. The Fairgrounds hosted the annual New York State Trapper’s Association convention on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, drawing trappers and outdoor enthusiasts from around the Northeast.

The ninth annual Iroquois Indian Festival at Cobleskill College drew a crowd of some

4000 people over the weekend, a record turnout for the event. “The attendance figure we got was 4078,” Iroquois Indian Museum Director Christina Johanssen said, “but we know we had some people slip by without being counted so I’d certainly say there were more than that.” Along with the more than 4000 festival attendees, an estimated 150-200 Iroquois were on hand to sell their wares, present programs on Iroquois traditions put on dance demonstrations.

**30 Years Ago
September 6, 1995**
What some people are calling the worst drought in memory is pushing farmers to their financial limits. And some farmers - like their crops - may not survive the drought. “If we don’t get some rain this fall, it could mean the end for the marginal farmer,” said Dan Schuppel, a farmer in Seward and Sharon and also vice president of the Schoharie County Farm Bureau.

In a race that’s generating considerable interest, David Hallock of Gilboa and Gary Hayes of Middleburgh will be facing off Tuesday in the GOP primary for Schoharie County

Clerk. The winner will face Democrat Carl Sand of Cobleskill in November.

Schoharie Republicans made Bill Vedder their choice for supervisor Thursday. Over 50 people attended the caucus and selected seven candidates for the fall elections. Mr. Vedder, of Knower Avenue, won the nomination in a secret ballot over Peter Bassett of Route 443. Bill Cherry, the incumbent supervisor and a Republican, is not running for re-election since he is seeking to become the county treasurer.

Bert and Helen Schulte of 24 Pleasant View Drive of Cobleskill were guests of honor at a 50th wedding anniversary celebration on Saturday, August 19. The garden party celebration was hosted by the couple’s three children: Mary Beth Minson of Garwood New Jersey, Daniel Schulte of Cobleskill and Nancy DeSando of Cobleskill, and by their families.

Jennifer Reiling, sponsored by her stepfather, Christopher Nash and her mother, Patricia Reiling, recently won the title of Miss Junior City Queen of Albany and competed in the Junior America 1995 New York State Finals, August 18-20. Jennifer attends Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School.

**18 Years Ago
September 5, 2007**
Accused by critics of being secretive, representatives of Reunion Power told their side of the unfolding Schoharie County wind projects Friday. Reunion reps, who are looking at wind farms in Richmondville, Fulton, and Jefferson, met with the Times-Journal news staff for two hours, hoping to dispel rumors and get facts straight.

Thanks to a local Girl Scout troop, crossing Main Street Cobleskill, became easier last week. The girls in Junior Troop 2345 formerly presented crosswalk flags they made to Cobleskill Partnership Inc., which spearheaded the project. The flags are in holders attached to new planters, also as CPI project, that are at the Main Street crosswalks. Pedestrians grab a

flag, hold it up, wait for traffic to stop and cross, placing the flag in the holder on the opposite side of the street.

If the Marines are looking for a few good men, they found one in Andrew Tator. The Cobleskill resident is a staff sergeant in the Marines and was recently named the Marine Corps Military Fire Officer of the Year. “Of the whole Marine Corps!” exclaimed his mother, Judy Warner of Cobleskill. “I’m very proud of him, what he’s done, how dedicated he is.”

The West Fulton fire department recently received a 1980 1,000-gallon diesel pumper from the Continental Village fire department. West Fulton fire department member James Morgan accepted the truck on behalf of the department from Continental Village Chief Bill Brimm.

Five years after Great American closed, residents in the village of Schoharie may soon see a new grocery store on Main Street. Developer Mark Van Woeart applied for building permits last week for the Schoharie Commons project, according to Schoharie Village codes enforcement officer Joe Nelson.

**For history questions, email
Pete.Lindemann@nyvtmedia.com.**

**SUPPORT
YOUR LOCAL
INSURANCE
AGENCY.**

**FIREMARK
INSURANCE**
826 East Main St.
Cobleskill
(518) 234-2121

TOTAL WAVE CAR WASH

Rte. 7 • Warnerville, NY

- State of the Art Modern Laser Touchless Carwash (No Scratches)
- Self-Serve Facilities • Automatic Bay • Totally Green
- Easy In & Out Access
- Open 24 Hrs./7 Days

**WE TAKE
CREDIT CARDS**

**Discounted Access Cards
Available
Call 234-2741. M-F 8-4**

Sterling Insurance Company

182 Barnerville Road
Cobleskill, NY 12043
www.sterlingins.com

Rated “A” (Excellent) by AM Best

CELLAR 77

*We ARE
Your
Destination
for Wine,
Liquor
and
Everything
in
between!*

Hours:
Sun 12-5
Mon-Wed 9-8
Thurs-Sat 9-9

**Price Chopper
Plaza,
Cobleskill**



Looking Ahead

Basket Raffle and Used Book Sale

Tickets for the Friends of The Community Library basket raffle are now on sale and will be available through Saturday, September 20. Tickets cost \$1 for 1, \$5 for 7, \$10 for 15, and \$20 for 35 and can be purchased at The Community Library, 110 Union Street, Cobleskill.

Basket Raffle drawing and Used Book Sale will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Community Library on Saturday, September 20.

For more information, visit www.communitylibrary-cobleskill.org or find Friends of The Community Library on Facebook.

Dine Out for a Cause

Empire House, 136 Marion Avenue in Gilbertsville, is hosting a Dine Out for a Cause Day, with a percentage of the proceeds going to support Helios Care's hospice and palliative care programs and services. Please call (607) 783-2859 for a reservation and mention you are dining out for a cause for Helios!

Every Thursday and Sunday for the month of September—4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, and 28—from 4 to 10:30 p.m.

Sharon Silver & Gold Senior Club Meeting

The Sharon Silver & Gold Senior Club will hold its next luncheon meeting on Friday, September 12 at the Office for the Aging's "Spa Ritz" meal site at the Sharon Springs Firehouse at 137 Beechwood Road. A meal of roasted turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, vegetable blend, diced pears, ice cream, and eight ounces of 1% milk will be served at noon.

After lunch, Tammy Christman, director of Community Outreach & Volunteer Services at Helios Care, will share information about how Helios Care can provide hospice and palliative care support and services to area patients and families. The senior club's monthly business meeting will be conducted after the presentation.

Individuals interested in attending the September Silver & Gold luncheon meeting must register by calling the Spa Ritz meal site at 518-284-2883 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, September 5, Monday, September 8, or Wednesday, September 10.

Area seniors interested in more information about the Sharon Silver & Gold Senior Club should contact Anne Lennebacker, club president, at 607-547-9055.

Village of Schoharie Annual Garage Sale Day on Saturday after Labor Day

All businesses and homeowners in the Village of Schoharie (as well as the town) are invited to clean out your clutter and host a garage or yard sale on Saturday, September 6! Additionally, if you don't live in the village or town, or are a vendor/craftsperson looking for space to sell your goods, there is space located on a first-come, first-served basis in the village at the Grand Street lot and the County parking lots located on Spring Street. Additional vendor space at Lasell Hall

on Main Street and can be reserved in advance by contacting Judy Warner at jlwtw@nycap.rr.com. Interested vendors are also invited to set up on village sidewalks on Main Street, but are also encouraged to contact and work with the main street business in front of the sale location.

Visit the "Village of Schoharie Garage Sale Day" Facebook page for more information.

History & more in Conesville

On September 13, the Conesville Historical Society will host its annual County Historian Lecture at 10:30 a.m. at the Conesville United Methodist Chapel Church. This year Ted Shuart will present his program, "Inns, Taverns & Hotels of Schoharie County." Following the presentation, CHS will participate in Conesville Fire Department's Touch a Truck event, which runs from noon to 4 p.m.

These events are FREE and open to the public.

For more information, check out the Conesville Historical Society Facebook Page or email conesvillehistorical-society@gmail.com.

Family Fun Day Fundraiser

The Cobleskill Campus Child Care Center will host a Family Fun Day Fundraiser on September 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at SUNY Cobleskill, 189 E Main St, Cobleskill. Join the fun with food trucks, games, raffles, prizes, and more, all in support of the nonprofit childcare center.

For more information, call 518-255-5854.

Duanesburg Historical Society Presents the D&H in Duanesburg

At 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 13th, at the Delanson Memorial Park, the opening ceremony for the unveiling of the New York State Historic Roadside Marker provided through a grant from the Pomeroy foundation, commemorating the naming of Delanson in 1892 will take place. Alongside the unveiling of the roadside marker, the Duanesburg Elementary School will be performing a music presentation. The rain venue for these two events will be the Delanson Methodist Church.

From 10:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. there will be a guided walking tour of the railroad site in Delanson, which will happen concurrently with a self-guided walking tour of Delanson homes built during the 1860-1890 era. Also at this time will be a tour of the historic 1877 Delanson Methodist Church, where refreshments will also be provided.

From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. there will be an open house event at the Duanesburg Historical Society's Research and Archive Center at 450 Quaker Lane in Delanson, featuring D&H artifacts, photos, and a slide presentation.

Annual Poetry and Prose Reading

The annual reading of poetry and prose by the Central New York Writers Workshop will be on Saturday, September 13, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the

Windfall Dutch Barn, 2009 Clinton Rd. in Fort Plain.

Among the readers will be Robert Benson, Julia Suarez Hayes, Margaret Bryant, Mitzi Dorton, Mary Ann Whelan, and Paul Lamar. This event is open to the public and free, though donations are appreciated towards the upkeep of the Barn. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call Paul Lamar at 518-992-2976.

Duanesburg Historical Society Presentation

On Monday, September 15th, at 7 p.m., Frank Coppola will present "The D&H in Duanesburg and the Watchmen for the Day in Delanson."

The presentation will be held at Bishop Scully Hall, Alexander Road, Delanson. All are welcome.

Bells Across America

On Wednesday, September 17, the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Captain Christian Brown Chapter, will commemorate the 238th anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution by participating in Bells Across America, when bells will be rung simultaneously across the country, just as they were in Philadelphia in 1787.

The DAR invites everyone to join them for a patriotic program that will begin at 3:45 p.m. at the Cobleskill Fire Hall with a countdown to the bell ringing at 4:00 p.m. Bells will be provided—or please feel free to bring your own. And don't forget an American flag to wave, too! (A limited number of chairs will be available.)

Participants can enter a drawing at the event to win a sterling silver bell necklace and other prizes. For more information, call 518-813-3547.

Schoharie County Fire Police Association Meeting

The Schoharie County Fire Police Association will hold

its next meeting on Thursday, September 18, at the Summit fire station at 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

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.

Sharon Springs Harvest Fest

The Sharon Springs Chamber of Commerce announces the return of the beloved Sharon Springs Harvest Festival, taking place on Saturday, September 20, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, September 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Now in its 15th year, the Harvest Festival draws visitors from across the region to stroll the historic streets while browsing goods from talented artisans, makers, and farmers; enjoy the beer garden featuring local brews; savor delicious bites from a variety of food trucks; and delight in live music performances throughout the weekend at Chalybeate Park. Kids' activities ensure that families have plenty to enjoy together, making this a truly all-ages event.

Festival-goers can take advantage of free parking at the Sharon Springs Central School, with shuttle buses running regularly to bring visitors directly to the heart of Main Street. More information can be found by visiting <https://www.sharonsprings-chamber.org/harvest-festival> or by following @sharonspringsharvestfest on Facebook and Instagram.

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

In Brief

Sharon Senior Congregate Meal Site operating year-round

Local residents are invited to enjoy good company and a noontime meal year-round (except holidays) at the Schoharie County Office for the Aging's "Spa Ritz" Senior Congregate Meal Site at the Sharon Springs Firehouse at 137 Beechwood Rd. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, eight ounces of 1% milk is served with each meal.

Orders for meals must be called into the Office for the Aging office at 518-295-2001 before 2 p.m. for the following day. The suggested contribution for individuals 60 years old and older is \$5.00 per meal. Under age 60? You're welcome to participate for a required contribution of \$7.50 per meal.

Schoharie Chapter NSDAR Supports Local Schools



Contributed photo

Alicia Malanga, Arrietta Kuehnle, and Jeneca Kenny prepare donations.

The Schoharie Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution recently made donations of supplies to the kindergarten classes at Schoharie Central, Middleburgh Central, and Berne Knox Central Schools.

Preparing the supplies were Alicia Malanga, Schoharie Chapter Education Chair, Arrietta Kuehnle, member of the Old Stone Fort Society Children of the American Revolution, and Jeneca Kenny, Kindergarten Teacher at Schoharie Central School.

Marchand at Sharon Springs Assisted Living Friends and Family BBQ

Marchand Manor Assisted Living Facility in Sharon Springs held its 4th annual Friends and Family BBQ on August 30 with special guests Senator Peter Oberacker and Assemblyman Chris Tague. The event was catered by Bartlett's BBQ and fun and laughs were had by all.



Contributed photo

Cora Wikoff was joined by her family.



Contributed photo

Resident Marie English enjoys time with her brood.



Contributed photo

Marchand Manor residents were ready for a day of fun.

Backwoods Services

"QUALITY SERVICES - UNBEATABLE PRICES"

- **LAWN CARE**
- **TREE SERVICES**
- **PRUNING/TRIMMING**
- **REMOVALS**
- **POWER WASHING**

- **LANDSCAPING**
- **BLACKTOP SERVICES**
- **ASPHALT REPAIR**
- **BLACKTOP SEALING**
- **FREE ESTIMATES**

518-294-5777

\$2 OFF

\$20 or more
(with this coupon)

10% Military Discount

\$2uesday

(2 dollars off a bottle of wine)
- does not include sale items -

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

SLOANSVILLE WINE & LIQUOR • 3585 St. Rt. 20, Sloansville

OAKHILL LANDSCAPING

Paver Patios
Block Retaining Walls
Light Excavating • Drainage
Spring Clean-up/Thatching
New Fence Installation (vinyl or wood)
New Lawns Installed ~ Sod and Hydroseeding

Residential & Commercial

FREE ESTIMATES

Fully Insured

518-295-6116
jasonsaddlemire@yahoo.com
Schoharie, NY

www.oakhilllandscapingllc.com

WORK LESS, RELAX MORE!

LABOR DAY SHOWER SALE

UPGRADE YOUR BATH OR SHOWER **NOW** AND POCKET HUGE HOLIDAY SAVINGS BEFORE THE **FALL RUSH!**



Our Promise To You



- Always Done Right The 1st Time
- A+ Rated with the BBB
- 4,035+ 5-Star Reviews
- Done in 1-Day!*
- Lifetime Warranties
- Endless Style Options
- In-House Plumbers



Helping you LOVE your home since 2008!



Labor Day isn't just the end of summer - **It's your last chance to lock in summer savings** before our crews are fully booked! Colder weather means higher demand and longer waits. Act **NOW** to save **\$500 OFF** and enjoy your dream shower before fall! **PLUS:**

50%
OFF
LABOR

\$0*
DOWN
+0% INTEREST

Don't take our word for it:
Listen to over **1,000** homeowners on Google!



Yankee Home
4.8 ★ (1K)

"Just had another shower installed and I wanted to say **I have had 3 showers total done by the "Marios"**. They are a father and son and they **work fast and efficiently while being personable and friendly**. They are absolutely an asset to this company!!"

★★★★★ - Michele B.

I went with Yankee Home to replace our old walk-in shower with a bathtub and I was happy with the entire experience! The installers (Clarence and Luke) were both great to work with. I've had many years of property insurance experience so **I can appreciate first-hand the importance of using skilled contractors and long-lasting materials if not you will be paying for it with damage in the long run!** I would recommend Yankee Home to anyone.

★★★★★ - Anne P.

ENDS 9/10/2025



CALL NOW
518-306-7622



*Special offer expires 9/10/25. Valid on new projects and at first visit. Not all bath or shower installations are completed in one day. Special offers may not be combined with any other discounts. Some restrictions apply. Some products may not qualify for special offers. Financing and financing offers are subject to third party approval – not all buyers qualify. All communication with Yankee Home may be recorded for quality and training purposes. Not valid on Yankee Home Plumbing projects. MA # 160584 CT #HIC.0673924 VT #174.0000756



Arts & Entertainment

Schoharie Valley Concert Band seeks musicians

SCHOHARIE VALLEY – For its 44th season, the Schoharie Valley Concert Band will welcome back Samantha Baldwin as its conductor following her highly successful first two seasons leading the band. Baldwin brings a wealth of talent, experience, and enthusiasm to the position and is hoping to attract more student and adult instrumental musicians this season.

For the 2025-26 season, Baldwin has scheduled concerts for fall, winter holidays, Valentine’s Day, and spring in the Cobleskill-Richmondville High School Auditorium. The Fall Concert will be held on Sunday, October 19, at 3 p.m.

The Schoharie Valley Concert Band is open to all area residents, including high school and college students. Rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings from 7 to 9:15



Contributed photo

Samantha Baldwin will continue as conductor for the Schoharie Valley Concert Band.

p.m. in the Cobleskill-Richmondville High School Band Room. Rehearsals for the Fall Concert will begin on September 11.

For the full band schedule and/or information on how to join the band, please contact Conductor Samantha Baldwin at svcbandconductor@gmail.com.

Porchfest comes to Middleburgh

By Pete Lindemann, Times Journal Staff

If Rick Hamm has his way, Middleburgh will look a lot like Ithaca—at least on Sunday, September 14, from 1 to 5 p.m.

Hamm is helping to organize the Middleburgh Porchfest—what he calls a “village-wide garage sale...but with music.”

He invites community members to attend or perform in this first annual, free, and family-friendly music festival. Performers will be on lawns, in driveways, garages, and porches throughout the village.

Porchfest began in Ithaca in 2007, and since then has expanded to over 150 communities worldwide.



Photo by Pete Lindemann

The band North Slope performs from a porch at Middleburgh’s Fourth Friday on August 22.

The festival involves residents opening their porches to local musicians. Performances will be scheduled in one-hour blocks, with coordination to avoid conflicts.

Participants can enjoy a leisurely stroll through neighborhoods, moving from one performance to another.

A diverse range of musical styles is welcome: rock, bluegrass, classical, Americana, country, blues, yodel-

ing, Irish, honky-tonk, heavy metal, funk, folk, punk, jazz, and ragtime.

All styles are encouraged, provided performers can fill approximately an hour. Whether a beginner or a seasoned recording artist, performers are encouraged to share their talent with friends and neighbors.

For more information, call 518-519-0738.

9/11 tribute event happening at Cobleskill Fairgrounds

COBLESKILL – On Friday, September 12, the Cobleskill Fairgrounds will become a place of remembrance—but more importantly, of rebuilding and unity.

The 9/11 Tribute Vehicle & Bike Show is more than a car show. It’s a community gathering rooted in the spirit of September 12th—the day after everything changed, when Americans stood together, shoulder to shoulder, and began to rebuild what was taken from us.

There will be live musical performances by Mixtape Revival, Matthew

Vroman, and DJ Craig. The event will also feature a vehicle and bike show, kids and adults zones, food trucks and local vendors, and trophies and giveaways, all in a family-friendly atmosphere rooted in patriotism and community.

A special feature of the 9/11 Tribute Vehicle & Bike Show will be Joe Macken’s 21-Year NYC Skyline Tribute. Macken is a truck driver who has spent 21 years painstakingly building a hand-crafted model of the New York City skyline. The model spans nearly 50 feet long by 30 feet wide

and contains close to a million handmade buildings. It has been featured by outlets such as the New York Post and Good Morning America, as well as recently at the Cobleskill Fairgrounds, but this will be the first time it is presented as part of a 9/11 tribute show—making it a centerpiece in a day dedicated to remembrance, unity, and honoring first responders and veterans.

Gates open at 3 p.m. The show runs from 4 to 10 p.m.

Admission to the event is free. Donations are welcome. One hundred percent of all proceeds benefit

Schoharie County Veterans Services—helping local veterans with housing, support, and emergency needs.

For more information, visit the 9/11 Tribute Vehicle & Bike Show event page on Facebook.

OPEN MONDAY-SATURDAY

CATNAP BOOKS

Old & Used Books Bought, Sold & Traded

Jim & Roberta Brooks
518-234-4514
574 Main St., Cobleskill

Law Office of Michael J. Shultes, PLLC

Quality Legal Representation

- Real Estate • Criminal Law
- Estates & Wills • DWI & Traffic

CALL NOW FOR CONSULTATION

518-234-2317

www.shulteslawoffice.com

523 W. Main St., Cobleskill

CHRISTY GILLESPIE-QUINN

Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker

Ready to buy or sell property in our market?

CONTACT ME: 518.231.4526

Country Boy Realty

753 E MAIN STREET, COBLESKILL, NY

Over 100 years

NEW ENGLAND CALENDAR CO.

Quality Promotional Products & Service Since 1910

Call Us For Your Promotional Needs!

Apparel • Pens • Drinkware • Calendars

Presentation Folders • Banners & More!

133 Legion Drive, Cobleskill, NY 12043

(518) 234-4707 • (800) 721-7725

www.NewEnglandCalendar.com



Let us do the comparison shopping for you.

We can help you secure coverage for your home and your vehicle.

Our agents will shop from over 30 top-rated carriers to help you find the coverage options that fit your needs and your budget. You may even be able to bundle your home and auto for additional savings!

Scan the QR code to get a free quote or Call 888-250-6689 www.broadviewinsuranceagency.com





469 State Street, 3rd Floor, Schenectady, NY 12305 | www.broadviewinsuranceagency.com





Sports

Cobleskill cross country opens season at SUNY Poly Invitational

MARCY—The SUNY Cobleskill men’s and women’s cross country teams opened their 2025 seasons on Saturday at the SUNY Poly Short Course Invitational, turning in strong performances against a competitive regional field.

On the men’s side, the Fighting Tigers placed third overall with 82 points, finishing behind only Utica and Oneonta. Senior Nik Recore led the charge with a fifth-place finish, covering the 6K course in 20:21.4 at a 5:28 pace. He was followed by senior Jacob Rhinesmith in 27th at 23:30.8 and junior Michael Jocz in 35th at 24:46.5. Sophomore David Kogan placed 36th in 25:11.4, while junior Antonio Gonzalez rounded out the top five in 38th at 25:26.9.

The women’s team also earned a third-place finish, paced by sophomore Gabrielle Waite, who clocked 17:40.7 on the 4K course to place seventh overall and se-

cure a top-10 finish. Sophomore Gillian Miner followed in 15th at 18:49.0, while senior Alyssa Freeguard ran 19:16.8 for 18th place.

The Fighting Tigers showed depth with sophomore Madison Binette in 20th at 19:31.5 and sophomore Molly Repicky close behind in 23rd at 19:39.6. Sophomore Liz Vaughn added a time of 21:30.1, and freshman Isabella Baier made her collegiate debut in 24:44.8. Rounding out the lineup were Ivy Stensland in 35th at 26:15.2 and Natalie Gardener in 38th at 28:56.5.

With both teams placing third and multiple top-25 finishes, Cobleskill established a solid foundation in their season opener.

Cobleskill will return to action Saturday, September 6, when they host the annual Steven A. Warde Invitational at 11 a.m. on their home course.



Sanctioned track championships conclude

By Ed & Betty Biittig

DIRTcar rules require sanctioned track championships to conclude by Labor Day. At Albany-Saratoga on Friday, Mike Mahaney of Elizabethtown won his second Modified title, Tim Hartman, Jr., of Niskayuna earned his sixth Sportsman championship, and Pete Stefanski of Wheatfield secured his first Pro Stock crown.

Jack Speshock secured his fourth Modified victory at the Malta oval, while Mike Mahaney won the 358-Mod Shootout. Elliott Lussier celebrated his first career Sportsman win. Lussier said

in victory lane, “I’m so happy. Everything I’ve touched in my life, I’ve been able to conquer, but not this. I can’t even believe it.”

Additional winners included Brandon Emigh in Pro Stocks, Alex Smith in Limited Sportsman, Matt Mosher in Street Stocks, Adam Montville in Four Cylinder dual cam, and Ben Ladd in Four Cylinder single cam.

Ahead of the \$10,000-to-win Pro Stock Autism Awareness event on Friday, September 5, several drivers, including Malta’s 2024 Pro Stock Champion Beau Ballard and 2023 Fonda Champion Ivan Joslin, tested their cars at Malta in hopes of claiming the top prize.

Thursday, August 28, Mr. Dirt Track USA played out at Lebanon Valley and winner of the prestigious event was Kolby Schroder, taking home the biggest win of his career along with a guaranteed starting spot for Super Dirt Week in October at Oswego Speedway.

Lebanon Valley recognized its champions in all categories on Saturday. The honorees included Andy Bachetti (Modified), Chris Curtis (358-Modified), Tim Hartman Jr. (Sportsman), Dylan Holmes (Limited Sportsman), Zach Sorrentino (Pro Stock), Anthony King (Street Stock), Steve Burka (Four Cylinder, single cam), and Jason Peck (dual cam). Winners at Lebanon Valley on Saturday were Eddie Marshall (Modified), Andy Bachetti (358 Mod), Anthony Maxon (Sportsman), Daniel O’Dell (Limited Sportsman), Zach Sorrentino (Pro Stock), and Gary O’Brien (Street Stock).

The annual Cole Cup, featuring the Empire Super Sprints, ran at Utica-Rome on Sunday and taking the win was Davie Franek. Other winners were Bodie Marks, Limited Sportsman; CJ LaVair, dual cam; and Wayne Russell, Jr., single cam, Four Cylinders.

After winning at Albany-Saratoga on his first trip to the track, Camron Hotaling of Schoharie made the trip and tried his skills at Utica-Rome on Sunday. He won his qualifying heat race and went on to finish in the runner-up spot in the feature. Jim Mallia of Middleburgh also won his qualifying heat event. He later finished fourth in the Limited Sportsman main event.

The Short Track Super Series (STSS) ran at Afton on Sunday and Chris Raabe came away with the win.

Glen Ridge was also one of the many tracks in action on Sunday; winners there were Brian Pessolano (make-up 358-Modifieds), Jordan McCreadie (358-Mod), Dan Palombo (Limited Sportsman), Zach Buff (Sportsman), Charles McSpirit (Pro Stocks), Adam Montville (Mini Stocks, dual), William Liberatore (single cam), Harlan Heroth (Junior Slingshots), and Justin House (All Star Slingshots).



William Liberatore of Schoharie took the Four Cylinder, single cam honors at Glen Ridge on Sunday.



Elliott Lussier of Half Moon celebrates his first career win at Albany-Saratoga on Friday night.

Looking Ahead

Friday, September 5, at Albany-Saratoga, the Autism Awareness \$10,000-to-win event, plus all other divisions and Four Cylinder.

Lebanon Valley will host the Race of Kings on Friday, September 5, and Sportsman 200 on Saturday, September 6.

Glen Ridge, Sunday, September 7, Small Engine night and Back to School night, Kids 10 and under Free Grandstand admission. All Weekly Divisions plus Crown Vics.

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

Subscribe today!
Keep Your Finger on the Pulse of Local News, Events & More.

TIMES JOURNAL
The News of Schoharie County
In Print, Online & Mobile
• subscribe • renew • advertise

518-234-2515
www.NYVTmedia.com.

D.C. BUCKET Inc.

- DENNIS AND JARRETT CARL
- TREE TRIMMING & REMOVAL
- Lot Clearing/Firewood
- Family business with 25+ years residential and commercial properties
- All the right equipment to get the job done and done right

518-797-3924

Free Estimates — Fully Insured

PROVOST BROS. INC.

THE WATER PEOPLE

Since 1912

- Expert Well & Pump
- Sales & Service
- 4th Generation
- Gould & Sta-Rite Pump Dealer
- Year Round Service

Our 113th Year

N.Y.S. DEC CERTIFIED VISA/MasterCard

518-868-2126 • SLOANSVILLE, NEW YORK

Comprehensive Family Dentistry

• Honest • Caring • Trusted

Dr. Dennis Moren, Dr. Robert Nelson, Dr. William Down and Dr. David Nicholas

Dental Excellence for the Entire Family

- Restorative
- Wisdom Teeth
- Sealants
- Dentures
- Extractions
- Veneers
- Implants
- Orthodontics
- Whitening
- Endodontics
- Crown and Bridge
- Cleanings

NEW PATIENTS ALWAYS WELCOME
We work with most insurance plans

Cobleskill Dental Group, P.C.

Dennis Moren, D.M.D., David Nicholas, D.D.S.
William Down, D.D.S., Dr. Robert Nelson
106 Division St., Cobleskill, NY
518-234-4365
Serving Schoharie County Families for 50 Years

MINIMALLY INVASIVE TREE REMOVAL

William Sisson

SERVICES:
Tree Removal
Stump Grinding
Storm Clean-up
Brush Hogging
Land Clearing
Crane Service

- 22 Years Experience
- Fully Insured
- Family Owned & Operated
- Free Estimates
- Fully Equipped & Capable

See us on Facebook

For estimates call Jenn Sisson 518-231-3114

Email us: mitremoval@gmail.com

Bulldogs card two wins on the links

By Pete Lindemann, Times Journal Staff

Duanesburg defeated Schoharie 12-3 in their high school golf match Monday, August 25.

For The Schoharie Storm, Bryson Beck shot a 45, Gordon Plank 55, Andrew Shrederis 61, Gideon Aleccio 50, Matthew Cater 53, and Noah Dutcher 62.

Then Tuesday, August 26, Schoharie met Johnstown on the links. Johnstown won 13 ½ to 1 ½ in their match at the Cobleskill Golf and Country Club.

The Storm’s Bryson Beck shot a 40, Gordon Plank 51, Andrew Shrederis 52, Gideon Aleccio 55, Matthew Cater 56, and Noah Dutcher 61.

Meanwhile Cobleskill-Richmondville also had a pair of matches last Monday and Tuesday. On Monday, CRCS Bulldogs beat Johnstown in a close match, 9-5. CJ Warner was the match medalist with a three-under-par 34.

For Cobleskill-Richmondville, Warner shot a 34, Andy Rightmyer 47, Owen McCormack 48, Fred Sperbeck 44, Tiernan Farnum 47, and Kayden Riggi 50.

Then on Tuesday, the Bulldogs faced Northville and came out on top, 15-0. For CRCS, Warner carded a 34, Andy Rightmyer 45, Owen McCormack 42, Fred Sperbeck 44, Tiernan Farnum 41, and Kayden Riggi 53.



Sports

Fighting Tigers Volleyball ready to open 2025 campaign

COBLESKILL – The SUNY Cobleskill women’s volleyball team is set to open the 2025 season after being picked fifth in the North Atlantic Conference (NAC) Pre-season Poll.

The Fighting Tigers are coming off a memorable 2024 campaign in which they captured the NAC West Division Championship over SUNY Delhi before falling in the conference title match. Cobleskill finished the year with an 8-21 overall record and a 3-3 mark in league play.

With all seven starters returning, plus a core of key contributors from last season, head coach Rachel Chandler is eager to see her team take another step forward in her second year at the helm.

“With last year’s entire team returning and some newcomers added to the mix, we are locked in on improving our growth as a unit,” said Chandler. “The team’s energy has been endless, and their effort has been unmatched this preseason.”

The Fighting Tigers return a trio of All-Conference performers in junior Kathleen Smart (Nashville, Tennessee), junior outside hitter Emma Hinze (Altenburg, Missouri), and junior setter Baylee Kirschberg (Lindenhurst). Smart led the team across the board last season with 187 kills (2.08 per set), 269 digs (2.99 per set), and 48 service aces. Hinze powered the Cobleskill attack, averaging 2.27 kills per set with 161 total kills and 199 points, while also chipping in 155 digs on defense. Kirschberg directed the offense as the team’s primary setter, dishing out 393



Contributed photo

Returning all-conference junior Kathleen Smart serves in the 2024 NAC Championship Game.

assists (4.32 per set), while also adding 36 service aces and 167 digs.

“Baylee, Emma, and Kathleen give 110% every time they step on the court,” Chandler said. “With Baylee’s ability to connect with our hitters, Kathleen’s all-around presence, and Emma’s dynamic swing, I’m excited to see how far they can take us this season.”

Additional key returners include junior outside hitter Hallie Gasner (Middleburgh) and sophomore middle hitter Ciarra Jager (Stephentown), who will continue to be impact players for the Fighting Tigers with their strong play at the net. Senior captain Jade Ward (Miami, Florida) will also be pivotal, bringing leadership, poise, and veteran experience to guide the team both on and off the court.

The Tigers will also look to their newcomers to provide depth and spark. First-year Kaleigh Capasso (Ballston Spa) and first-year Audrey Davis (Hudson Falls) are ex-

pected to step in and contribute immediately.

“With a handful of newcomers ready and willing to make an impact, we are excited to get started,” Chandler said. “Kaleigh and Audrey are going to be big additions to our offense.”

NAC Preseason Coaches Poll:

Maine Maritime Academy

– 81 points

Husson University

– 65 points

SUNY Delhi

– 57 points

Thomas College

– 52 points

SUNY Cobleskill

– 48 points

UMaine-Presque Isle

– 40 points

VTSU Johnson

– 35 points

VTSU Lyndon

– 15 points

Lesley University

– 12 points

SUNY Cobleskill women’s soccer rallies but falls

BRADFORD, Penn. – Cobleskill women’s soccer team battled back twice to even the score but came up short in a 3–2 season-opening loss to the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford.

Senior Kayleigh Bryant (Schenevus) and freshman Alexa Siegel (Cornwall) each scored their first collegiate goals for the Fighting Tigers. Jessica Carney (Hopkinton, NH) and EmmaJo Schmidtman (Salisbury) each added a shot on goal.

Sophomore goalkeeper Samantha Rotundo (New Egypt, NJ) turned in a strong performance, making 10 saves to

keep Cobleskill in the match.

The Panthers held statistical edges, outshooting Cobleskill 21–6 with a 13–4 advantage in shots on target, while also leading 5–1 in corner kicks.

Pitt-Bradford opened the scoring in the 39th minute through Mya King to take a 1–0 lead into halftime. Cobleskill responded early in the second half when Bryant buried a free kick from 38 yards out in the 57th minute to level the match at 1–1. King struck again in the 71st minute to put the hosts back in front, but Cobleskill answered just five minutes later as Siegel

pounced on a loose ball from a corner and finished to tie the game at 2–2.

The Panthers regained control only three minutes later with the eventual game-winner, holding off Cobleskill’s late push to secure the result.

The Tigers return to action on Friday, September 5, traveling to SUNY Morrisville for a 7 p.m. night match.

SUNY Cobleskill Men’s Soccer ready for 2025 season

COBLESKILL – The SUNY Cobleskill men’s soccer team is set to kick off the 2025 campaign after being ranked seventh in the North Atlantic Conference (NAC) Preseason Poll, as voted on by the league’s coaches. The Fighting Tigers are coming off a 2024 season in which they went 5-11-3 overall, including a 2-2-2 mark in conference play, advancing all the way to the NAC West Division Championship game.

Head Coach Joseph Machado, entering his 11th season at the helm, has been encouraged by what he’s seen so far. With a veteran core returning, Machado believes his squad has the pieces to build on last year’s momentum that landed them in the divisional championship game.

“The team has put in a lot of work this preseason and is quickly building chemistry,” said Machado. “Our depth of experience is a real strength—many of our returners have logged significant minutes over their careers, and that should pay off early in the season.”

Cobleskill returns 17 play-

ers from last year’s roster, including all six All-Conference selections—four of whom earned First-Team honors, a program record. Leading the attack will be senior Spencer Reisman (Youngstown) and junior forward Connor Fancher (Worcester), who combined for 18 of the team’s 29 goals last season. Fancher led the Tigers with 11 goals, the second-highest single-season mark in program history, finishing fourth in the NAC in goals and fifth in total points (23). Reisman paced the team in assists, tying the single-season program record with eight while also adding a goal.

On the defensive side, First-Team All-NAC goalkeeper Adam Champlin (South Kortright) returns after ranking second in the conference in saves and saves per game, and third in save percentage. He’ll be backed by a veteran backline anchored by junior captains Rob Staubitz (East Rockaway), Garrett Aikins (Morris), and Samuel Spraker (Broadalbin-Perth). Sophomore defender Joshua Sanchez (Bronx) is also expected to take another step

forward after contributing on both ends as a freshman, tallying two goals and two assists.

“Spencer and Connor give us a proven scoring punch, while Adam provides stability in goal,” Machado noted. “Defensively, the leadership of Rob, Garrett, and Sam is crucial, and we’re excited to see Josh continue his growth.”

The Tigers will also welcome a group of newcomers ready to make their mark. First-years Gavin McEnroe (Burlington Flats) and Béla Krenner (Berkshire) are expected to step in and contribute immediately.

“Newcomers Gavin and Béla have already shown great promise in preseason,” said Machado. “Gavin brings physicality and versatility, while Béla adds composure and control in the midfield. They’ll both be important pieces for us moving forward.”

The SUNY Cobleskill men’s soccer team opened its 2025 season with a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Pratt Institute at the Soccer/Lacrosse Complex.

Fighting Tigers tee off



Contributed photo

Fighting Tiger Joshua House scored an eagle and placed ninth.

COBLESKILL – The SUNY Cobleskill men’s golf team teed off their 2025 fall campaign this past weekend with back-to-back tournaments, beginning with the Bronco Fall Invitational at SUNY Delhi on Saturday, followed by their own Cobleskill Fall Invitational on Sunday at Cobleskill Golf and Country Club.

The Fighting Tigers opened their season against a strong field at the par-72 College Golf Course at Delhi, finishing 11th overall.

Leading the way was Bruno Groth (Andover), who posted a round of 82 (+10) to tie for 31st. Just behind him, Benjamin Casola (Oneonta)

carded an 88 (+16) to tie for 50th.

James Longwell (Little Falls) added a 91 (+19) for 57th place, while Isaac Walker (Roxbury) shot a 94 (+22) to finish 60th.

Rounding out the Cobleskill lineup, William Olbrich (Monroeville) tied for 61st

with a 95 (+23).

The Tigers bounced back with a strong showing at their home invitational, placing fifth overall in a field of eight teams at the par-71 Cobleskill Golf and Country Club.

Leading the charge was Joshua House (Saratoga Springs), who fired a 76 (+5) to tie for ninth place, highlighted by an eagle on the par-5 ninth hole.

James Longwell and Isaac Walker each carded matching rounds of 85 (+14) to tie for 24th.

Benjamin Casola followed with an 88 (+17), good for 28th place, highlighted by a birdie on the fifth hole, while Bruno Groth finished 31st with a round of 90 (+19).

Playing as an individual, William Olbrich matched Casola’s 88.

Up Next: Cobleskill travels to St. Lawrence University on September 6 for their two-day tournament starting at 1 p.m.

Sharon Springs

Self-Service Counter

SELF-STORAGE

105-2 Eldredge Street
Sharon Springs, NY 13459

518-284-2315

“By the Car Wash & Water Tower”

• Eye Exams

• Eyeglasses

• Contact Lenses

• Same Day Service

AIDONE EYECARE

518-234-2020

3630 State Rte. 145
Cobleskill, NY 12043

David Aidone, Owner
N.Y.S. Optician

Dr. Tanya Devlin
Optometrist

NEW DEADLINES

5 p.m. Thursday

Advertising / Auto / Real Estate / Classifieds / Legal Ads and Public Notices

5 p.m. Friday

Press Releases / Arts & Entertainment / News

8 a.m. Tuesday

Obituaries

Online news — no deadline

FUEL OIL • KEROSENE • DIESEL • PROPANE

R.L. PARSONS, INC.

Chestnut St., Sharon Springs

518-284-2421 or 1-800-686-1626

www.rlparsonsinc.com

Propane Tanks Filled Here

We clean, repair and install furnaces & air conditioning.

HOURS: MON-FRI 9-6; SAT & SUN 9-3
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

TERRACE MOUNTAIN AUTO REPAIR

Check Engine Light On? FREE Computer Diagnostic

NYS Inspections • General Auto Repair • Brakes • Oil Changes

• Computer Diagnostic Engine Repair & Rebuilds

209 Terrace Mountain Rd., Schoharie • 518-295-7926

Laughter and learning at the Iroquois Museum’s 42nd Annual Iroquois Arts Festival

By Snow Steadham, Times Journal Staff
HOWES CAVE – Sounds of joy filled the air at the Iroquois Museum last Saturday and Sunday. The 42nd Annual Iroquois Arts Festival gathered a large crowd of people wanting to see the performances from the Sky Dancers of the Six Nations Reserve (Ontario), to hear the exuberant storytelling from Perry Ground, to peruse the rows of tables and tents hawking handcrafted wares of a wide

variety, and to interact with the multitude of other events, stands, and activities provided in and outside of the museum building. Families were able to get their kids engaged with hands-on crafting exhibits, or they could have their kids play the roles of trees or geese in Ground’s telling of the story of creation. The plethora of activities provided entertained attendees, as well as highlighted the importance of indigenous peoples.



The quality of products available was astounding.



Perry Ground told the story of creation.



The stands selling handmade crafts were filled to the brim with customers.



The Sky Dancers had the crowd riveted.



The vendors offered authentic indigenous cuisine.



Sue Sky-Isaacs and her grandson Briar Isaacs sported traditional garb.



Among the products one could purchase were traditionally made weapons and clothing.



The Sky Dancers included anyone, regardless of age.

Education foundation honors community member

By Pete Lindemann,
Times Journal Staff

COBLESKILL – The Cobleskill-Richmondville Education Foundation (CREF) will present the Silver Bulldog Award on Saturday, September 6, at 9:30 a.m. at hole one of the Cobleskill Golf and Country Club, just prior to its 15th Annual Golf Tournament.

The award—in its third year—is presented by the Foundation to an individual for distinguished service to the district and community.

The first recipient was the late Kevin Neary, former member of the Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District (CRCSd) Board of Education. Last year’s awardee was John Murray, former school superintendent.

CREF was established in 2007 by former Superintendent Sam Shevat.

The Foundation is a not-for-profit, and its goal is to create a self-sustaining legacy that provides students with the resources—and teachers with the tools—to enrich student learning and benefit the community.

CREF is run by an all-volunteer board and awarded over \$15,000 this past year. Some of the programs they funded include a Greek Week Olympic cross-curricular event for grade six and metal detection club equipment for grades six through eight, both at Golding Middle School.

This year’s recipient of the Silver Bulldog Award will be Steve Harris, executive chairman of Sterling Insurance. Harris is a Schoharie County native and Cobleskill High alum.

The Foundation announced that Harris will be honored for being instrumental in founding—and is currently chair—of Sterling Foundation, which supports numerous area organizations.

Harris is also being recognized as a founding trustee of Schoharie Economic Enterprise Corporation.

Anyone is welcome to attend the award presentation. For more information, contact the CRCSd office at 518-234-4032 x2000 or email vandeusenr@crcsd.org.



Steve Harris, executive chairman of Sterling Insurance, is this year’s recipient of the Silver Bulldog Award.

Contributed photo

Michele Frazier to run for State Senate a second time

DELHI – Michele Frazier announced her candidacy for New York State Senate again in the 2026 cycle to represent the 51st District, which includes all of Delaware, Otsego, Schoharie, Sullivan, parts of Broome, Chenango, and Ulster counties.

Frazier, who currently lives in Delhi and ran for this senate seat in 2024, is a former Oneonta City Councilmember. She grew up in Oneonta, where her family owned and operated a greenhouse company for over 35 years.

“The people of rural New York deserve better than career politicians chasing titles and favors. They need a representative who listens, fights for them, and puts everyday people ahead of politics, ambition, and the insiders who’ve failed us for too long,” Frazier said. “When I see a problem, I don’t wait around, I fight to fix it. Right now, our state and our country are being sold out: billionaires get handouts, families can’t afford a home, and rural hospitals are closing their doors. I’m ready to take on these rigged systems and get to work for the people on day one.”

Frazier, who raised nearly \$500,000 for her campaign when she ran in 2024, starts the cycle with almost \$20,000 cash on hand. Frazier also received endorsements in 2024 from the Working Families Party, the New York State Public Employees Union, United Auto Workers, Planned Parenthood, Service Employees International Union, New York State Nurses Association, and others.



Frazier is a local realtor and teaches political science to college students. She is also the parent of two neurodivergent children. Her legislative priorities include addressing the housing crisis so rural New York can be a place where people can afford to live, work, and raise a family; making sure rural communities have access to quality, reliable healthcare; increasing

access to affordable, quality childcare so parents who want to work can work; and expanding crisis services to better address mental health needs, freeing up our police and first responders in order to make our communities safer.

For more information, visit www.michelefrazier.com or follow her campaign on Facebook at Michele Frazier for 51.

Discussions, appointments, and contracts at the Town of Fulton Board Meeting

By Snow Steadham,
Times Journal Staff

FULTON – The Town of Fulton board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Philip R. Skowfoe, Jr., at 6:32 p.m. on August 11.

The meeting began with an approval of minutes from July 14th’s meeting, which was passed unanimously, followed by a report from Highway Superintendent William D. Jaycox, Jr. Jaycox’s report covered the roadwork performed on Fulton Hill and Fairland Roads, Otte and Smith Roads, and Rossman Hill Road.

The meeting then went to talk about ongoing projects in Fulton, such as the Heathen Creek Bridge replacement, which has been moving slowly. Supervisor Skowfoe has contacted Duncan Ferguson, the owner of the property needed to complete the bridge, and an offer letter to purchase the property the bridge will inhabit should be sent to Ferguson shortly.

In other news, Leila Crockett has been appointed Alternate Planning Board Member by a unanimous vote on a motion put forward by Councilman Richard Mix, seconded by Councilman Albert Hodder, and recommended by Chairwoman Maria Schiavo of the Planning Board.

Supervisor Skowfoe spoke on a previous resolution regarding a proposed increase to the health insurance retirement program for retired highway employees. Skowfoe said he did not think an increase necessary, stating that it covers \$300 a month of insurance reimbursement to individuals and dependents of the pro-

gram, with the intent to provide coverage only until the individual is able to become eligible for Medicare—but with a 10-year maximum for medical coverage under the program. Skowfoe requested that the option to outsource the health insurance carrier be added to the resolution.

The board also voted unanimously to pass a motion provided by Councilman Mix and seconded by Councilman Hodder to sign a one-year contract with Grantier Oil Company for “... \$2.129/ gallon for the delivery of liquefied petroleum gas.” The increase on the contract would be \$0.04 more per gallon compared to last year.

Fulton Town Assessor George Sherwood requested Supervisor Skowfoe’s help in requesting Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) Brian Caron to provide copies of the issued 2025 building permits so that they could make reassessments on the properties. Sherwood said he had been asking Caron for months to no avail. CEO Caron did not provide a report for July 2025, which Supervisor Skowfoe attributed to the fact that Caron is on vacation.

When Supervisor Skowfoe opened Privilege of the Floor, Dean Rhinehart brought up the previous month’s complaints in regard to the property at 151 Clauvervie Road. Rhinehart asked why there has been no response regarding the complaints and why the property was not on the meeting’s agenda, to which Town Clerk Skowfoe said that an email had been sent to CEO Caron after the previous

meeting, but the email had not received a response. Supervisor Skowfoe said that he had driven out to the property and found that it was now all boarded up. Rhinehart stated his concerns of the inability to see the ground and the setback rules, which enforce a minimum distance that structures have to be from streets and property lines, weren’t being enforced. Rhinehart emphasized that these issues had been going on for several years. He then brought up the fact that there were still three complaints listed in the code enforcement reports that had yet to be resolved, asking when the Board was going to address these concerns. Supervisor Skowfoe was unable to provide an answer at this time.

Next, Joyce Hodder spoke up about her concerns that Supervisor Skowfoe had been elected to represent the Town of Fulton despite being one of the owners of the property at 151 Clauvervie Road, a property that she says has been connected to drugs and a murder on the premises. She asked when the Board would answer the public’s concerns in these matters. When asked in a follow-up phone call why he declined to answer Hodder’s question, Skowfoe said “...I already have, but no one seems to accept my answers...”

Finally, at 7:47 p.m., Councilwoman Marcy Sammon made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Supervisor Skowfoe. The motion was passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.

Business and Economic News

Job number up, labor force down, unemployment steady

NEW YORK STATE—According to preliminary seasonally adjusted figures released August 14 by the New York State Department of Labor, the number of private sector jobs increased over the month by 11,400, or 0.1%, to 8,479,400 in July 2025. The number of private sector jobs in the US also increased by 0.1% in July 2025.

New York State’s private sector jobs—not seasonally adjusted—increased by 137,200, or 1.6%, over the year in July 2025, greater than the 1.0% increase in the US over the same time period.

New York State’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held constant at 4.0% in July 2025. At the same time,

New York State’s labor force (seasonally adjusted) decreased by 8,700.

Seasonally adjusted data includes fluctuations in holiday and weather-related employment, while data that is not seasonally adjusted does not.

The number of private sector jobs in New York State is based on a payroll survey of New York businesses conducted by the US Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Monthly payroll employment estimates are preliminary and subject to revision as more complete data becomes available the following month. The BLS calculates New York State’s unemployment rate based

partly upon the results of the monthly Current Population Survey (CPS) of approximately 2,800 households in the State.

The change in total non-farm payroll employment for June 2025 was revised down by 3,800, from +8,200 to +4,400. At the same time, the change in total private employment was revised down by 3,900, from +6,500 to +2,600. Monthly revisions result from additional reports received from businesses and government agencies since the last published estimates and from the recalculation of seasonal factors.

For more information, visit the New York State Department of Labor at dol.ny.gov.

Home inventory and prices up; sales down

By Snow Steadham, Times Journal Staff

NEW YORK STATE — The median price of homes for sale across New York hit historic heights in July while inventory continued to improve statewide, according to the housing report released August 21st by the New York State Association of REALTORS®.

Median home sales prices hit a record high of \$451,000 in July, up 4.9 percent from the \$430,000 price tag a year ago. This marks the highest monthly median sales price

since statistics have been kept in New York State.

New York’s housing inventory climbed 5.1 percent in July, from 29,562 homes available across the state to 31,065 units on the market in June—marking five consecutive months of increasing inventory statewide.

Listings for new homes in July kept pace with the inventory increase, rising 6.0 percent from 13,684 listings in 2024 to 14,511 in 2025. However, sales that were completed were down from 10,286 homes last year to

10,046 this year; a 2.3 percent decline. Pending sales were also down slightly, falling 0.7 percent from 10,629 sales in July 2024 to 10,553 sales this past July.

There is also good news for potential homeowners; according to the loan company Freddie Mac, rates on a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage dipped slightly from 6.82 percent in June to a monthly average of 6.72 percent in July.

Additional data is available at <http://www.nysar.com/industry-resources/market-data>.

Family Dollar in Cobleskill closes

by Pete Lindemann, Times Journal Staff

The Family Dollar on Main Street in Cobleskill is closing, according to a company spokesperson. In an email Thursday, the company wrote:

“Family Dollar has made the strategic decision to close select stores. We are committed to continuing to serve our loyal customers across all markets where we operate.

“While 735 East Main Street is closing, we invite customers to instead visit us nearby at 19 River Street (Fort Plain).

“We remain deeply committed to providing affordable products and convenience to our customers, and we thank you for being part of the Family Dollar community.”

The store has signs on its doors, advertising “Everything up to 30% off” and “Everything must go!” and

Justin Cole of Cobleskill Village one of two sign-holders Friday on either side of Family Dollar.



Photo by Pete Lindemann



Photo by Pete Lindemann

Pat Markle of Cobleskill checks out the bargains at Family Dollar’s going-out-of-business sale.

even “Fixtures, furniture, and equipment for sale.”

The Family Dollar in Cobleskill is located across the street from CVS Pharmacy, in the old Walgreen’s site. It opened on November 9, 2023, according to a company spokesperson.

According to Brian Robson, Cobleskill Village code enforcement officer, the Family Dollar Building is owned by KSL Holdings—Cobleskill, NY LLC, located in Deerfield, Illinois.

Robson was not aware of any businesses that might move into the Family Dollar site when they finally close.

LLC NOTICES

For all public notices
(LLC ads, legal notices, etc.)
please go to
<https://www.column.us/register>
where you can find and select the
paper in which you would like to
publish your notice.

This portal provides a
user-friendly, quick download
self-serve turnkey platform for
publishing your notices.
It is available 24/7,
is simple to use, provides proofs
and confirmations in real time
and will be supported by the
Column help desk at
(518) 730-4551
or email athelp@column.us



MUSIC ON THE MOUNTAIN

Presented by Summit Community Center

**Saturday, Sept 6th
11 am-7 pm**

Route 10, across from Summit Lake
271 Route 10, Summit

PERFORMERS:

*Pat Fowler
North Slope
The Way
Patty and the
Migraine*

**FREE
Donations
accepted**

Thank you to our donors: Country Boy Realty, LLC, Bank of Richmondville, Ostrander Insurance, Better Spaces Realty, Joann Crum, Esq., Judy Kubik, John Steitz, Race Printing and John Zimmerman.

Community News

Cobleskill garden named August Garden of the Month



Contributed photo
Rich and Ginny Nyahay stand in their honored garden.

COBLESKILL – The Schoharie Valley Garden Club has chosen the gardens of Rich and Ginny Nyahay as their Garden of the Month for August.

Located at 263 School Hill Road in Cobleskill, Rich and Ginny have created many beautiful gardens throughout their property. They have worked tirelessly throughout the years to transform a very steep hillside into a garden oasis. Their front yard gardens have rock walls with marigolds and clematis, a handmade large wooden cart overflowing with annuals.

Rich and Ginny have strategically placed boulders with a variety of beautiful shrubs and trees dotted throughout their yard. Intermingled with

their annuals are trees such as rowan, weeping Alaskan cedar, and a birch tree. Leading to the entranceway to their house is a large arbor consisting of bittersweet, wisteria, and honeysuckle.

Despite the challenge of a steep slope, the Nyahays have managed to create a layered garden by adding sedum, myrtle, lamb’s ear, and many hostas. Leading down the slope are hydrangeas, zebra grass, and a rose garden. Tucked into the slope of the hill, surrounded by ground covers such as bugleweed and shrubs, are small ponds.

Their gardens are truly inspirational! For more information about the Schoharie Valley Garden Club please call 518-827-7014.

Clematis Garden Club recognizes Greenville garden

GREENVILLE – The Clematis Garden Club has chosen “Serenity’s Garden” by Wendy Teller of Ingalside Road, Greenville, as Garden of the Month.

Wendy began designing her gardens in the fall of 2012 in memory of her granddaughter, Serenity Paige, who passed away in the summer of that year. Wendy wanted the theme of her gardens to be whimsical and fun, just like her Serenity Paige. She wanted pollinators, busy bees, hummingbirds, and, most importantly, free-spirited butterflies enjoying her gardens.

Beautiful stone walls divide the gardens into levels with mass plantings. The upper garden has areas of lilies and lamb’s ear, leading to huge swaths of black-eyed Susan, coneflowers, butterfly bush-

es, ferns, hosta, phlox, peony, and stonecrop giving constant summer color.

Close to the cottage-style home are pots of annuals and a stone fountain of angels. Walking through arched gates, there are more mass plantings in a rainbow of colors. The entire property is bordered by gorgeous stone walls, creating a private oasis, giving the perfect backdrop for this truly whimsical and magical garden-escape.

The Clematis Garden Club includes members from Greene, Albany, and Schoharie Counties. The Club meets on the third Friday of the month at Legion Hall on Maple Avenue, Greenville, at 1 p.m. Guests are always welcome to join and enjoy our interesting speakers. For more information, call Jean Horn at 518-966-4260.



Contributed photo
Flowers and a well-manicured lawn greet visitors of this award-winning garden.

Service held to honor life and ministry of pastor on 50th death anniversary

BERNE – Helderberg Lutheran Church will host a special Remembrance Service on Sunday, September 14, at 10 a.m. to honor the life and ministry of the late Pastor Russell B. Greene, Sr., who served St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Berne (now Helderberg Lutheran) from 1936 to 1961. Greene passed away 50 years ago on September 15, 1975, while serving as pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church in Central Bridge.

The service will follow the traditional Lutheran liturgy used during Greene’s time in ministry and will include Holy Communion. Robert Holt, Synod Authorized Minister for Helderberg Lutheran and a mentee of Pastor and Mrs. Greene in the 1960s and ’70s, will preside and deliver a message originally written and delivered by Reverend Russell B. Greene, Jr., in 1956—the 25th anniversary of his father’s ordination.

Local members of the Greene family, including grandchildren from Connecticut and South Carolina, will be in attendance, with grandchildren participating in the service. Two grandsons are members of Helderberg Lutheran.

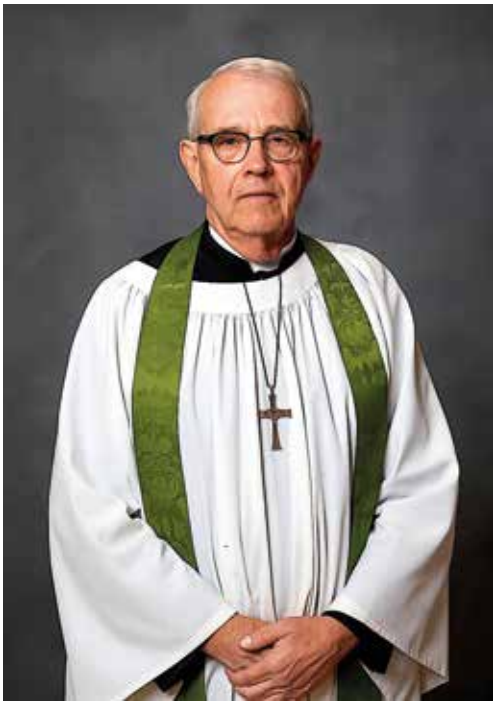


Contributed photo
Reverend Russell B. Greene, Sr., was a semi-nary student in 1930.

Greene’s ministry spanned more than four decades, touching the lives of countless individuals through his service to congregations in Berne, East Berne, Gallupville, Kingston, Central Bridge, Seward, Sharon, and Leesville. His wife, Ruth (Houghton) Greene, was a devoted partner in ministry, remembered for teaching con-

firmation, preparing the altar, and serving her community with warmth and dedication.

All are welcome—family, friends, former parishioners, and members of the wider community—to attend this meaningful service and meal as we give thanks for the life and legacy of a faithful servant. Attendees are invited to



Contributed photo
Reverend Greene the summer before his death in 1975.

bring a covered dish to share for a time of fellowship after the service in the Friendship Hall.

Helderberg Lutheran Church is located at 1728 Helderberg Trail (Rt 443), in Berne.

Cobleskill historians offering cemetery tour

COBLESKILL – Historian Pete Lindemann and members of the town’s historical society will tour the Cobleskill Rural Cemetery, Saturday, Sept. 13. The public is invited to join the free tour by meeting at the gazebo at the cemetery entrance on Quarry Street at 10 a.m.

Lindemann will guide the hour-long tour, stopping at several gravesites to recognize both well-known and little-known historic figures buried there. Among them are Sarah Rogers, a former slave who may have been the last freed woman in New York State; the Howe Family, whose patriarch, in 1842, discovered and opened to the public the cave that still bears his name; and Joseph H. Ramsey, who, as president of the Albany & Susquehanna Railroad, brought the “iron



Contributed photo
The grave of Joseph H. Ramsey, once president of the Howes Cave Association, will be featured.

horse” to the Schoharie Valley in 1865-69. As president of the Howes Cave Association, he was one of the founders of the cement industry in Howes Cave.

The Cobleskill Historical Society returns after a summer break to its regular meeting schedule. Beginning in October, the group meets on the first Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Cooperative Extension building on South Grand Street. The society is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization and membership donations are tax deductible. New members are always welcome. Dues are \$10 for the year. Checks may be sent to the Town of Cobleskill Historical Society, PO Box 423, Cobleskill, NY 12043.

Conesville Historical Society

SQUARE DANCE

September 13, 2025

With the Tremperskill Boys

7 pm at the Conesville Firehouse

All are welcome! Free admission!

“This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Reagents 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

South Valley

By Carol Brodie

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

“When one door closes, another opens, but it is still up to you to walk through it in faith or stay where you are in fear.”

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthday wishes go out this week to Kathy France, Linda Buzzutto, Hilda Shaffer, Amber Thompson, Gary Schaffer, Hudson Etherton (who will be eight years old), September Schechter, Dan Gustafson, Sue Drake, Ben Schechter (who turns 21), Belinda Hoagland, Kelly Schultz, and Felicia VanBuren.

Anniversary wishes go to Todd and Rachel VanDewerker, Jim and Diane Bradt, and Jason and Jenny McMillen.

BITS AND PIECES

I had a great time last Wednesday, August 27, when my good friend Kathy France, of Seward, and I attended the Fonda Fair for the day.

We felt a couple of sprinkles when we arrived and got out of the car in the parking lot at 9:30 a.m., but the rain held off. It was a cool, sunny day, absolutely perfect weather to attend a fair.

We got there early so we could check out the outside displays and also visit the animals in the barns. Then, later, we went through the buildings.

I ran into so many people that I knew throughout the day. I talked to three people who weren’t even aware that my dad and brother Frank had passed away.

As we walked through the Ag 2000 dairy barn, we enjoyed a good visit with Darryl Easton and his son Grant, of Canajoharie, who were there with their animals.

Although I’d never met him before that day, Darryl grew up in Roseboom.

We also visited with our friend Caroline Kelly, of Fort Plain, who was working in the dairy barn with their cows.

I ran into Jane Hawkins in the rabbit barn and had a good visit with her.

Later, we enjoyed the displays in the Dairy Building and had a good visit with Eileen Douglass at the dairy booth. Both Kathy and I put our names in for the free cheese drawing, which is held three times a day.

I was surprised later that day when I got texts from two friends saying I’d won a block of cheese! I was the first win-

ner of the day, first winner of the week.

While visiting with Eileen, I asked her about the elderly man who’d had a table across from her for many years because he wasn’t there. He hadn’t been there last year because he had cancer.

Sadly, she told me he had passed away this past spring. His name was William Clark, Sr., from Pattersonville, and he was 87 years old when he passed away on Saturday, April 12, 2025.

I always enjoyed visiting with him each year as he was working on his wood carvings, which were absolutely beautiful. I’m thankful I took some photos of him with his carvings a few years ago.

His son and daughter-in-law, Bill and Terri Clark, of Delanson, had a booth in the other end of the Dairy Building for their business, “Livin Large Drafts.” They do carriage rides for any event. Unfortunately, they were not at the booth when I was there, so I did not get to see or meet them.

Kathy I enjoyed lunch at The Pancake House, run by Peaceful Valley Maple Farms, of Johnstown. This was formerly my brother Frank’s business before selling it out to Peaceful Valley in 2021. They’ve done it for five years now, and, like Frank, they have their regular loyal fairgoers who eat there every year.

We had a good visit with Lisa Harvey, who, along with her husband Bob, take care of the other end of the building with the Creative Arts Center.

Then we were out the door to visit at the gazebo with Mr. Scribbles, aka Michael Sparling. Before leaving him for the other end of the grounds, we both did our “scribbles,” and he completed our cartoon pictures for us, which we picked up later at the end of the day when we told him goodbye.

As we went into the Co-operative Extension building, we saw Jay and Cindy Palmer, of Westford, resting on a bench, so I sat with them, visiting for a few minutes.

Then we finally made it to Scott Hall and spent some time visiting with Jennie Savage as she was selling their Peaceful Valley Maple products, in the spot Frank and I set up in for over 40 years.

Did you ever see someone who looked familiar, and you

were sure you knew them but couldn’t remember who they were? Well, that happened to me while I was in Jennie’s booth. There were a couple of guys back aways from the booth and one looked very familiar, but I had no clue why or who he was.

Finally, a few minutes later, they came over to the booth. Long story short, his name was Chris, and he had a booth for Electrolux at the Morris Fair in 2019. He was in one end of the building and we were in the other end, with people selling plants in between us.

We had a good visit, and he showed me photos on his phone of his wife and children.

A little while later, I spent some time visiting with Lauralei Whiting as she was taking care of the Van-Dale Farm booth for Earl VanWormer, right next to Jennie’s booth.

Then Greg Duesler walked by the booth and we had to do a selfie photo together because I happened to be wearing one of his Rambling Man logo shirts.

My neighbors, Kenny and Barb Olsen, came by just before Kathy and I were ready to head out. We stopped in the other side of Scott Hall to see a couple of people and then headed back to the other end of the fairgrounds. We picked up our cartoons from Mr. Scribbles, went in The Pancake House for maple milkshakes to go, stopped for Kathy to buy fudge at Hall’s Fudge and Taffy while I visited with Gary, one of the owners. Then, after a quick walk through the grandstand, we finally headed out of the fairgrounds probably an hour after we’d intended, but we enjoyed a great day together.

Vickie Myers and her son Aaron, both of Dover, North Carolina, called on Charley and Joanne Brodie last Friday afternoon, August 29, and they enjoyed a nice long visit.

They also called on Vickie’s sister-in-law, Joanie Hoke, of Pleasant Brook, one day, and had a great visit with her as well.

Vickie and Aaron spent a couple of weeks here in New York, and, during that time, they were houseguests of her eldest son, Jason and his wife Jamalynne Myers, in Delanson.

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

Central Bridge

By Janice Wilkens

QUOTE

Never trust your tongue when your heart is bitter.

– Samuel J. Hurwitt, 1895-

1965

JOKE

Why was the computer late to work? Because it had a hard drive.

BACK TO SCHOOL

The big yellow buses (with the lipstick marks on their bumpers) are picking up and dropping off lots of precious cargo. Please be aware, courteous, and careful driving now that these vehicles are back in force.

BOOK REVIEW

Over a year ago, my brother had recommended I read the book “Sacré Bleu” by Christopher Moore. He explained the book is basically about the color blue and artists. That was not enough to get me interested in reading it, but since I value his opinion on most matters, I did try to read it but just couldn’t get into it. I picked it up again last week and found it strange, but at the same time enlightening. It is all about the color blue, but in ways you cannot even imagine. It is delightfully written and funny in a subtle way. It was so funny in parts, I actually laughed out loud. There was no crying in this book, just laughter. This book fits into several categories—art history, mystery, and fantasy with the author’s signature satirical humor. There is a bit of something mystical going on that does not seem of this world, shall I say? That bit of something is well explained (the fantasy part) toward the end. I consulted Google on how to pronounce the French names and locations and also to learn more about the Impressionist artists of that time period who were characters in the book such as Vincent van Gogh, Paul Cezanne, Edgar Degas, Camille Pissarro, and Henri Toulouse-Lautrec, to name some of them.

COLESLAW

I don’t know about you, but I can never buy coleslaw in any grocery store, deli, diner, or restaurant that I like. I’m looking at the package ingredients on the “original coleslaw” I recently bought, which claims no high fructose corn syrup, no synthetic colors, and no artificial flavors—all good news. The ingredients match what I put in my coleslaw, except I add onion and celery to the cabbage and carrots. If I have them, green pepper and radishes are good in there, too. So, it must be all of the other things in there—celery seed, ascorbic acid, citric acid, modified corn syrup, sodium erythorbate, xanthan gum, cellulose gum and guar gum, white pepper, the preservatives, potassium sorbate, and sodium benzoate—that ruin the flavor for me. I guess I appreciate the preservatives when I buy it

from the shelf, even though I watch the use-by dates. Yes, I have buyer’s regret, but I was in a pinch, in a bind, and I will try to remember to stop thinking, “This packaged coleslaw looks good!” All I put in my dressing is mayonnaise, sugar, vinegar (or lemon juice), and salt, resulting in yum, yum, every time.

TAXES

Your 2025-2026 Schoharie school tax bill can be paid by your choice of three different ways: mail to the address shown on your bill, visit the website at schoharieschools.org, or leave paper checks in the drop box outside the high school office. The collection period is interest free from September 2 through October 1. Bills will accrue a 2% penalty if paid October 2 through October 31.

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Thursday, September 4, and Friday, September 5, set up for yard sale.

Saturday, September 6, yard sale at Bethany from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. and resuming on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

September 7, grandparents’ day worship service with Anne Cinquemani, SAM at 9 a.m. Serving as lector will be Abby Caiazza, lector will be Cathy Caiazza, usher will be Chris Cornwell, and altar flowers will be provided by Pauline Putman. Coin jar collection will be donated to Leatherstocking Honor Flight.

Monday, September 8, food pantry is open from 10 a.m. until noon. Please help replenish the food pantry as you are able. Needed items include 100% juices, canned potatoes, sugar in smaller packages, flour, paper towels, and deodorant.

You can email bethany-centralbridge@gmail.com for more information.

CBMC

Central Bridge Methodist Church welcomes everyone to their Sunday 10:30 a.m. worship services. The doors are always open to everyone.

Starting Sunday, September 7, the church service will return to the sanctuary instead of the church hall.

We are still in need of any nonperishable food items. The food pantry at the Bethany Lutheran Church is very low on food. Any food items would be very much appreciated.

Pull tabs from cans are being collected. The proceeds will go to the Ronald McDonald House in Albany.

Monday, September 8 at 5 p.m., the Administrative Board and Trustee meeting will be held.

If you have an emergency or need to speak with someone in the church, please call 518-868-4226. Someone will get back to you as soon as possible. Please speak slowly and loudly into the phone.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS AT OUR LOCAL STATE PARKS

Saturday, September 13, fall foliage hike at Mine Kill State Park.

Saturday, September 20, monthly movie night at Max V. Shaul State Park in Fultonham.

September 27, fish and wildlife day at Mine Kill State Park in North Blenheim. For more information, please call 518-827-6111.

SCA

Schoharie County Arts will host the Sharon Springs Harvest Festival on Saturday, September 20, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a spinning demonstration, and then a quilting demonstration on Sunday, September 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit <http://www.schoharieschools.org>.

OUTDOOR FESTIVAL FARMERS MARKET – COBLESKILL

The annual outdoor Festival Farmers Market held every Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Gathering Place (located at 127 Kenyon Road in Cobleskill) continues through Saturday, October 25. A wide variety of local vendors feature fresh produce, including the ever-popular Parson’s corn, local meat, honey, maple syrup, and delicious baked goods from Pig Out Bakery. Don’t forget, SNAP is accepted, making it easier for everyone to enjoy the fresh, local offerings. Come out and support our local farmers and artisans. Hope to see you there!

FARMERS MARKET – CENTRAL BRIDGE

Sponsored by the Central Bridge Civic Association, the Farmers Market held at the Community Park continues to offer a variety of produce and assorted items every Wednesday, 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., from now until the end of October. Items at the market include honey, maple products, jam, jelly, fruit, baked goods, eggs, meat, flowers, vegetables, candies, crafts, and catnip. Snack bar is open. Please come on over and help support our community, local farmers, and artisans.

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 reopens 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 any news 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.

Gilboa-Conesville

Do you eat, sleep, and breathe Gilboa-Conesville?

Do you like to write (or could you learn to)?

The Times Journal is

looking for a correspondent to attend village and town meetings and give us a weekly scoop on all things Gilboa-Conesville!

Please email HB.Steadham@nyvtmedia.com to express your interest.

Someone You Can Count On When It Counts



Insurance Solutions for
Small Business • Home • Auto
Life • Disability Income

Call today for more information:
Eric Efthimiou, Agent
(607) 432-5053



Farm Family
Life Insurance Company
Casualty Insurance Company
Glenmont, NY



AMERICAN NATIONAL
FAMILY OF COMPANIES

FF-33b (07/10)

Richmondville

By Ann Lape

Hi, readers. Welcome to Meteorological Fall, which includes all of September, October, and November. Astronomical Fall runs from September 22 (Fall Equinox) to December 21 (Winter Solstice).

The **Ecumenical Bible Study** group meets each Wednesday, from 10 a.m. until noon at Richmondville United Methodist Church Hall. All faiths are welcome to attend.

September 7 – This year the September Full Moon will be known as the Corn Moon. The full moon that is closest to the Fall Equinox (September 22) is known as the Harvest Moon. This is usually in September, but this year it happens October 6. The last time this happened was 2020.

September 9 – Richmondville Volunteer Emergency Squad (RVES) monthly meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at the Squad Building, located at 388 Main Street. RVES will be serving a Pancake Breakfast on September 14, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. All proceeds support the work the Squad does for the community.

September 11 – Town of Richmondville will be meeting at 6 p.m. in the Town Office Building, located at 104 Municipal Lane.

September 11 – Schoharie Valley Concert Band will begin rehearsals, from 7 to 9:15 p.m., in the Cobleskill-Richmondville High School Band room. Anyone that plays an instrument, ages from high school and up, is encouraged to attend. The first of four concerts will be held October

19. If interested, contact Samantha Baldwin at svcbconductor@gmail.com.

September 13 – Richmondville Historical Society Annual Meeting and Covered Dish Supper will be at 4 p.m. in the Bunn Mill. Sue de Bruijn will give a presentation on Schoharie County’s WW II Fallen Soldiers, titled “Lest We Forget.” All are welcome to attend.

Good luck to students returning to school. I just read there will be three new school days off in New York State: October 20, 2025, February 17, 2026, and May 26, 2026.

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

Have a great week, everyone.

Esperance

By Linda Feuz
Profound prose for pondering people: From the rich vocal chords of Al Jarreau come these words of wisdom, “Before I get out of bed, I am saying thank you. I know how important it is to be thankful.” Amen to that.

Our favorite yoga instructor is back – Venus is leading chair yoga at the Elks Lodge, upstairs at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights...come and join in...and r-e-l-a-x.

Duanesburg Historical Society presents “The D & H in Duanesburg” for all you train enthusiasts on Saturday, September 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Here’s the schedule of events: 10 a.m., Opening ceremony at the Delanson Memorial Park with the unveiling of the NYS Historic Roadside Marker commemorating the naming of Delanson in 1892, and music selections by the Duanesburg Elementary School (in the event of rain, these two events will take place at the Delanson Methodist Church). From 10:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. there will be a guided walking tour of the railroad site in Delanson, a self-guided walking tour of 1860–1890-era Delanson homes, and a tour of the historic 1877 Delanson Methodist Church with refreshments provided. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. there will be an Open House at the Duanesburg Historical Society’s Research and Archive Center, located at 450 Quaker Lane, in Quaker Street, just up the hill from the Village of Delanson. There you’ll find featured D&H artifacts, photos, and a slide presentation. Saturday events are funded by a Schenectady County Arts and Culture Development Grant.

Esperance Historical Museum and Library – Email address to make contact is esperancehistoricalsociety@gmail.com. Stay in the loop on events on the Facebook Event page.

In conjunction with the Arboretum’s Fall Plant, Book, and Bake Sale weekend, the **annual barn sale in our carriage barn** at the Village Commons is set for Saturday, September 6, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (a correction from previously posted hours...thanks, Sandy!). The barn is full of treasures, including two mink stoles; one with a Carl Company label and the other has a Gelber, Schenectady label, as well as a beautiful black wool stole with what appears to be a European label. I also spied a couple of pressure cookers

and a brand-new immersion blender system that has never been put to use in a kitchen (or even in a garage; paint stirrer, anyone?).

As has become tradition, too, we will be serving hot dogs, chips, and water at the gazebo from 11:30 until 1 p.m. (or until the supply is gone!) by donation. Again this year, we will be selling Schoharie County’s pride, chocolate jumbles, to satisfy your sweet tooth. Hoping to see you there, rain or shine, and we all thank you for your support!

Landis Arboretum Activities – Access the website for more information at landisarboretum.org. Coming events: Drum Circle – September 3 – 6:30 p.m. at the Peace Garden Pavilion. Fall Plant Sale Preview Party – September 5 – 4 p.m. – enter by the barn. Fall Plant, Book, & Bake Sale – September 6-7 – 10 a.m. – on the grounds. Sunrise Celebration Nature Walk – September 14 – 6:30 a.m. – meet at the Meeting House.

Our Post Office window hours are M-F from 7:15 to 11:15 a.m. and 12:15 to 2:15 p.m. Saturdays 9 to 11 a.m. Local phone number is 518-875-6731.

Little Free Library is

located at the village park by the basketball court. Take a book—leave a book.

Town of Esperance – Office phone: 518-875-6109. Clerk’s hours are Tuesdays from 7:30 to 11 a.m. and 2:30 to 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. Town Board meets on the third Thursday at 104 Charleston Street, starting at 7 p.m.

Village of Esperance – Village phone: 518-875-9044 at the office on Church Street. Village Clerk Michelle Parks’s office hours are on Thursdays from 2 to 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 Street.

Esperance Methodist Church – Service is at 11 a.m. on Sunday morning and is meeting in Tiffany Hall for the summer. A big event for our community is set for Sunday, September 14, at 11 a.m.—a Community Worship

Service and picnic to honor our firefighters and EMS volunteers at the gazebo on the Village Commons.

Verelyn Robertson has begun a card-sending campaign, providing words of encouragement to folks in need of a little cheer. Each week she’ll choose a different recipient, so if you are aware of someone needing some fellowship contact, give her a call at 518-875-6604.

Faith Adventure Club leaders’ meeting is Monday, September 8, at 10 a.m. in the education building. Classes will begin again on Sunday, September 21, at 10:45 a.m. and enrollment is open to all children ages 5 and up. The church website is https://www.esperancesloansvilleumc.org.

Welcome back to Pastor Alisyn after a busy summer at Sky Lake. Her email is pastoralisyn@gmail.com.

Presbyterian Church (the Stone Church on Church Street) – Sunday services are at 9:30 a.m. and begin again soon.

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 started up and really kicks off with a pancake breakfast after church service on September 14. Bible study at the Birches begins on Monday, September 8, at 6:30 p.m. The selection to read, study, and review is Max Lucado’s “Anxious for Nothing”.

On a personal note, I do realize that Labor Day’s purpose is to honor and celebrate workers everywhere. I do. I propose that we who have borne children also celebrate the difficult portion of the process that made us mothers, separate from the niceties of May’s Mothers Day...because we persevered and are better off for it.

FOUND! A double boiler in good condition is on its way to my address. Thanks to the kind gentleman who called last week, thinking that he had a double boiler, but what he described turned out to be a huge canner. I so enjoyed his easy banter and chatted quite a while with him, even though I didn’t need what he had to offer.

Hug the special people you love whenever you get the chance. Contact me anytime at 518-875-6443 or email to lfeuz27@gmail.com.

Jefferson

By Bonnie C. Dailey
Labor Day weekend has come and gone, the BBQ has been cleaned and put away (or not!), and we’re awaiting the glorious fall foliage that emblazons our beautiful town and county every year. Diane Dubshinski has asked me to take her place in writing the Jefferson Correspondent’s column, and the Times Journal has graciously taken me on as its newest correspondent. I look forward to keeping us all “in the know” about events coming up in our town. **JCS**

Jefferson Central School will open for the first day of classes, K-12, on Thursday September 4. Faculty and administration have been preparing for the new school year, and they look forward to welcoming JCS students back to school.

Rev 250
The Town of Jefferson is preparing to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence!

One of the projects the Jefferson Historical Society is planning is to clean the gravestones of veterans of the Revolutionary War who are interred in the Old Jefferson Cemetery. If you have willing hands, a big heart, and are ready to expend a little elbow grease, you are invited to join them at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 6 (rain date Sunday, Sept 7). The group will meet at Judd Hall, 163 Main Street, Jefferson at 10 a.m. on the scheduled day. The Old Jefferson Cemetery is only a couple of hundred yards away, down a mowed path.

Volunteers should bring a jug (or two) of water and a pad to kneel on. The Historical Society will provide instructions for cleaning, as well as gentle, historically safe cleaning supplies. Let’s come together as a community to preserve the history, honor, and sacrifice of our veterans, and celebrate 250 years of freedom.

If you’d like to join, it will help in their planning if you will send a message to Stacey Flanagan at staffa12@gmail.com. Please feel free to join, even if you haven’t sent an email!

Town Board Meetings
Jefferson’s Town Board will hold its September Board Meeting at Jefferson’s Town Hall on Thursday, September 11, at 7 p.m. Board meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of each month. The Town’s Planning Board



Contributed Photo

Gravestone of Epenetus Buckingham, a Revolutionary War Patriot whose gravestone is slated for cleaning on September 6.

meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m., also at Jefferson’s Town Hall. The public is invited to attend these meetings.

The Jefferson Historical Society

Come one, come all! A Silent Auction and Sale will be held at Judd Hall (163 Main Street) in Jefferson on Saturday, September 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, September 21 from noon to 4 p.m.

The sale will feature new and gently used items, antique and vintage treasures, collectibles, prints, jewelry, housewares, home decor, and much, much more! Some items will be won by raffle, and others will go to the highest bidder.

In addition, JHS will sponsor three FREE events in September:

Saturday, September 13 at 1 p.m., Chuck Henry will give a talk on historic newspapers of New York State. The talk is cosponsored by the Gilboa Historical Society and will be given at the Gilboa Historical Society Museum, located at 122 Stryker Road, Gilboa.

Friday, September 19 at 7 p.m., a concert by Those Dam Cats will be held at the Maple Museum, 221 Creamery Street, Jefferson.

Saturday, September 27 at 1 p.m., the Jefferson Historical Society will be cosponsoring a talk by Debra Hill on conducting oral history interviews. The talk and panel discussion will take place at the Gilboa Historical Society Museum, 122 Stryker Road, Gilboa.

The Jefferson Historical Society also invites anyone and everyone to participate in an open art show titled “The Spirit of the Community,” to be held in Judd Hall in October.

tober. Watch for forthcoming dates. The theme was selected to encourage artists to express their own take on what aspect of this community means the most to them.

Entries for the show will be limited to two-dimensional art (no sculptures, for convenience’s sake). Your work can be a photograph, a painting, a sketch, a quilt block, or other medium. The maximum length and width of each work is limited to 18 inches. For more information and to sign up to participate, email historicalsocietyjefferson@gmail.com.

Deadline for submissions is Friday, September 19. You may drop off your art with a completed entry form (ask for one at the email address) at Judd Hall, 163 Main Street, by appointment.

Senior Center

Seniors are invited to join the Senior Club, which meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. at the senior center, 1333 Main Street (downstairs in the George Danforth Hall). Russell Danforth is president.

Seniors can also sign up for noontime meals at the senior center. Schoharie County’s Office for the Aging serves meals for a nominal fee at noon on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at the senior center. The center is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on those days. Coffee and goodies are always on hand, and seniors are welcome to meet and socialize during those hours. Those planning to visit the center for lunch are asked to make reservations the morning of the day before. Call the Jefferson Senior Center site at 607-652-9075 to make a reservation.

Carlise

By Chris Keefer
Greetings, Carlisle. Well, the summer of 2025 is a wrap. We enjoyed some pretty nice weather overall, but the rain gods could have been a bit more benevolent.

Garden Harvest: We’ve got lots of tomatoes, green tomatoes. Anyone have ripe ones? The cherry tomatoes I bought have been a lot less prolific than I’d hoped. I should stick to kale. The autumn crop of bok choy is splendid and we harvested a few yellow transparent apples and made applesauce. What are you harvesting?

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.

Support your VFD: The Carlisle Fire Department will have a chicken BBQ this Saturday, September 6, starting at noon. This annual fundraiser helps our community. Come have a nice lunch or dinner with your family and friends. Or stop by on your way to garage sales and festivals to tank up.

School’s In: How’d that first few days go? The bus drivers are doing their best. Be sure to give them space and heed those signal lights. Welcome back teachers, principals, custodians, aides, volunteers, admin staff, and especially kids. We hope everyone has a great year. The first holiday/day off for CRCS is Columbus Day, Monday, October 13.

Farmer’s Markets: I enjoyed the Festival Farmers Market at the Gathering Place on Kenyon Road over the summer, as well as the Central Bridge Farmers Market at the ballfield in Central Bridge. They will both be open into October. I shopped at the little stand up by the Cobleskill Diner. All good products; all locally sourced and grown. We all enjoy supporting our farmers and getting the best food. Especially when we know where it came from. We have a few more chances to

hit the Town of Seward Farmers & Artisans Market at 5756 State Route 10: September 10 and 24, and October 8 and 22.

Try the Carlisle Bus: Transportation services are currently being offered by Schoharie County Public Transportation (SCPT) every other Tuesday with pickup at your home. The route brings you into Cobleskill for approximately two and a half 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.

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.

HBH Open House: The Annual Open House at HBH Clydesdales will be on Saturday, September 27, at 10 a.m. This event is always a great time for horse lovers and families. Check out their Facebook page for details. The farm is at 137 Prairie Road, off Route 20.

Cave House Event: On September 14 from noon until 4 p.m., the Cave House Museum of Mining and Geology will be open for self-directed museum tours, guided tours into the original entrance of Howe Caverns, and for the 2 p.m. program with Alexander Bartholomew, Professor of Geology at New Paltz, discussing Mid-Devonian Extinction Events in Eastern NY. Schoharie County is pretty heavily Devonian, so this is about us.

Bird Report: It’s been quiet as far as bird sounds are concerned, but there is still plenty of action to be found. I’ve observed eastern meadowlarks in the hayfields, mixed groups of swallows on the overhead wires, two or three Cooper’s hawks lurking in the trees, and, of course, they are mobbed by eastern kingbirds. Eastern bluebirds and American robins seem to abound, taking advantage of everyone’s short grass lawns. I had dozens of adult-sized, but still speckle-breasted fledgling robins in the yard and fields at the house last week. We still have ruby-throated

hummingbirds around, so keep those feeders up. They need the fuel for their migration. Let us know what birds you’ve seen recently.

CHS Program: The first fall program of the Carlisle Historical Society will take place on Wednesday, September 10, at 7 p.m. at the Carlisle Town Hall. Please join us as we welcome Curt VanSteele, Brian Head, Chip Johnstone, and Mike Hartzel, who will present “We Were There,” a discussion about their roles and experiences as first responders and volunteers at the World Trade Centers after 9/11. Annual memberships will be taken this fall. All are welcome, and our Baking Crew will provide legendary refreshments.

First Annual Color Run Recap: Carlisle’s Walking Trail (CWT) was the site of the first annual Color Run hosted by the Cobleskill -Richmondville Future Business leaders of America on Saturday, August 16. We had a 1k and a 5k directly after. Katrina M. Schweigard, Business Education Teacher, FBLA Advisor, Board of Trustee Member NYS FBLA, and Director of CRCS School Store reports that the run “was a great success and brought all ages of the community out. It was a beautiful summer day and about 60 people showed up to participate.”

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.

SUPPORT
YOUR LOCAL
INSURANCE
COMPANY.

Since 1895



**Sterling
Insurance
Company**

182 Barnerville Road
Cobleskill NY 12043
www.sterlingins.com

Seward

By Dana Cudmore

“Cruise-in” to the Farmers Market

Car lovers and collectors are encouraged to join vendors for the Wednesday, September 10 Farmers and Artisans’ Market in Seward.

“Classics, rat rods, bikes, work trucks—if it’s got wheels, it has a story,” said Wendy Rosa, one of the market’s organizers. “Roll it on in.”

Shoppers can expect now more than 15 vendors, all from the Seward area, along with the “Wake N Baked Up” food truck. Matthew Vroman will provide music.

Hours are from 4 to 8 p.m. at the intersection of Route 10 and Lowe Road.

Thanking Donors

Angela Clapper, another organizer of the twice-monthly market, emailed to thank and recognize donors who provided either cash or back-to-school supplies that were distributed at no cost to shoppers at the August 27 market.

We had donations from Bill VanHandel, Alissa Bishis, Mr. Diamond, Meg Cooke, and Seth Johnson. Also from Courtney VanHeertum, Tammy Tansey, Carol Orth, Michelle Schaffer, Michael Schaffer, Colleen Hazard, Corrine Kindt, Daphne Rivera, and Jodi Marlow/Verizon.

Collection boxes for donations of school supplies were provided at Dollar General stores in Cobleskill and Richmondville.

Write-in Candidate Declares

Walter Hadsel announced he is a write-in candidate for the Seward town justice position in the November 4 elections.

The position became vacant after caucuses closed. The next town justice will fill the position held by Mark Fletcher, who resigned to run for town supervisor.

In an email last week, Hadsel—who is retired from the state police—wrote he had Republicans’ backing.

Town Board Meets Next Week

The Seward Town Board meets Monday, September 8, 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.

Design Suggestions Sought

The Seward town board is looking for suggestions on how to display an old millstone held at the town barn.

The design the board decides on must be able to be created at a cost of less than \$1,000. The work will be funded through the town’s “microproject” initiative.

Contact information for town officials is included in this column.



Contributed photo

Angela Clapper, one of the organizers of Seward’s Farmers and Artisans Market, offers some of her family’s homemade “Piggy Pop” kernel corn and lemonade at the August 27 market.

‘Cave Electrician’s Widow’ in Sharon Springs

I’ll be talking about my book, “The Cave Electrician’s Widow: The Tragedy at Howe Caverns and Dramatic Courtroom Fight for Justice” at the September 8 meeting of the Sharon Springs Historical Society.

The program, at the Sharon Springs Free Library at 129 Main St., begins at 7 p.m. It will also be available online.

Signed copies of the book will be available.

September in the Cave Country

One of the earliest public accounts of the wonders of Howe’s Cave appeared in the September 17, 1843, Hartford (CT) Courant. The small headline read: “A New Natural Phenomenon. Discovery

of a vast cavern in Schoharie, N.Y.”

On September 27, 1854, Lester Howe’s second daughter, Harriet Elgiva Howe, married railroad surveyor Hiram Shipman Dewey in the cave’s Bridal Chamber.

The September 11, 1871, Daily Graphic newspaper described Howe as “not a smart man” for not understanding the terms under which he sold the cave in 1869 to the Howes Cave Association. Howe rejected a \$10,000 cash offer to accept \$12,000 in share of stock in the corporation.

Items for this monthly column are taken from “Underground Empires: Two Centuries of Exploration, Adventure, & Enterprise in NY’s Cave County,” published in August 2021 by Black dome Press, Catskill.

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 between 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@seward-town-ny.gov.

Town Clerk Southworth holds office hours at the town building on Lowe Road on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 5 to 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.

It Ain’t News

Both Mark Twain and Will Rogers are reported to have coined the axiom, “It ain’t news until it’s in the newspaper.”

That was more true before the age of digital media, but readers in and around the Seward area should still share their news, events, or social items—milestones, birthdays, anniversaries, graduations here. To have your news them included in this column, email cdmedia@aol.com. 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 nyvtmedia.com or call 518-234-2515. It’s a great medium to advertise in as well—I do it myself.

Summit

By Karen Cuccinello

Labor Day weekend, the unofficial end of summer, was a bit cool but overall lovely weather.

Will you like seeing the school buses rolling again?

The days with temps in the 60s and nights in the high 40s have been chillier than necessary. I’m not ready for refreshing, fall kind of days yet.

Had the longest drive ever into Stamford last week when Route 10 was being oil and graveled; but I had to keep making myself think how the road will be nice in a couple weeks after the gravel settles in. I came home via Westkill and Enid Roads to avoid it all. A few days before, when I was coming home from Stamford I had to come home via Clapper Hollow Road because a tractor trailer had crashed on its side in between Moxley and Pergalie Roads. Seems to be a trend with trips to Stamford.

Sue Duffy, of West Fulton, told me she saw a mated pair of eagles near Rossman Fly and Sawyer Hollow Roads, Summit. Photo from Sue.

Went to Stamford to see the lighting of the Utsayantha Fire Tower, on Saturday, and could also see it from some spots in Summit. The tower was built in 1933 by a CCC Camp crew.

September 4 – Fulton Historical Society meeting to be held in the Breakabeen store/building, at 121 Clauverwie, 4 p.m. The renovation project by Rusty Wisert has been completed and it is beautiful. All are welcome.

September 5 – Terrace Mt. Orchard, in Schoharie, opens for the season.

September 6 – Esperance Historical Society Barn Sale, Church Street, 9 a.m.

September 6 – Music on the Mountain 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 2971 Route 10, Summit (across from Summit Lake). Sponsored by Summit Community Center.

September 6 – Volunteers needed to help clean Revolutionary Veterans gravestones in Old Jefferson Cemetery, behind Heartbreak Hotel, 10 a.m. (rain date Sunday, September 7, at 10 a.m.). Meet at



Contributed photo

Summit eagle sits high.

Judd Hall, 163 Main Street, Jefferson. Bring willing hands, a little elbow grease, and a big heart. You could bring a jug of water and a pad to kneel on. (We’ll provide gentle, historically-safe cleaning supplies and instructions.) Let’s come together as a community to preserve history, honor sacrifice, and celebrate 250 years of freedom. If you’d like to join, message Stacey Flanagan at stafla12@gmail.com. Check Jefferson Historical Society Facebook page for updates prior to event.

September 7 – Town of Fulton Republican BBQ at Max V. Shaul Park, 2 to 6p.m. Meet the Republican candidates. RSVP to fultontownrepublican76@aol.com

September 7 – Fenimore Chamber Orchestra, 3 p.m. at Panther Creek Arts, The Hall, 1465 Sawyer Hollow Road, West Fulton.

September 13 – Long Path North Hiking Club meeting, 10 a.m. at the SCCA club house, 3673 State Route 145, Cobleskill.

September 18 – Summit Town Board meeting, 7 p.m. For more information, call the town clerk at 518-287-1430 or email summitclerk@midtel.net.

September 19 – Old Summit Farms slideshow by Karen Cuccinello at the Summit Firehouse, 6 to 8 p.m. Coffee and goodies will be served. Sponsored by Summit Community Inc.

September 19 – Dennis Lichtman and Matt Munisteri, 7 p.m. at Panther Creek Arts, The Hall, 1468 Sawyer Hol-

low Road, West Fulton.

September 20 – Chicken-N-Biscuit Dinner with mashed potatoes, gravy, two vegetables, salad, drinks, and dessert, 5 to 7 p.m. at Charlottesville Firehouse, to benefit the Charlottesville Cemetery Association.

September 21 – Charlottesville Schoolhouse Breakfast, 8 to 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 OJ with table service, not a buffet, and local maple syrup from Terrell’s Sugarhouse. The Charlottesville Schoolhouse is located at 641 Charlotte Valley Road. Season-long 50/50 Raffle. Homemade baked goods will be available for purchase.

September 20 & 21 – Sharon Springs Harvest Festival.

History – September 12, 1895, Jefferson Courier: WHARTON HOLLOW – It is getting very dry again. – Henry Crapser is building a hen house. – Milton and Don Dyer have traded horses. – Mrs. Almond Palmer, who has been seriously ill is improving. – Heman Coon and sister, Mrs. Milton Dyer, were at Sharon Springs Saturday and Sunday. – Heman Coon and wife and Mrs. Miles Crapser and daughter Ethel, returned home from Sharon this week where they have been hop picking.

Let me know if you have any announcements or events for the column at karenc@midtel.net or 518-287-1945.

Worcester

By Kathleen Gasperini

One of my favorite times of the year is when Labor Day rolls around and Willy’s Farm up Elk Creek Road in Westford opens for the next few months. This place is a gem of its own, serving up apple cider, donuts, local cheeses, jam, and popcorn. The Farm’s big grey barn, built in the early 1900’s, is a treasure trove of crafts, loads of fun Halloween decorations, and Holiday decorations. This is the place to start getting your spook on. You’ll see their little red signs with funny sayings on them on the various roads that wind through Otsego County, whether you’re coming from Cooperstown, Worcester, or Schenevus, in order to guide your way up through the beautiful Elk Creek Valley.

I was there at 10 a.m. on opening day September 1, and I was not alone. The parking lot was full with families ready to experience a wonderful day of cruising through the corn maze, jumping on hay bales, petting the mini donkey or watching the chickens, playing in the apple orchard or with the pumpkin people, and taking wagon rides up through the corn fields. I always throw a coin in the Willy’s Farm wishing well and take my time cruising through the barn, eating my way through tastings of cheese, and then loading up with apples, cider, cheese curd, an apple pie, carrot cake, and cinnamon donuts. I had a hefty haul by the time I left.

Willy’s Farm is also the best place to choose your pumpkins as they always have a variety of sizes and shapes. Kids ramble through the selection with enthusiasm as parents sort out which pumpkins make the most sense for their homes. The listing of activities are up now, with each Saturday hosting a range of specific activities, musicians, and crafting projects.

The history of Willy’s Farm is fascinating, with its roots in 1960 when William and Mary Gartung purchased the place as a dairy farm. Later in life, they sold the property to their 12 children, many



Photo by Kathleen Gasperini

The quintessential national city signpost at Willy’s Farm on your way into the big grey barn. Wagons available to haul your purchases back to your car or haul your kids around the property.

of whom still run the place, along with their children. In 1994, the Gartungs reimaged the farm and opened it to the public as Willy’s Farm & Cider Mill and refurbished their big barn into a location for home-baked goods, crafts, and collectibles. The farm has 100 acres. It’s quiet, peaceful, and a great place to hang out for a few hours. When the leaves start turning, the drive up through Elk Creek to Willy’s Farm is breathtaking.

Their cider press is no longer taking local apple hauls this summer to crush into personal cider stashes. I was fortunate a few years ago to have buckets of apples from my trees, which do not always produce apples on an annual basis. I brought up a carload of wild apples to get crushed in their cider mill and came home with eight gallons of cider. That was very cool. But I understand that the time it takes to make cider from other people’s apples takes away from the time needed to run their business and make their own cider.

Drive carefully when winding your way up route 34 to Willy’s Farm. There are caution signs up now for horse and buggies, which you’ll see on occasion, as there a couple of Amish farms up that way.

I finally took a picture of the wonderful renovation of the big white Prince barn on the way into Worcester next to the welcome sign. As I wrote about last week, that lovely big barn was purchased by Melvin and Amy Prince, who moved to Worcester two

years ago. After serving in the Navy, the couple and their son moved here from Washington State. According to the couple, they have repaired the roof, replaced some siding, and are currently working on the foundation and rockwork of the large ramp leading up to the entrance. They plan to have their animals in the barn, including pigs, goats, and sheep. For now, it’s a work in progress for the family. But we can all benefit as the big white barn is looking awesome. I think it would make a perfect postcard for Worcester, in case they hope to ramp up their marketing initiatives.

Labor Day weekend, and you’d think everyone was hosting a personal yard sale. From Worcester to Schenevus to Westford, many people had tables out on their lawns and all sorts of items for sale, including quite a few antiques. Our area is well-known for our vintage items, and it’s not uncommon to see people driving up from Hudson Valley and NYC to score some finds. This also goes for our most precious Used Bookstore in the Wieting Building on Main Street in Worcester that’s opened on the weekends. I’ve volunteered there on occasion, and many people say we have a unique, if not somewhat eclectic, mix of books, ranging from current NY Times bestsellers to gardening, antiquarian finds (located on the back shelves in its own coveted area), children’s books, mystery, travel, fashion, and décor. The Friends of the Library group do a terrific job curating the book selection. Unfortunately for me, when I bring a bag of books into drop-off in my ongoing attempts to clear out my clutter, I end up buying more books than what I brought in. Apparently, I’m not the only one with this problem.

And, finally, school starts in Schenevus and Worcester today, Thursday, September 4. Welcome back, Dragons and Wildcats.

Please feel free to send me any news and information Kathleen@SnowLovers.org. Thank you!



Library News

THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY, COBLESKILL

The Friends of the Library Basket Raffle Tickets are on sale!
The **Library’s Local History Room** is open by appointment or on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 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.

Friday, September 5, at noon, **Fan Favorites Book Club.** Join us on the first Friday of every month for our casual conversation about the books, tv series, and movies we love. No assigned readings, just a chance to meet people, talk about things you love, and perhaps pick up a few suggestions on things that will become your new favorite obsession.

Saturday, September 6, at 10 a.m., the **Friends of the Library Meeting** in the Library. Friends are holding monthly meetings. Friends Basket Raffle tickets are on sale. Book donations can be made inside the library during regular hours until September 19. **Book Sale and Basket Raffle will be held on September 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Interested in joining and learning more about upcoming fundraisers to support the Library and how you can help? Want to join The Friends? Visit <https://communitylibrarycobleskill.org/friends/> or email friendscommunitylibrary@gmail.com for more information.

The Community Library invites nonprofit, social service organizations to set up a table in the Pine Room and share information about programs, services, and benefits available to members of our community. No cost, no appointment necessary. This month, Tuesday, September 9, from 1 to 3 p.m., stop by the library to meet with Christiana Okezi, a law associate in the **Immigration Department of the Hiscock Legal Aid Society**, with questions about immigration law and the services offered by this Syracuse-based law office.

Tuesday, September 9, 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, September 9 and 30, with either Stevie or Lily, and 10:30 a.m. on Thursdays, September 11 and 25. 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, September 9, 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).

Tuesdays, September 9 and 23, at 6 p.m., **Short Fiction Workshop.** Adult Services Librarian Don LaPlant is back to run this monthly writing workshop for teens and adults, featuring 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 us each week for fun stories, songs, and early literacy activities. No registration necessary.

Thursday, September 11, at 1 p.m., is the **Library Board of Trustees monthly meeting.** Meetings are open to the public.

Thursday, September 11, 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.

Tuesdays, September 16, 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.

Tuesdays, September 2 and 16, 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, September 17, at 6 p.m., **Senior Planet – Tech Tips for Disaster Preparedness.** Did you know that technology is an essential part of being prepared for emergencies and natural disasters? In this session, we’ll explain how technology can help you prepare. We’ll discuss and demonstrate useful features of the FEMA and Red Cross apps, including setting alerts. Additionally, we’ll review built-in smartphone features that can come in handy in the event of an emergency and explore how to keep phones and essential devices charged during a prolonged power outage. Finally, we’ll discuss how you can use social media to get emergency and other important information from local and national authorities. An AARP program for adults. **This program is repeated on Thursday, September 18 at 1pm.**

Thursday, September 18, 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.

Friday, September 19 at 11 a.m., **Day Writers.** This new program is for folks seeking a creative outlet where they can write for fun and self-reflection and share their work with others. Moderator Don LaPlant will provide a few prompts and exercises and let writers respond in whatever way they’d like, whether it’s poetry, short fiction, a political rant, nature writing, a personal memory from childhood, or some new literary hybrid no one’s ever tried before. Participants can choose to share the works with the group, but our focus will be on personal enrichment rather than things like grammar, criticism, or a concern with getting published. Open to adults with any level of writing experience or training.

Tuesday, September 23, at 6 p.m., **Mario Kart Tournament.** Are you a Mario Kart speed demon? Race against other teens on the library’s Switch and win silly prizes! Enjoy snacks while you compete and cheer on other players. Seats for this program are limited and registration is requested; unregistered seats will be given away on a first-come, first-served basis on the day of the tournament. **For middle and high schoolers only.**

Thursday, September 25, at 4:30 p.m., **Engineering Challenge** with Schoharie Mohawk Institute Science and Technology. Open to grades 4-8. Registration is required.

Thursday, September 25, at 6 p.m., **Game Explorers.** This **new program** for adults and teens (16+) will introduce one tabletop game (e.g., board, card, dice, role playing games) each session. We’ll teach participants the set-up, rules, and strategies first, then play a few games as a group. Learn new games, meet new people, and have fun. The game for September 2025 is the award-winning game Codenames from the Czech Republic.

Tuesday, September 30, at 6 p.m., **Teen Craft: Bottle Cap Jewelry.** Make your own personalized jewelry with bottle caps! Teens and tweens can design their own keychains, necklaces, or bracelets made with bottle caps and beads. Add your own flair to the bottle caps with art or symbols you enjoy. Open to middle and high schoolers. Register to request specific images.

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 – 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.

The Community 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 inside in the return box.
Website: www.Communitylibrarycobleskill.org
Library ENews: <https://bit.ly/CommunityLibraryNews>
Facebook: [thecommunitylibrarycobleskill](https://www.facebook.com/thecommunitylibrarycobleskill)
Instagram: [commllibcobleskill](https://www.instagram.com/commllibcobleskill)
Event Calendar with age-appropriate programs: <https://bit.ly/CommunityLibraryEvents>
Library Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday & Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MIDDLEBURGH LIBRARY

9/9 – 10:45 a.m. – Drop-in Storytime – Join Miss Terry for this fun, interactive storytime geared toward little ones ages 0–5 and their caregivers! We will read books, sing songs, and watch a short film based on our weekly theme. **No registration is required.**

9/9 – 1 to 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.

9/9 – 5 to 7 p.m. – The Cause for Newspaper Decline – The Cause for Newspaper Decline that Nobody’s Talking About, video with Christopher Eastman; registration requested but not required.

9/11 – 10:45 a.m. – Baby Storytime & Playdate Meetup – Join us at the Middleburgh Library for a special program just for babies (6–24 months) and their caregivers! Enjoy a short, engaging storytime filled with rhymes, songs, and stories that build early literacy and language skills. Afterward, little ones can explore toys, sensory play, and activities while caregivers connect, share tips, and make new friends. **Registration is requested.**

9/11 – 4:30 p.m. – Second Thursday Stem with SMIST – Join Walt Silva and the Schenectady Mohawk Initiative for Science and Technology (SMIST) in this fun STEM program geared towards kids in 4th–6th grades. **Registration is required.**

9/14 – 4 p.m. – Not So Quiet Concert – Annie & the Hedonists – Annie and the Hedonists perform a fascinating mixture of styles. Headed by the excellent singer Annie Rosen and featuring guitarist Jonny Rosen, with Peter Davis on clarinet, tenor guitar, piano, alto sax, and vocals; Donald Young on string bass, electric guitar, ukulele, and vocals; and drummer Jerry Marotta, the band sounds equally at home playing 1920s classic blues and jazz, swing, 1930s blues, and Western swing as it does country, doo wop, early R&B, and even early rock and roll. **Please reserve your seat by contacting Sonny Ochs at 518-827-4953. Tickets are available at the door. A \$15 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 FREE LIBRARY

Schoharie Library Hours: Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Closed Sunday and Monday.

Storytime with Yvonne: Fridays at 10 a.m. Stories, songs, fun activities!
Writers’ Group (Virtual): Mondays at 7 p.m.; <https://bit.ly/Writers-GroupSHO>.

Book Sale and Trustees’ Treasures Porch Sale: Saturday, September 6, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The library will host our annual sales during the Schoharie Village-wide Yard Sale. Limited spots for vendors/private sales are available by \$20 donation. Stop in to the library to reserve your spot today.

Board of Trustees Meeting: Wednesday, September 10, 7 p.m. Please come and participate!

Creative Connection: Thursday, September 11, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Bring a project and chat with other crafters, or use the library’s supplies to make something.

S.C.H.O.O.L.: It’s Not Your Mother’s DAR. Tuesday, September 16, 10:30 a.m. To register, go to <https://www.cobyschool.com/>.

Getting Started with Your Family History: Tuesday, September 16, 3 p.m. Professional genealogist Lisa Dougherty will help you get started in the pursuit of your own family history by offering guidelines for gathering

information, effectively using DNA testing and social media, and organizing your research. RSVP optional but appreciated: <https://bit.ly/genealogy9-16>.

STEM Program: Tuesday, September 16, 4:30 p.m. Fun with the Schoharie Mohawk Initiative for Science and Technology.

Nature Art with Casey Beal: Wednesdays, September 17 and 24, 4 to 5:30p.m. Learn to draw from nature around the outside of the library, and/or with natural materials provided by instructor Casey Beal. The program is suitable for ages 12 and up. Signup: <https://bit.ly/NatureArt2025>. ***This project is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of The Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by CREATE Council on the Arts.**

For the Love of Books: Tuesday, September 23, 5:30 p.m. The NO Pressure, NO Assigned reading book group! Come visit with other book lovers and grow your To Be Read (TBR) Pile. We meet once a month and share our favorite reads.

S.C.H.O.O.L.: Hiking the Long Path: A Presentation to Plan Your Hike. Thursday, September 25, 4:30 p.m. To register, go to <https://www.cobyschool.com/>.

Save the Dates: Weekly balance classes with Dr. Nicole Camporese PT, DPT, start Wednesday, October 8, 10:30 a.m.; Block Printing* w/Maeve McCool, Wednesday, October 15 & 29, 4 p.m.; Crazy Quilting* w/Betty Fikes Pillsbury, Saturdays, October 25, November 8 & 22, 10 a.m.

Library contact information: 518-295-7127; www.schoharielibrary.org.

SHARON SPRINGS FREE LIBRARY

Happy back-to-school, SSCS students! Wishing you a wonderful school year from the Sharon Springs Free Library.

Join our **Adult Book Discussion** as we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with books that highlight Hispanic/Latinx voices and stories. Choose any book by a Hispanic/Latinx author, or one that explores Hispanic/Latinx heritage, culture, identity, or set in a Spanish speaking community. A display of fiction, nonfiction, memoirs, and poetry is available at the library to help you find your next read. Join our discussion on Friday, September 19th at 6:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars—the **Sharon Springs Harvest Festival** takes place Saturday, September 20, and Sunday, September 21. Visit the library’s table for free children’s books, stickers, and to say hello.

WORCESTER-SCHENEVUS LIBRARY

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

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.

Art History for Absolute Beginners. Wednesdays at noon beginning September 24th. During each hour-long class, we’ll cover five topics. In the first class we’ll learn about Olmec Colossal Heads, Egyptian Ushabti, the Isle of Lewis Chessmen, the Ishtar Gate, and the Angkor Wat Temple. Note: this class is meant to be a brief introduction to each topic, not an in-depth examination. Please sign up at the library.

The Great Give Back Day, Tuesday, October 18. We’ll be collecting donations for Superheroes Human Society, a no-kill animal shelter in Oneonta. They provide pet adoption, fostering, low-cost spaying/neutering, pet food pantry, vaccinations, and temporary hardship boarding.

Exercise class Mondays and Thursdays at 9 a.m.
Yoga on Fridays at 10 a.m.
StoryTime Wednesdays at 10 a.m.
Crochet Circle Wednesdays at 3 p.m.
Library Used Bookshop: All Nora Roberts books on sale for 50 cents – Fridays noon to 4 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Contact us at 607-397-7309 or visit worcestersfreelibrary.org.



Multi Line New Tire Dealer

Tire Repair

Lawn and Garden Tires

ATV & UTV Tires

Semi-Tractor & Trailer

Computer Wheel Balancing,

Tire Service & Recapping

Goodyear National Accounts

& State Contract Pricing

Off The Road, Backhoe

& Loader Tires

Financing Available

Log Skidder Tires

Agricultural Tires

Tire Chains

Rubber Tracks

Ag Bags, Bale, & Net Wrap

Oil Changes

Custom Wheels

Auto Accessories

Century Pickup Caps

Interstate Batteries

518-673-5399

THETIRESHOP.BIZ

OPEN MON.-SAT. 8-6

155 Erie Blvd., Canajoharie, NY

ON THE FARM TIRE SERVICE

LEGAL & CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

MIDDLEBURGH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Business Office
PO Box 606
Middleburgh, New York 12122
(518) 827-3600, X-3620

Notice of Tax Collector of Middleburgh Central School District

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of Middleburgh Central School District has set the school tax warrant and the public library levy for the school fiscal year 2025-2026.

Taxes may be paid at National Bank of Coxsackie, 4507 State Rt. 30, Middleburgh, NY, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. or the bank's night deposit slot may be used. Tax payments may be mailed to: School Tax Collector, PO Box 973, Middleburgh, NY 12122. Credit card payment for taxes accepted online at payments.municipipay.com/ny_middleburghcsd

Taxes may be paid without penalty from September 2, 2025 through October 1, 2025 but a 2% penalty fee will be added for the period October 2, 2025 through October 31, 2025, after which date the tax collection period shall end.

Effective July 1, 2025, the District will charge the taxpayer Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) for each dishonored check given in payment for taxes in accordance with General Municipal Law Section 5-328.

The tax rates per \$1000 of assessed valuation for each town are as follows:

Town	School Tax	Library Tax
Berne	36.933388	0.712573
Rensselaerville	36.218955	0.698789
Blenheim	29.860835	0.576119
Broome	14.034979	0.270783
Cobleskill	28.643208	0.552627
Conesville	14.618573	0.282043
Fulton	33.817083	0.652449
Middleburgh	30.265309	0.583932
Schoharie	22.635487	0.436717
Summit	36.452549	0.703296
Wright	28.066705	0.541504

Maria Jones
Tax Collector
Middleburgh Central School District
Dated: 8/20/2025

SCHOHARIE COUNTY NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF SCHOHARIE CITIZENS BANK, N.A., Plaintiff,

Against MICHAEL J. LUNDGREN, if living, and if dead, the respective heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignors, lienors, creditors and successors in interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and their respective husbands, wives or widow, if any, and each and every person not specifically named who may be entitled to or claim to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the verified complaint; all of whom and whose names and places of residence unknown, and cannot after diligent inquiry be ascertained by the Plaintiff, et al.,

Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered 06/16/2025, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction, Schoharie County Courthouse, Main Lobby, 290 Main Street, Schoharie, NY on 9/26/2025 at 9:00AM, premises known as 197 N. Main Street, Central Bridge, NY 12035, and described as follows: ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situated in the Town of Schoharie, county of Schoharie and State of New York State Section 47.2 Block 6 Lot 5

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$193,333.32 plus interest and costs. The Premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 2022-268 Max Smelyansky, Esq., Referee.

MCCABE, WEISBERG & CONWAY, LLC, 10 Midland Avenue, Suite 205, Port Chester, NY 10573

Dated: 7/29/2025 File Number: 21-300714 CA

SCHOHARIE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

A&A MAIN LLC. Filed with SSNY on 06/25/2025. Office: Schoharie County, SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 294 MAIN ST, SCHOHARIE, NY 13157. Purpose: Any Lawful

SCHOHARIE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

Superior Storage will sell at Public Auction all the personal property stored by: Darlene Zurek in storage unit #R161 at 11:30 am on Friday, September 12th, 2025, at the premises of Superior Storage 441 Main Street Richmondville, NY 12149. Karen Dolen/ Eric Dolen, as agent for Superior Storage.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF NAMES OF PERSONS APPEARING AS OWNERS OF CERTAIN UNCLAIMED PROPERTY HELD BY THE BANK OF RICHMONDVILLE COBLESKILL, NY

The following persons appear from our records to be entitled to unclaimed property consisting of cash amounts of fifty dollars or more.

AMOUNTS DUE ON DEPOSIT

Averill, William P. Kathryn A. Averill 90 Abiding Way Gerrardstown, WV 25420-4230
Carl, Melissa L. 723 County Route 1 Cobleskill, NY 12023
Balins, Viesturs 1143 State Route 7 Richmondville, NY 12149
Bowen, Mary 42 Timber Point Road Rock Hill, NY 12775
Brennan, Richard T. 160 Elm Street Cobleskill, NY 12043
Dinsmore, Glenn R. Carol A. Dinsmore 295 Heathen Creek Road P.O. Box 2 West Fulton, NY 12194-0002
Elaine M. Marcle Trust Leo McAllister – Trustee P.O. Box 69 Cobleskill, NY 12043-0069
Fountain, Rosemary T. Edward J. Fountain c/o Edward Fountain 107 North Street, Apt. 1 Cobleskill, NY 12043
Grasley, Carol A. 545 Furnaceville Road Richmondville, NY 12149
Hanley, Elizabeth P.O. Box 265 Sharon Springs, NY 13459-0265
Jaqueway, Jerry K. Roberta A. Jaqueway 427 Terrace Mountain Road Schoharie, NY 12157
Madden, Jacqueline C. P.O. Box 180 Davenport, NY 13750-0180

Meetttook, Kiran Attorney Special Account IOLA 2078 State Route 145 Middleburgh, NY 12122
Morell, Daniel C. 108 Walbar Street Rochester, NY 14609
Olsen, Charles R. Donna L. Olsen 114 Church Street Sharon Springs, NY 13459
Olsen, Donna L. ITF Michael G. Ray 114 Church Street Sharon Springs, NY 13459
Reightmyer, Andrew W. 314 Beckers Corners Road Sloansville, NY 12160
Rockwell, Elmer F. Shelmia Rockwell 446 Hill Road Cobleskill, NY 12043
Severns, Rhiannon Richard Severns, Jr. 122 Bray Road Sloansville, NY 12160
Stevenson, Karin 49 Blue Barns Rexford, NY 12148
Town of Schoharie Town Justice Account Kenneth Knutsen P.O. Box 865 Schoharie, NY 12157-0865

A report of Unclaimed Property has been made to the Comptroller of the State of New York, pursuant to Section 301 of the Abandoned Property Law. A list of the names contained in such notice is on file and open to public inspection at the principal office of the Bank of Richmondville, located at 857 East Main Street, the City of Cobleskill, New York, where such abandoned property is payable. Such abandoned property will be paid on or before October 31 next to persons establishing to its satisfaction their right to receive the same. In the succeeding November, and on or before the tenth day thereof, such unclaimed property will be paid to the Comptroller of the State of New York, and shall thereupon cease to be liable, therefore.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Jefferson Town Board will hold a public hearing on September 11, 2025, at 7:00 pm, at 677 N Harkersfield Rd., Jefferson, NY 12093. The purpose of this hearing is to hear public comments to adopt Local Law #3 of 2025, amending Local Law #1 of 2016, Town of Jefferson Solar Energy Facilities Law. The regular town board meeting will follow. By order of the Jefferson Town Board. Vanessa Irwin, Town Clerk.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

Superior Storage will sell at Public Auction all the personal property stored by: Rick Kundert in storage unit #R165 at 11:30 am on Friday, September 12th, 2025, at the premises of Superior Storage 441 Main Street Richmondville, NY 12149. Karen Dolen/ Eric Dolen, as agent for Superior Storage.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

Job Posting: Clerk/ Treasurer

The Village of Schoharie New York, is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Clerk/ Treasurer. This is a full-time position responsible for administrative, financial, and record-keeping functions essential to the operation of local government.

Responsibilities include:

Maintaining official municipal records, minutes, and correspondence.

Managing accounts payable/receivable, payroll, and financial reporting.

Preparing and administering the annual budget.

Collecting and recording taxes, fees, and other revenues.

Ensuring compliance with state and local laws, policies, and reporting requirements.

Assisting elected officials, staff, and the public with information and services.

Qualifications:

Prior municipal, accounting, or administrative experience preferred.

Strong organizational, communication, and computer skills (MS Office, financial software).

Knowledge of municipal finance and record management is a plus.

Ability to work independently, maintain confidentiality, and manage multiple priorities.

Compensation & Benefits: Salary will be commensurate with experience. A benefits package is available.

How to Apply: Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and at least three professional references to:

Mayor Colleen M Henry

300 Main St, POB 219

Schoharie NY 12157

mayor.scho@gmail.com

518-295-8500

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled

The Village of Schoharie is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

Superior Storage will sell at Public Auction all the personal property stored by: Zoran Crnkovic in storage unit #C123 at 9:30am on Friday, September 12th, 2025, at the premises of Superior Storage: 2711 State Route 7 Cobleskill, NY 12043. Karen Dolen/Eric Dolen, as agent for Superior Storage.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

Superior Storage will sell at Public Auction all the personal property stored by: Zoran Crnkovic in storage unit #C160 at 9:30am on Friday, September 12th, 2025, at the premises of Superior Storage: 2711 State Route 7 Cobleskill, NY 12043. Karen Dolen/Eric Dolen, as agent for Superior Storage.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

RUN XIN BLOOMWELL LLC. Filed with SSNY on 06/27/2025. Office: Schoharie County, SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 149 BRIDGE ST, SCHOHARIE, NY 12157. Purpose: Any Lawful

SCHOHARIE COUNTY NOTICE OF MEETING

Public notice:

Town of Schoharie Planning Board
The Planning Board of the Town of Schoharie will hold a workshop session on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 7:00 PM at the Schoharie Town Hall, 300 Main Street, Schoharie, NY. Primarily held to review the proposed amendments to the Highbridge Special Use Permit and Site Plan, any other business may be conducted.

Kathryn Saddlemire, Chairman
Town of Schoharie Planning Board

SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURGH RESIDENTS
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
OPEN POSITION AT THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
The Town of Middleburgh Highway Department has an open position for a Full time Laborer. A CDL license is preferred but not required to apply. Please stop at the Town Clerks office, email the clerk at tnmidd@gmail.com or call 518-827- 5100 for an application.
Dated: 8/25/2025
Renee Schmidt
Town of Middleburgh

SCHOHARIE COUNTY NOTICE OF SALE

REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF SCHOHARIE

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, FOR M A N U F A C T U R E D HOUSING CONTRACT SENIOR/SUBORDINATE P A S S - T H R O U G H CERTIFICATE TRUST 2002-2, Plaintiff - against - CONNIE F. MEYERS A/K/A CONNIE MEYERS, et al Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on June 17, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in the Lobby Area, County Office Building, Village of Schoharie, Schoharie County, New York on the 26th day of September, 2025 at 10:00 AM. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being on the Southwesterly side of NYS Route 10 in the Town of Seward, County of Schoharie and State of New York. Premises known as 5951 Route 10, Cobleskill, NY 12043. (Section: 42., Block: 2, Lot: 19.2)

Approximate amount of lien \$147,978.94 plus interest and costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale.

Index No. 2023-3. Max Smelyansky, Esq., Referee.

McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff

420 Lexington Avenue, Suite 840

New York, NY 10170

Tel. 347/286-7409

Dated: June 26, 2025
During the COVID-19 health emergency, bidders are required to comply with all governmental health requirements in effect at the time of sale including but not limited to, wearing face coverings and maintaining social distancing (at least 6-feet apart) during the auction, while tendering deposit and at any subsequent closing. Bidders are also required to comply with the Foreclosure Auction Rules and COVID-19 Health Emergency Rules issued by the Supreme Court of this County in addition to the conditions set forth in the Terms of Sale.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF Schoharie, PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff, vs. Karen Merrigan, Defendant.
Pursuant to an Order Confirming Referee Report and Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on May 24, 2023, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Schoharie County Supreme Courthouse, 290 Main Street, Schoharie, NY 12157 on September 24, 2025 at 11:00 a.m., premises known as 135 Seward Lane, Cobleskill, NY 12043. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Seward, County of Schoharie and State of New York, Section 041.00, Block 04 and Lot 04.100. The approximate amount of judgment is \$229,138.70 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to the provisions of filed Judgment Index #453/2017. Lee C. Hartjen, Esq., Referee

Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Firm File No.: 252542-1

SCHOHARIE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

Superior Storage will sell at Public Auction all the personal property stored by: Patricia Sawyer in storage unit #W84 at 11:00 am on Friday, September 12th, 2025 at the premises of Superior Storage 1362 State Route 7 Richmondville, NY 12149. Karen Dolen/Eric Dolen, as agent for Superior Storage.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF SCHOHARIE, BANK OF AMERICA, N.A, Plaintiff, vs. SCHOHARIE SENIOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FUND CORPORATION, ET AL., Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on June 13, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Schoharie County Supreme Court Courthouse, 290 Main Street, Schoharie, NY 12157 on September 22, 2025 at 12:00 p.m., premises known as 106, 114, and 120 Birchez Lane and 190 Main Street, Schoharie, NY 12157. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Village of Schoharie, County of Schoharie and State of New York, Section 72.17, Block 6 and Lots 10 & 1.1. Approximate amount of judgment is \$14,681,584.59 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #2017-354.

John Jeffrey Hoke, Esq., Referee

Alston & Bird LLP, Joseph G. Tully, Esq., Reade W. Seligmann, Esq., Richard J. Galati, Jr., 90 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10016, Attorneys for Plaintiff

SCHOHARIE COUNTY NOTICE OF MEETING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Village of Cobleskill Planning Board will conduct a public hearing on September 10, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., at the Cornell Cooperative Extension building, 173 S. Grand Street, Cobleskill, NY 12043, on a site plan application submitted for 414 N Grand Street, Cobleskill, SBL#: 56.9-1-1, to construct a 26.17 acre, 5 MW AC utility-scale solar energy system. 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.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

Public notice:

Town of Schoharie Planning Board
There will be a Public Hearing held by the Planning Board of the Town of Schoharie to consider amendments to the Highbridge Special Use Permit and Site Plan for property located at 232 State Route 30A, Schoharie, NY, tax map ID 48.-4.-22.

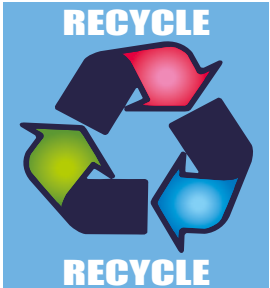
The hearing will be held Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at 7:00 PM at the Schoharie Town Hall, 300 Main Street, Schoharie, NY. All interested parties are urged to attend. If unable to attend, please mail comments to Town of Schoharie Planning Board, P.O.Box 284, Schoharie, NY by September 16, 2025.

Kathryn Saddlemire, Chairman
Town of Schoharie Planning Board

SCHOHARIE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

Superior Storage will sell at Public Auction all the personal property stored by: Zoran Crnkovic in storage unit #C162 at 9:30am on Friday, September 12th, 2025, at the premises of Superior Storage: 2711 State Route 7 Cobleskill, NY 12043. Karen Dolen/Eric Dolen, as agent for Superior Storage.

Schoharie County will hold a public hearing on Friday September 19, 2025, at 9:15 a.m. at 284 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Schoharie, NY 12157 for the purpose of hearing public comments on Schoharie County's community development needs, and to discuss the possible submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for 2025. The CDBG program is administered by the New York State Office of Community Renewal (OCR) and will make available to eligible local governments approximately \$100 million for housing, economic development, public facilities, public infrastructure, and planning activities, with the principal purpose of benefiting low/moderate income people. Schoharie County is applying for \$260,000 in CDBG funds to assist microenterprise businesses. The hearing will provide further information about the CDBG program, including progress towards beneficiary goals and program objectives, and will allow for citizen participation in the development of any proposed grant applications and/or provide technical assistance to develop alternate proposals. Comments on the CDBG program or proposed project(s) will be received at this time. The hearing is being conducted pursuant to Section 570.486, Subpart I of the CFR and in compliance with the requirements of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. 284 Main Street, 3 rd Floor is accessible to people with disabilities. If special accommodation is needed for persons with disabilities, those with hearing impairments, or those in need of translation from English, those individuals should contact Shane Nickle at 518-295-8770, at least three days in advance of the hearing date to allow for necessary arrangements. Written comments may also be submitted to Shane Nickle at shane@co.schoharie.ny.us by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 24, 2025.



SCHOHARIE COUNTY NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF SCHOHARIE 21st Mortgage Corporation, Plaintiff AGAINST Scott A. Madden and Danielle Madden, A/K/A Danielle M. Madden, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered March 14, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Courthouse Lobby, Schoharie County Courthouse, 290 Main Street, Schoharie, NY 12157 on September 29, 2025 at 10:00 AM, premises known as 114 Belling Road, Middleburgh, NY 12157. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Middleburgh, County of Schoharie, and State of New York, SBL#: 95.-4.-11. Approximate amount of judgment \$103,811.15 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #2022-407. John R. Seebold, Esq., Referee Rowlands, LeBrou & Griesmer, PLLC 480 Broadway, Suite 250 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 40317 86713



CLASSIFIED & LEGAL ADVERTISING

We Buy Houses!

Liz Buys Houses Connects Home Sellers with Legitimate Cash Buyers Nationwide!
No Repairs. No Fuss.

- Fair Cash Offer
- Quick Closing
- No Realtor Fees
- No House Repairs
- Simple Home Sale
- Convenient Closing Date



CALL (888) 704-5670





BATH REMODEL

Safety. Style. Stress-Free Installation.

CALL NOW
855.564.2680

SPECIAL OFFER
Waiving All Installation Costs!

Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 9/30/25



Have Computer Problems?

Get **\$20 OFF** Any Service

Use Coupon Code
42513



Friendly Certified Computer Repair Experts

- ✓ 24/7 Emergency Service
- ✓ Data Recovery
- ✓ Virus Removal
- ✓ Regular Maintenance

Call Now Get a Free Diagnosis
866-848-0045

Geeks OnSite

DENTAL Insurance

Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

A less expensive way to help get the dental care you deserve!

- ✓ Get help paying dental bills and keep more money in your pocket
- ✓ This is real dental insurance – NOT just a discount plan
- ✓ You can get coverage before your next checkup

Don't wait! Call now and we'll rush you a FREE Information Kit with all the details.

Product not available in all states. Acceptance is guaranteed for one insurance policy/individual of this type. The specific offer is not available in IL, MI, call 1-800-999-4339 for a similar offer in NY. To find a provider in the network visit us at <http://www.dental50plus.com/nypress>. For complete details about the solicitation of insurance, please contact us. Certificate: CDM Insurance Policy PHS Certificate: CSM ID: 12546, NY CSM# Insurance Policy: PHS ID: 15564, NY PHS# ID: 15564, NY PHS#

FREE Information Kit



Visit us online at
www.dental50plus.com/nypress

1-855-225-1434

RENTAL SHOWCASE

HOUSE FOR RENT NEAR COBLESKILL: 2 BEDROOM, 1.5 BATH, appliances, small garage, recently remodeled. Snow plowing, lawn maintenance and garbage pick up included. No smoking, No pets. References Required. \$1500 per month. Call 518-296-8752.

TWO STUDIO APARTMENTS FOR RENT: \$700 utilities included. The other is \$600 utilities NOT included. 1 month security with 1st months rent. NO PETS. Call 518-221-0553

PRESTON HOLLOW HOUSE FOR RENT 3 BD PLUS additional room. Living room, kitchen, mudroom ,2 car garage with workshop. Oil heat \$1200/m plus security. Available sept 1. 518-231-1391.

RICHMONDVILLE 1 BED-ROOM apt off street parking includes trash-available immediately \$775. 518-466-6607

UPSTAIRS APARTMENT- 1 BEDROOM. \$900 MONTHLY PLUS UTILITIES. First and last month plus security deposit of \$900; yearly lease. Newly renovated, no pets, off street parking space; West Main Street, Cobleskill. Call 703-431-3400. Avail 09/01.

Village of Cobleskill -- Office Position

PT 20 hrs. per week with opportunity for advancement. Mon. to Fri., flexible work schedule.

General office work, data entry, word processing, filing, phones, 2 evening meetings per month. Minimum requirements include High School Diploma or equivalent. This is a Civil Service Position □ Office Keyboard Worker, no Civil Service test requirement, exempted by NYS HELPS program.

Office experience beneficial, not required. \$18 to \$21 per hour based on experience.

Find Applications online at: www.schohariecounty-ny.gov

Mail or deliver County Applications to: Village of Cobleskill, 378 Mineral Springs Road, Cobleskill, NY 12043 or email to clerk@cobleskill.org

DESIGN ENGINEER I

Blasch Precision Ceramics, Inc., produces and markets net shape ceramic and refractory components to a wide variety of industrial markets worldwide. We are seeking candidates for our **Mold and Process Engineering**.

Skills:

- Excellent verbal and written communication
- Dedication to provide outstanding customer service
- Knowledge of SolidWorks (preferred) and/or other 3D modeling software
- Excellent organizational abilities
- Excellent presentation abilities
- Project Management
- Results driven
- Mathematical and technical capabilities

Required Education and Experience:

- Bachelor of Science in Engineering or Science or equivalent experience
- 1-2 years' experience in an applicable engineering field.

To view full job description, send resume and to apply:
<https://app.partners.jobcase.com/job/5X43g0QR6nXvy5bN3zPmVd9Aw4TMcc/>

HR@blaschceramics.com



Job Posting: Clerk/Treasurer

The Village of Schoharie New York, is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Clerk/Treasurer. This is a full-time position responsible for administrative, financial, and record-keeping functions essential to the operation of local government.

Responsibilities include:

- *Maintaining official municipal records, minutes, and correspondence.
- *Managing accounts payable/receivable, payroll, and financial reporting.
- *Preparing and administering the annual budget.
- *Collecting and recording taxes, fees, and other revenues.
- *Ensuring compliance with state and local laws, policies, and reporting requirements.
- *Assisting elected officials, staff, and the public with information and services.

Qualifications:

- *Prior municipal, accounting, or administrative experience preferred.
- *Strong organizational, communication, and computer skills (MS Office, financial software).
- *Knowledge of municipal finance and record management is a plus.
- *Ability to work independently, maintain confidentiality, and manage multiple priorities.

Compensation & Benefits:(Salary will be commensurate with experience. A benefits package is available.

How to Apply:(Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and at least three professional references to:

Mayor Colleen M Henry
300 Main St, POB 219
Schoharie NY 12157
mayor.scho@gmail.com
518-295-8500

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled
The Village of Schoharie is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

DRIVER WITH CDL

and Hazmat License
Call C.O.D. Oil Delivery
(518) 234-2741
Monday-Friday
8am-12pm and 1pm-4pm

ATTORNEY--DIVORCE \$389 - Uncontested divorce papers prepared. Only one signature required. Poor person Application included if applicable. Separation agreements. Custody and support petitions. 518-274-0380

ATTORNEY--INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT? Don't Accept the insurance company's first offer. Many injured parties are entitled to major cash settlements. Get a free evaluation to see what your case is really worth. 100% Free Evaluation. Call Now. 1-888-454-4717. Be ready with your zip code to connect with the closest provider

AUTO DONATIONS--GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? Your car donation to Patriotic Hearts helps veterans find work or start their own business. Fast free pick. Running or not! Call 24/7: 1-888-251-3135.

AUTOS WANTED--WE BUY 8,000 CARS A WEEK. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-855-403-3374

BUYING/ SELLING--WE BUY HOUSES FOR CASH AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-888-704-5670

FOR SALE--PRIVACY HEDGE! Arborvitae 6-foot Reduced to \$125/each. Free Installation, Free Delivery. Fast growing, High-quality Beautiful & Bushy! Order now to reserve for early Spring delivery. LowCostTrees.com 518-536-1367

HEALTH--ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-855-399-2719

HEALTH--HEARING AIDS!! High-quality rechargeable, powerful Audien hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Tiny and NEARLY INVISIBLE! 45-day money back guarantee! 855-819-7060

HEALTH--ATTENTION: VIAGRA AND CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-855-399-2582

Home Improvement--AGING ROOF? NEW HOMEOWNER? STORM DAMAGE? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-888-920-9937

HOME IMPROVEMENT--PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES WITH BRIGGS & STRATTON® POWERPROTECT(TM) standby generators - the most powerful home standby generators available. Industry-leading comprehensive warranty - 7 years (\$849 value.) Proudly made in the U.S.A. Call Briggs & Stratton 1-888-605-1496

HOME IMPROVEMENT--GET DISH SATELLITE TV + INTERNET! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-866-782-4069

HOME IMPROVEMENT--DO YOU NEED A ROOF OR ENERGY EFFICIENT WINDOWS & HELP PAYING FOR IT? YOU MAY QUALIFY THROUGH NEW RELIEF PROGRAMS (800) 944-9393 or visit NYProgramFunding.org to qualify. Approved applications will have the work completed by a repair crew provided by: HOMEOWNER FUNDING. Not affiliated with State or Gov Programs.

HOME IMPROVEMENT--BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at AFFORDABLE PRICES! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-855-399-2076

MISCELLANEOUS--CONSUMER CELLULAR - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-919-1682

MISCELLANEOUS--DIRECTV- All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Direct and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-534-6918

MISCELLANEOUS--GET BOOST INFINITE! Unlimited Talk, Text and Data For Just \$25/mo! The Power Of 3 5G Networks, One Low Price! Call Today and Get The Latest iPhone Every Year On Us! 844-329-9391

SERVICES--PEST CONTROL: PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for service or an inspection today! 1-866-448-8311 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

TRAVEL SERVICES--SAVE ON YOUR TRAVEL PLANS! Up to 75% More than 500 AIRLINES and 300,000 HOTELS across the world. Let us do the research for you for FREE! Call: 877 988 7277

Spotlight on...HISTORY

Cobleskill Rural Cemetery tour highlights history and kicks off spooky season

By Pete Lindemann, Times Journal Staff

I'll be leading a tour of the Cobleskill Rural Cemetery on Saturday, September 13, at 10 a.m. Meet at the gazebo, just up the hill from the entrance, at 126 Quarry Street.

The tour is a presentation of the Cobleskill Historical Society. It should last about an hour and includes some uphill walking—and about 25 stops.

This article will give you some of the highlights of the tour, but first, I have a confession to make:

I have a fear.
My brother-in-law has a fear of being buried alive. My fear, on the other hand, is leading a tour through a cemetery with everyone following me...and I get lost.

So a tour like this, in a large cemetery, takes a lot of planning. I had to figure out the best, most efficient, non-getting-lostable route.

The starting point was easy; we'll begin at the beginning—with the little girl who started this big cemetery.

CECELIA SHAVER

The first burial in Cobleskill Rural Cemetery, in 1862, was a young girl—eight-year-old Cecelia Shaver, daughter of a hardware merchant, Charles H. Shaver, and his wife Salina.

Before that, people were buried in the village graveyard, behind the old Lutheran Church. The old Lutheran Church was located on Main Street where Vijaya's store now stands—there is a plaque there marking the spot—and was called the Brick Church.

In 1868, the present Lutheran Church was built, and, in 1869, the Brick Church was torn down. The bodies in the church graveyard were trundled up the hill to the new cemetery by the Lutherans.

Soon thereafter, the Cobleskill Cemetery Association was formed, and the surrounding land was purchased from Hezekiah Kromer, who's buried near Cecelia Shaver.

The Cobleskill Rural Cemetery is part of the Rural Cemetery Movement, which took place across the US in the mid-1800s. Due to overcrowding and health concerns of urban and village cemeteries, the movement was characterized by cemeteries with landscaped, park-like settings.

It mirrored changing attitudes toward death in the nineteenth century. Images of hope and immortality were popular in rural cemeteries in contrast to the puritanical pessimism depicted in earlier cemeteries.

Rural cemeteries provided a place for the general public to enjoy outdoor recreation amidst art and sculpture previously available only for the wealthy. In general, they preceded public parks. That's the case in Cobleskill—the cemetery was established in 1862, while Centre Park came about in 1906.

CHARLES COURTER

If there's one man who is responsible for the Village of Cobleskill as we know it, it's Charles Courter. He was responsible for the railroad coming to town, the bank, the fire department, the west brick block, and the Lutheran church.

Courter was born in Schoharie in 1808. When he was 15 he went to work in the store of Freeman Stanton in Middleburgh. He then went into business himself in Lawersville, where he met and married Helen Lawyer, daughter of Brigadier General Thomas Lawyer. He was 27 and she was 19.

Thus Courter became connected to one of the leading families of the county. They moved to Cobleskill in 1836 and purchased the Lambert Lawyer Mansion, which you know now as the Bull's Head Inn.

Courter built a store upon the grounds and was engaged in the mercantile business until 1864. That's when he and his son Stanton organized the First National Bank of Cobleskill.

In 1864, Courter arranged for the purchase of the old no. 4 hand engine from the city of Albany, and helped organize Engine Company No. 2, which was put to the test in The Big Fire of 1873.

Courter was one of the leading proponents of the railroad coming to Cobleskill, which it did in late 1864,

and he was one of the directors of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad.

He turned his attention next to the village, and was responsible for the large west brick block, National Bank, and costly Lutheran church.

Charles Courter died on New Year's Day 1879. When his pastor tried to comfort him with hopes of recovery, Courter told him, "Oh no, this is the end of this earth to me."

Alas, the seeds of mortality had taken a firm unyielding hold upon the vital organs—according to his obituary—and at 15 minutes before two o'clock on New Year's Day, having attained the full measure of his allotted three score years and ten, Charles Courter passed peacefully and calmly to the other shore, surrounded by all the members of his sorrowing family.

HENRIETTA COURTER

Charles Courter had four daughters, Josephine, Henrietta, Cordelia, and Helen—and all married well. At the Bull's Head Inn, in the front room on the left, as you face it, you can see today Henrietta's name carved in the glass window.

The story is that she got a diamond engagement ring from her suitor, John Jay Dickinson, and wanted to make sure it was a real diamond.

It was, they married, and five children followed.

STANTON COURTER

Charles Courter's only son was Stanton Courter. He helped his father organize the First National Bank in Cobleskill in 1864. He worked in the lumber business, too, but is most famous for bringing electricity to Cobleskill.

In 1892, Stanton Courter installed a small steam-power plant on a site south of the Courter Mansion, for the purpose of generating electricity to furnish lights for Cobleskill Village's streets, business places, and homes.

On Christmas Eve 1892, electric lights were first turned on in the village. At first, there was a limited number of hours for service for business places, residences, and street lighting—with no service during the daytime. And there were no streetlights turned on during the moonlit period of each month.

The power machinery was started up each afternoon to supply service from dusk until two in the morning and during the winter months; it was started again about 5 a.m. to furnish lights until daylight.

The power house may still be seen, on Everett Street, off MacArthur Avenue.

The publisher of the Cobleskill Herald, Charles T. Conover, recalled this about Stanton Courter:

"Stant Courter was a well-known figure, dignified and impressive in appearance, given to talking to himself and gnashing his teeth."

Stanton Courter, Charles Courter's only son and heir to the family name, never married.

SETH WAKEMAN

Within a stone's throw of Charles Courter is the man who built Courter's home—Seth Wakeman. Wakeman, the New England master builder, came from Connecticut about 1796 and settled in Lawersville.

His first work was the building of Judge Beekman's palatial residence, now known as the Beekman Mansion.

In 1802, while Wakeman was at work on that building, innkeeper Lambert Lawyer's house burned, and he called upon Wakeman to build a new one for him. Later, Charles Courter bought the home, and it became known as the Courter Mansion. Today, however, this house is better known as the Bull's Head Inn.

In 1823, Seth Wakeman was one of the founders of the first library in the county—the United Library in the County of Schoharie—located in Wakeman's house in Lawersville.

THREE WWI VETS

If you stop at a certain point in the cemetery, you will see three Cobleskill High School soldiers who died during World War I, as described in the Cobleskill Index of December 5, 1918:

"Somewhat strange seems the play of fate whereby three Cobleskill High School soldier boys who died

from pneumonia in widely separated sections came home to rest almost side by side in Cobleskill Rural Cemetery.

"Sergt. Fred L. Stilson, Lieut. Harry Marcle and Private Ralph Zeh. Just a path divides the lots separating the three graves.

"Sergt. Stilson died here in New York state at Ft. Ontario, Lieut. Marcle at Camp Eustis, Virginia and Ralph Zeh at Columbus Barracks at Columbus, Ohio. Frank Story the other soldier victim of pneumonia was buried at Schoharie."

Stilson, for whom the Cobleskill American Legion Post is named, wrote home in a letter, shortly before his death, from Fort Ontario in Oswego:

"I didn't write you about being sick because I thought you might worry, but I have been having the popular disease of the day. Quite a bunch here are getting it.

"Ten of our nurses are in the hospital and five of our officers, beside 60 men. We have about 600 cases of it up here from the Syracuse camp, making about 1,500 patients in all, and believe me, we have been some busy.



Historic photo

Willis Goss MacDonald—the doctor whose statue stands in Cobleskill's Veterans' Memorial Centre Park—will be on the Cobleskill Rural Cemetery tour on September 13.

"They gave me two more men in the dispensary, or I don't know what I would have done.

We have had several fellows die, from the influenza developing into pneumonia.

"It's pretty tough on a fellow to die that way.

"They are working the nurses all overtime—from five in the morning until nine at night. They are trying to give everyone the best care possible.

That's one good thing about the army. They can't do too much for you when you are sick...

"I felt bum all day Thursday, but didn't want to give up. About five o'clock I took my temperature and it was 103 and a half so I thought I had better go to bed.

"Don't worry about me for I'll be all right in a day or two now. Fred"

Sgt. Fred L. Stilson died shortly thereafter, of influenza, on October 13, 1918.

WILLIS GOSS MACDONALD

Willis Goss MacDonald was born in Cobleskill, the son of Sylvester MacDonald and Louisa Goss.

He attended Cobleskill Free Academy, Albany State Normal School, Cornell University, Albany Medical College, and the University of Berlin.

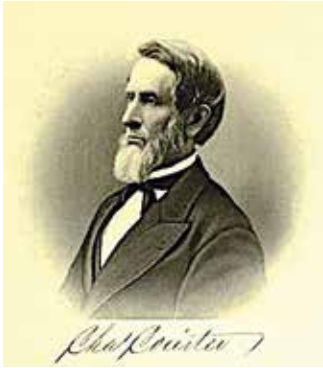
His specialty was abdominal surgery. It is estimated that Dr. MacDonald performed over 25,000 surgeries.

During the Spanish-American War in 1898 he served as major and surgeon at Fort McPherson, Georgia, and then donated his medical instruments to the service.

He moved to Albany and helped lead the movement that culminated in the erection of the Albany Hospital.

On Christmas Day, 1910, Dr. MacDonald was stricken with pneumonia, lingering for six days, before succumbing to the illness on December 30, 1910, with his father at his bedside.

It was reported "...his exceedingly fleshy condition made every form of heroic treatment futile."



Historic photo

Charles Courter—the man who made Cobleskill what it is today—lived in the Courter Mansion, now the Bull's Head Inn.

In 1913, Sylvester MacDonald received permission from the Cobleskill Village Board of Trustees to erect a memorial to his son in Center Park.

But the father would not live to see his son's statue, as eight months later Sylvester MacDonald died at age 89.

On Saturday afternoon, May 29, 1915, the unveiling of the MacDonald statue took place in the park with almost 2,000 in attendance listening to keynote speaker and intimate friend of MacDonald, former governor Martin Glynn, celebrate the doctor for an hour and forty-five minutes.

One of those in attendance that day was a J. H. Mann, who wrote to the Cobleskill Index on June 10, 1915:

"I recall meeting the Doctor frequently in Albany when he was actively engaged in his practice. I saw him frequently in his office on Eagle street and in his auto as he dashed hither and thither in the performance of his work.

"His size or dimensions would not admit a seatmate in his auto. He always occupied a whole seat. His odd and grotesque appearance as he prepared for an operation at the hospital stirred or moved a person to laughter but the nurses and hospital attendants had great respect for the man.

"All recognized his skill and ability."

GEORGE W. SNYDER

George Washington Snyder graduated first in his class at West Point in 1856. He served as a first lieutenant in the Army Corp of Engineers.

At the First Battle of Bull Run, he served as an aide to Gen. Heintzelman and was in the saddle for 36 straight hours, and among the last to leave the field of battle.

Snyder was at Fort Sumter when it was bombarded for 33 straight hours, marking the beginning of the Civil War.

General Robert Anderson, the union commander at Sumter, later said, "Lieut. Snyder was with me all the time that I was in Fort Sumter...I employed him in nearly every case when it was necessary that I should communicate verbally with the officers of the South Carolina or Confederate authorities in relation to any matters of importance.

"In no one instance did a mistake ever occur either in his communication or in that of the reply."

Twice the flag was shot down and in a hail of shot and shell he replaced it.

Snyder was sent to Washington to oversee the construction of forts, where he was stricken with typhoid fever and died November 11, 1861, at age 28.

His body lay in state in the Assembly Chamber; then, in a beautiful metallic case, was carried to the Court House in Schoharie where it was viewed.

The Schoharie Republican reported, "At Cobleskill, national flags were draped in habiliments of mourning, were raised at half-mast and suspended across the street...the street was lighted by torches, and the bell tolled at the arrival and departure of the procession."

He was buried with full military honors in the family plot in Wamerville, where, over his grave, on May 30, 1877, the very first Decoration Day observance in Schoharie County was held by the George W. Snyder Post #18 of the Grand Army of the Republic.

In 1913, Lt. Snyder's remains, along with 11 family members, were reinterred in the Cobleskill Rural Cemetery.

The others received new markers, but the handsome granite shaft is the original one marking the gravesite of one of the gallant defenders of Fort Sumter.

The Jefferson Courier of July 10, 1913, reported:

"Smith Bros. of Cobleskill have been engaged in moving eleven bodies from the cemetery on the old Snyder homestead farm at Wamerville to a lot in Cobleskill cemetery...

"When the coffin containing the remains of Lieut. George B. [sic] Snyder was taken out of the copper casket was found to be in an excellent state of preservation, and when the plate over the glass was removed, the body, aside from discoloration, was recognizable.

"Sylvester Warner who knew him as a boy said he could recognize him readily. The blue uniform with gold buttons and trimmings of a Captain were well kept.

"The other bodies in metallic caskets were Wm. Snyder, Sr. and John Snyder. The latter's body had bleached as white as chalk."

POTTER'S FIELD

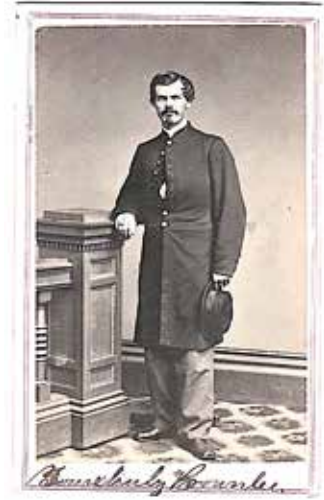
Like many cemeteries, Cobleskill Rural has a potter's field—a place for the burial of indigent persons.

I recently reviewed the records of the cemetery from 1886 to 1968 and found 57 persons had been buried in the potter's field.

Among them was perhaps the last freed woman in New York State—Sarah Rogers. I am indebted to local historian Pat Hults for bringing Rogers's story to my attention.

According to the Albany Argus of March 6, 1888:

"The last freed woman in New York State, Mrs. Sarah Rodgers [sic], better known as 'Old Sarah,' died on Friday at Cobleskill.



Historic photo

James Brownlee of the 134th New York Infantry—wounded seven times at Gettysburg—was featured in military medical textbooks.

"She was 103 years old, according to the best evidence at hand. She was born a slave, and was owned by William Snyder, of Cobleskill, and grandfather of William Snyder, of Wamersville [sic], N. Y.

"She was given to his daughter Maria as a part of her marriage dower at the time of her marriage to Henry Mann."

The Argus of March 11, 1888, reported:

"Mrs. Sarah Rogers, who died recently at a great old age in this village, was born a slave in this town.

"A difference of opinion exists as to her actual age at the time of her death, some are claiming it to have been 103 years, while others insist that it was not less than 108 years."

JAMES BROWNLEE

James Brownlee was born in Ireland and came to the US at age 10. Upon his enlistment in the 134th Infantry in the Civil War, he was 21 years old, with dark hair, blue eyes, and 5 feet, 8 inches in height.

At Gettysburg, the 134th brought 488 men to the field, losing 42 killed, 151 wounded, and 59 missing.

Brownlee was wounded seven times that day. He was finally knocked down by a chunk of railroad iron about 18 inches long fired from a Confederate cannon that struck his knapsack.

One surgeon declared of him, "Strange to say he recovered from his wounds." His wounds were such that Brownlee was featured in military medical textbooks.

The Governor awarded Brownlee the Brevet rank of 2nd lieutenant. He returned to Cobleskill, lived on Rose Street, and was a butcher, then owned a clothing store.

He and his wife Mary had four sons, one of whom became a doctor. James Brownlee died of a stroke in 1904 at age 62.

LESTER HOWE

The story of the discovery of Howe Caverns goes like this:

Lester Howe noticed that his dairy herd always pastured in the same spot, not on his land, but land owned by his neighbor and friend, Henry Wetsel.

As Howe approached his herd, he noticed the change in temperature, it was cooler, and he pulled aside the bushes and found "Blowing Rock."

He bought the property from his neighbor in 1843 for \$100 and turned it into a successful show cave, the third in the US, with Mammoth Caves in Kentucky and Grand Caverns in Virginia.

But Lester Howe overextended himself financially, building a hotel at the entrance and a miniature railroad in the caverns.

After losing the cave to creditors, he moved to East Cobleskill and revealed, on his deathbed, that he had discovered another cave, more beautiful than the first, a mysterious Garden of Eden.

To this day, Lester Howe's Garden of Eden has never been found.

There is a story that when I-88 was being built, a large hole in the ground was discovered by the workmen near Shad Point.

They filled it with rock. The publisher of the Cobleskill Herald, Charles T. Conover, recalled this about Lester Howe:

"An eccentric named Howe, the discoverer of Howe's Cave, lived a few miles southeast of the village. He got me down to his place one Sunday, filled me up with a lot of weird stuff and I printed some of it.

"I wonder what it was about."

J. ERNEST WHARTON

J. Ernest Wharton was born in Binghamton, moved to Schoharie County, and graduated Richmondville High School.

After service in WWI, he graduated Albany Law School. He served as Schoharie County DA from 1932 to 1941, judge from 1941 to 1951, and congressman from 1951 to 1964.

In 1960 his congressional opponent was Gore Vidal, whom he defeated to win a fifth term.

In 1979, Jim Poole of the Times Journal interviewed Wharton:

"I worked with Jack Kennedy a little while he was in Congress, but nobody saw him very much. He used to work 'T to T.'

"He'd fly down to Washington from Boston on Tuesday and fly back on Thursday. All the votes were arranged so that they'd be on those days...

"I remember him [Lyndon Johnson] turning off all the lights in the White House to save energy. But I always thought he was afraid they might drop a bomb because the White House shows up so much from the air at night...

"From an old district attorney's angle, that hotel break-in [Watergate] was simply a breaking-and-entry case.

"In Schoharie County we always regarded breaking and entry as being associated with chicken thieves. It was phenomenal the way the thing was built up...

"[President Jimmy] Carter has never impressed me. His foreign relations have been pathetic. We lost the Panama Canal, we're in wrong with Russia and the Iran situation seems to be handled very ineptly and weakly from a State Department angle.

"What I mean by that is that I can't conceive of bringing the Shah into our country. It must have been obvious how much he was disliked in Iran.

"The State Department has thousands of people all over the world; if they didn't know the standing of the Shah in Iran, somebody goofed."