

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION  
FROM



CECILIA HERNANDEZ

\_\_\_\_\_ being duly sworn says that he/she is the principal clerk of THE  
POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL, a newspaper published in the County of Dutchess and the State of New York, and the  
notice of which the annexed is a printed copy, was published in the newspaper on the date (s) below:

Zone:

DUWAGO

Run Dates:

Mar/30 Apr/06-13-20-2018

*Cecilia Hernandez*

Signature

Sworn to before me, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018

*Viima Avejar*

Notary Signature

Viima Avejar  
Notary Public State of New York  
NO. 01AV6318411  
Qualified in Westchester County  
Commission Expires January 26, 2019

Ad Number: 010004266

## Children

Continued from Page 1A

toward funeral costs, according to Charlene Sisco, who created the campaign with her husband.

"If the family needs these funds for the medical bills they have been inun-

dated with, they surely can take from the fund," Sisco said. "But it is primarily for burial costs."

Sisco said her son-in-law is Lopez's brother. She declined to discuss more about the family.

An update to the GoFundMe page credited to her husband, Robert, was posted Wednesday.

"We just want to take a moment to

thank everyone who prayed for the Torres Lopez family," he wrote. "The donations for the family speak volumes on how a community pulls together to help. As all of you know, the children are recovering and are in good hands at the hospital."

Funeral arrangements are being made, he said.

"Please keep this family in your

thoughts and prayers as they go through the terrible time," he wrote. "Please KNOW that every penny of your donations will help this family. YOUR GENEROSITY IS OVERWHELMING."

Nina Schutzman: nschutzman@poughkeepsiejournal.com; 845-451-1518; Twitter: @pajonnschutzman

## Transit

Continued from Page 1A

system, have been negotiating a new Teamsters contract. The union represents bus drivers, mechanics, call-center and administrative employees of First Transit.

In a statement Thursday, Ebert called negotiations between the county and the union "mutually respectful," and said a federal mediator was involved.

"We've negotiated about 90 percent of what we need, but that last 10 percent is extremely important to the employees," Ebert said. "Reasonable negotiation is always the best and most preferred option, and we've been trying. It's just this last 10 percent is what's in our way."

Unresolved issues include pay, vacation days, healthcare and the management of bidding jobs, he said, and workers want pay equivalent to that of drivers in cities of similar sizes such as Syracuse and Utica. Ebert would not share further details on the existing contract.

Management says it is offering hourly wage increases of 14 percent to 33 percent over two years, depending on job classification, increased hourly pension contribution, and a new 401K plan with company match, among other items.

"Negotiations have been positive and TMOBC has put a very generous offer on the table, one that rewards drivers, mechanics and all of the other employees of TMOBC for their work and dedication," First Transit Region Vice President Larry Morris said in a statement. "Both TMOBC and county officials are eager to see this process finalized to the benefit of all parties."



Elba Serrano, a bus driver for Dutchess County Public Transit, hopes a contract can be negotiated and a strike can be avoided. JEFF WALSH/POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

### Drivers and passengers

Bus driver Elba Serrano said she voted to strike, and isn't satisfied with the pay raise and the existing health care.

"We're hoping we'll get the raise we want," said Serrano, who has been a county bus driver for eight years. She said since the county took over Poughkeepsie city bus routes, drivers have seen more work.

"They've changed all of the routes around, the routes are longer and it's a lot more work," she said.

If a strike occurs, passengers may feel the greatest impact.

On Thursday afternoon, many riders at the bus depot in downtown Poughkeepsie did not know about the potential strike. The few who learned of it said

they were worried and considering other alternatives.

Jennifer Carrero of Fishkill did not have a car and relies on the bus. She moved to Fishkill from New York City a few months ago, and called the existing bus system "terrible."

"I have to ask a million questions, it's very confusing. It leaves every hour," she said.

Being new to the city she said she doesn't have family and friends who can give her rides, and taxis are too costly an option.

"My plan B is I'm out of luck," she said.

Amy Wu: awu@poughkeepsiejournal.com; 845-451-4529; Twitter: @amy\_wu

### What you need to know

If there's a bus strike, Transit Management of Dutchess County would provide limited transit service using non-union supervisory staff, as well as any union workers who choose to report to work.

The route plan is as follows:

■ Route A/F combination - Between Poughkeepsie, Fishkill and Beacon.

■ Route C/J and CK combination - Serving north Poughkeepsie, DCC, Marist College, south Poughkeepsie to Galleria and Shoppes at South Hills.

■ Route CL and school tripper combination - Serving west Poughkeepsie, Central Poughkeepsie, Middle and High School.

■ Extra floaters to assist wherever, including some limited demand response.

■ All services will operate Monday through Friday between 6:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

■ Schedules will be posted online.

■ Service will be limited to combinations of Routes A and F, Routes J and K and Route L and P. Service will be offered Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Depending on the number of drivers who elect to report to work during a work stoppage, additional route service would be added under the same Monday-Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. operating schedule.

Updates and information will be provided continually at [www.dutchessny.gov/publictransit](http://www.dutchessny.gov/publictransit). Passengers can also call 845-473-8424 or email [publictransit@dutchessny.gov](mailto:publictransit@dutchessny.gov).

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG)

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A residential electricity customer with an average usage of 600 kilowatt-hours/month can expect an average monthly bill increase of \$1.79. A residential natural gas heating customer using 80 therms/month can expect an average monthly bill increase of \$4.21. Customers may see some charges prorated on a May or June bill to take into account energy delivered before and after the new electricity and natural gas delivery rates went into effect.

#### RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

**Regular Residential Customers:** The electricity delivery charge will increase 0.291 cents per kilowatt-hour. The per therm natural gas delivery charge for the 4 to 50 therms block will increase 76.99 cents per therm and 1.795 cents for the block rate over 50 therms. There are no changes to monthly customer or minimum charges.

**Day/Night and Time-of-Use Customers:** The electricity delivery charge will increase 0.239 cents per kilowatt-hour for Service Class 8 and 0.202 cents per kilowatt-hour for Service Class 12. There are no changes to monthly customer charges. Additional information about changes in residential electricity and natural gas delivery charges is available at [nyseg.com](http://nyseg.com) (click on "For Suppliers and Partners, then on "Pricing and Tariffs" and then on "PSC Filings").

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**Regarding energy supply:** If you purchase energy supply from NYSEG, your price will continue to be based on market prices; if you purchase your energy supply from a supplier other than NYSEG (also known as an energy services company or ESCO), what you pay for energy supply depends on your agreement with your ESCO.

8/17/16



The state does not know exactly how many people are leaving, but officials



Sarah Turkus, 30, started the Sidewalk Ends Farm with two other young women in a vacant lot in Providence in 2011. When they wanted to expand three years later, they could not find affordable land in Rhode Island. They now lease 2 acres in Seekonk, Massachu-

Under the program, the state will buy a farm at the full appraised value, which takes into account the land's worth if it was developed. The state will then resell the farm at the agricultural appraised value, which is its worth solely as a farm. That is typically 20 percent of the full value. Ayars said. The condition is

"We want to see how this operates in practice and how it affects farmers who are farming there already but, ultimately, access to land is a major problem for farmers and we're glad that people are thinking creatively about it," he said.

It was a different time and place. Decades ago in Denmark, only 5 percent to 8 percent of these men had been overweight as children or teens. Today, in the United States, about 25 percent of kids are, and more than 23 percent are worldwide.

**Byron Robertson**  
*founder, Campbell Management Development, Inc.*





# Our Towns & Schools

## Murder mystery dinner a benefit

Funds to go to local Alzheimer's Association

From Staff Reports  
Poughkeepsie Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK

A murder mystery dinner event this weekend will help benefit the Alzheimer's Association.

"The 2018 Great Debate Debauché" is set for 6 p.m. Saturday, April 21, at the Wappingers Elks Lodge, 1195 Route 376, Wappingers Falls.

"It's an interactive murder mystery comedy," Deborah Lamb of Hyde Park, who is in charge of promoting the event, said in a written release.

The plot of the show by writer and director Leslie Dorler "revolves around the election of the Town of Wappingers Wastepaper Basket Management Supervisor. As the candidates fall in their attempts to maintain a sense of sportsmanship, chaos takes hold."

The audience will have the opportunity to guess who committed the "murder" as well as the motive for the crime.

Both Dorler and Lamb are volunteers who work to help the cause of finding a cure for Alzheimer's and supporting families living with dementia.

Lamb began volunteering for the Alzheimer's Association after her sister was diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

"My sister was a four-time cancer survivor, and was then diagnosed with Alzheimer's. She had a nine-year battle with Alzheimer's, and succumbed to it last October," Lamb said. "I think it's the worst disease there is because there has never been a single survivor. And it takes everything — first your memory, and then everything physically."

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. It is the largest nonprofit funder of Alzheimer's research.



Dementia is a slow decline in memory, thinking and reasoning skills, and Alzheimer's disease is the most common form, according to the Alzheimer's Association. A program offered by the Office for the Aging can help keep track of seniors who live alone. GETTY IMAGES

For more information, visit [alz.org/hudsonvalley](http://alz.org/hudsonvalley) or call 1-800-272-3900.

If you go

What: "The Great 2018 Murder Mys-

tery Dinner," to benefit the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter

When: 6 p.m., April 21  
Where: Wappingers Elks Lodge, 1195 Route 376, Wappingers Falls

Tickets: \$35  
Information: Call 845-224-9273 to

purchase tickets and make a meal choice of either beef, turkey or pasta primavera. Make checks payable to: Leslie Dorler, C/O Wappingers Elks Lodge, 1195 Route 376, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590; or pay by credit card at [tinyurl.com/2018greatdebate](http://tinyurl.com/2018greatdebate)

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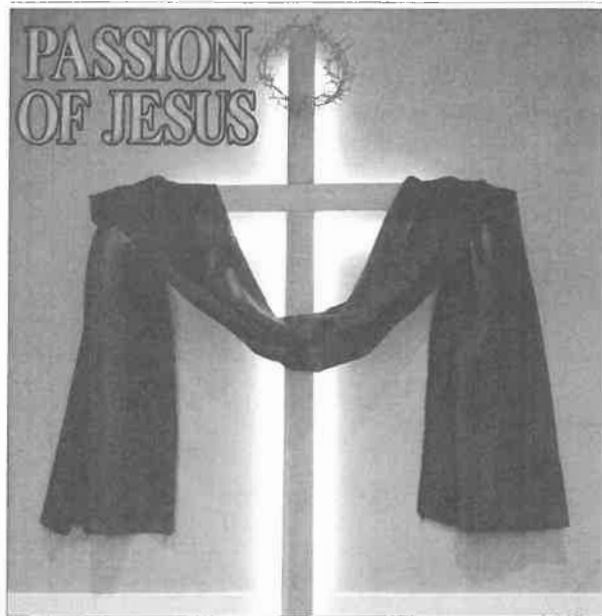
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The Church of the Nazarene in Plattsburgh hosts a Good Friday service at noon today.

## Area congregations observe Maundy Thursday

BY ROBIN CAUDELL  
Features Editor

**WESTPORT** — The Westport Federated Church observed Maundy Thursday as did many area congregations who were keeping the hours before Easter Sunday.

"It's kind of an interesting day in Jesus' life," said the Rev. Tom Smith, pastor.

"The word 'Maundy' comes from the Latin word 'mandatum,' which really means to do something you are required to do. It's like a mandate to be required to do something."

### DIVINE SERVITUDE

It references the Thursday of the Last Supper, the night Jesus Christ was crucified on the following Friday.

"It was the last time the disciples were together with Jesus," Smith said.

"At that dinner I should say they had the typical foods that they would eat. At the end of the meal, of course, is when Jesus took the bread and broke it and took the cup and passed it around the disciples. He passed that among them and said, 'Do this and remember me.' Because they didn't understand what was happening."

Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper as well as another act that Jesus Christ did that night.

"At the end of the supper, he washed his feet in a towel and went around and washed the disciples' feet," Smith said.

"The disciples' feet in those days, your feet were pretty stinky, pretty disgusting, pretty dirty, and it was a job for slaves. The purpose of that foot washing was to show being a

servant is one of the most important things you can do if you want to follow Christ, and that no job is too menial if you are doing it for the Lord."

### LAST ACT

At the end of the meal, Jesus was signaled out as Christ's would-be betrayer to the Sanhedrin, a tribunal of rabbis.

"Which is exactly what happened later on in the Garden of Gethsemane when the arresting officers came and took Jesus away," Smith said.

"So, it's a very special night."

It's a very solemn night in a lot of ways, but it's a very important night to people in the faith. Interestingly enough when Jesus came to Peter the Gospels say that Peter wouldn't let him wash his feet. He said, "You can't do this for me, Lord. That was, was, very, howath you."

"Peter looked at him and says, 'If I don't wash your feet, then I don't really have anything to do with you.' Then Peter said, 'Which all of me then Lord?' So that's Maundy Thursday and what we celebrate and why we do it. It's not as much of a celebration as it is a remembrance."

### LESS IS MORE

Some area churches' Maundy Thursday observances include the ritual foot washing, but at St. John's Episcopal Church in Essex there is a stripping of the altar.

"It is very simple, and there is no ornamentation whatsoever to spiritually prepare ourselves for that act of stripping away of those things we don't need anymore because of the Lenten season and to move

forward and prepare ourselves to experience Good Friday which is a further stripping away," the Rev. Craig Hacker of St. John's said.

"It's time when we strip away all of our false pretenses of ourselves, and we have deep feelings of vulnerability and openness at the same time."

After communion on Maundy Thursday, the congregation removed the ornamentation from the altar.

"We engage spiritually in that act in terms of stripping the altar," Hacker said.

"You go from beauty to plainness, and that has a deep spiritual effect on people. So, the ritual itself has tremendous spiritual wisdom."

### LETTING GO

St. John's Good Friday service will be held at 5:30 p.m. today at 4 Church St. in Essex.

"Good Friday is a service in terms of remembrance of Christ's crucifixion," Hacker said.

"Really I think in terms of 2018, we need to be able to put together the continuum from when our life falls apart to new life. The crucifixion and resurrection is a universal experience when placed together. From specific to now life, we all go through that."

St. John's Good Friday service features a distribution of the sacrament.

"We have a service, which is another service," Hacker said.

"What we do is open up the church for prayer and meditation on the remembrance of Christ and that Christ died for the forgiveness of our sins."

Today, Saturday and Sunday represent the three days Christ was entombed.

## FAITH AND SPIRITUALITY BRIEFS

### First United in Ti plans next Community Fellowship Dinner

**TICONDEROGA** — The next Free Community Fellowship Dinner at the First United Methodist Church, 1045 Wicker St., Ticonderoga, will be held from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Sunday, April 8.

The meals are usually held the first Sunday of the month.

Everyone is welcome. Reservations are not necessary. The menu will be spaghetti and meatballs, tossed salad and garlic bread.

Beverages and desserts will also be available.

"There is always plenty of good food, conversation and laughter enjoyed by all," a press release said.

"The free monthly dinner program is an outreach project of the church and is self-supporting."

While there is no charge, a five-cent donation is appreciated. High chairs, booster seats, strollers and a child-friendly menu are also available.

For more information about the free dinners or the church, call 518-585-7993 or visit [www.1umf.com](http://www.1umf.com).

### Three Steeple United Methodist Women plan fall rummage sale

**CHAPELAIN** — The Three Steeple United Methodist Women will hold a fall rummage sale from 10 a.m. to 4

p.m. Friday, April 6, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 7, at Three Steeple United Methodist Church, 601 Route 11, Champlain.

Proceeds will benefit the work of the United Methodist Women in their support to the community and the church.

Lunch will be available for purchase.

### St. Peter's continues Triduum, followed by Easter Masses

**PLATTSBURGH** — Services today at St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh for Good Friday were set to begin with morning prayer at 8 a.m., Mass of the Lord at 8 p.m. and Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m.

Morning prayer is again scheduled for 8 on Holy Saturday, March 31, with the principal Mass of the year, the Easter Vigil, at 8 p.m.

Masses on Easter Sunday are set for 8, 9:40 and 11 a.m.

### Divine Mercy Sunday set for April 8

**PLATTSBURGH** — On Sunday, April 8, the Catholic Churches of Plattsburgh will be celebrating the Feast of Divine Mercy.

The celebration will be held at St. Peter's Church, 114 Croncha St.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at 12:15 p.m. in the main church. The Divine Mercy Chaplet, litany and benediction is set for 2:30 p.m. in the main church.

## FAITH AND SPIRITUALITY

Do you know of an event focused on faith and spirituality in the North Country that you would like to see featured in the Press Republican? Do you know of someone from Clinton, Essex and Franklin counties whom you have an interesting story to tell? Let us know at the Press-Republican Contact Features Editor Nathan Ovalle by email ([novalle@pressrepublican.com](mailto:novalle@pressrepublican.com)), phone (518-565-4138) or Twitter (@EditorNate). Also find the Press-Republican on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/pressrepublican](http://www.facebook.com/pressrepublican)) and Twitter (@pressrepublican).

## CONTACT THE PRESS-REPUBLICAN BY EMAIL

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• For general news releases, news items and notices of community happenings:

[features@pressrepublican.com](mailto:features@pressrepublican.com)

• For features, news and events, including Out & About, the Sunday Spectrum pages and daily features pages:

[features@pressrepublican.com](mailto:features@pressrepublican.com)

• For sports news releases and event notices:

[sports@pressrepublican.com](mailto:sports@pressrepublican.com)

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If you do not have email, you can fax us at 561-3562 or use traditional mail: Press-Republican, P.O. Box 459, Plattsburgh, NY 12901.

## Holy Triduum Schedule

### † Holy Thursday - March 29th

7:00 P.M. - Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. John's (Bring a bell)

8:30 P.M. - Transfer of the Holy Eucharist and Procession to the Newman Center followed by Adoration at the Altar of Repose until Night Prayer at 11:00 P.M.

### † Good Friday - March 30th

12:05 P.M. - Good Friday Liturgy at St. John's (Bring a nail)

6:00 P.M. - Stations of the Cross at Newman Center

### † Holy Saturday - March 31st

8:00 P.M. - Easter Vigil Mass at St. John's (Bring a candle)

### † Easter Sunday - April 1st

Mass of the Resurrection of Our Lord

7:30 A.M. and 9:30 A.M. at St. John's

11:00 A.M. at the Newman Center

The Roman Catholic Church of

St. John the Baptist

14 Royal Street, Champlain, NY 12919

Newman Center Ministry

400 North Street, Champlain, NY

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## God is present all around us

**Q**: Hello, I am a junior at Moseley High School in Middle-town, Conn. I haven't really thought about this before, but was God a real person? I understand that his son, Jesus, was, which got me to wonder if God ever stepped into his own creation? Thank you for your time! —Joan K.

**A**: The question as to whether Jesus was a person or was God who appeared as a person has divided Christian theologians for centuries. It is called the Arian Controversy, and the side that believed that Jesus was just a person lost out to the group that believed that Jesus was both human and divine. So, if Jesus is God then Jesus was one way God entered creation.

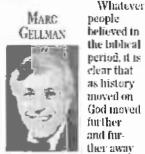
The question of how God enters creation (what is your question) was very important to Judaism. The Bible begins with God entering creation by actually creating everything. That creation is accomplished by God's words alone. God said, "Let there be light" and there was light.

After creation God continued to be an actor in the biblical drama. God was not believed to be a person but someone God was able to speak to biblically figures as Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Moses and the prophets. God's words are not human words but a kind of revelation that special chosen ones and prophets are allowed to receive and hear by God's will.

Even though God is never described as a person entering creation, there are verses where God seems to be human form (anthropomorphism) of human emotions (pathos) and human actions (poiesis). God is described as walking through the Garden of Eden "at the breezy time of day." It's hard to walk without legs. At the time of Noah and the flood, God is described as "regretting" having made human beings. Regret is a human emotion not appropriate to an all-knowing God. However, with these few exceptions God is described as entering creation — but not in human form. In fact when Moses asks God to let him see God directly, God refuses and says, "no man may see me and live" (Exodus 33:20). This may have implied that God has some form but we can't see it without meeting or it could mean that God is invisible and therefore cannot be seen while we are alive.

The height of God's involvement in creation in the Bible is the Exodus from Egypt where God forces the Pharaoh to let the Jewish people go from non-slavery through many miracles and

signs and wonders. Then God remains present to the people in their journey through the desert as a pillar of smoke during the day and a pillar of fire at night, guiding their way to the promised land.



THE GOD SQUAD

Whatever people believed in the biblical period, it is clear that as history moved on God moved further and further away from being directly involved in human affairs. God gave the law at Mt. Sinai to Moses to give to the people and God thought that this was enough. God may have been wrong. The powerful presence of God in history was so alluring and so addictive, the people came to depend upon it. Eventually in the time of the prophet Isaiah, prophecy ends. Christians, of course, believe that God re-enters creation in the person of Jesus, and Muslims believe that God (Allah) re-enters creation in the person of the prophet Muhammad.

The point today is that God remains present in the orderly and life-giving forces of nature that is the foundation of creation. God also remains present in the hopes and prayers and souls of all people who let God into their lives. God is everywhere in nature and God is in every person who lets God in.

\*\*\*  
**Q**: Hello Gellman, hello! I am a high school student from Moseley High School and I have a question for your column. Nowadays, new technology and innovations govern our lives. How do the biblical texts fit in and apply to our modern society? Thank you. —Joan K.

**A**: God is about living things, not manufactured things. Technology is just a tool. It helps us to do things faster but it does not teach us how to do things better. Whether we use technology to help people and feed people and teach people and feed people depends upon us. That is the thing with things. They can be used for good or ill. Play could harm or cook. Your smartphone can connect you to the world or it can isolate you from the world if using it cuts you off from other human beings. Technology can master us or help us to master the world. The choice is ours.

Send all questions and comments to the God Squad via email at godssquad@pressrepublican.com.

### Do you have an idea for features?

If you have a story idea for the feature pages of the Press-Republican, please call Features Editor Nathan Ovall, 565-4138, or email: novalle@pressrepublican.com.

The feature schedule is as follows: Monday, Home and Garden; Tuesday, Health and Fitness; Wednesday, After 50; Thursday, Out & About; Friday, Faith and Spirituality; Saturday, Family.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

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A residential electricity customer with an average usage of 900 kilowatt-hours/month can expect an average monthly bill increase of \$1.76. A residential natural gas heating customer using 80 therms/month can expect an average monthly bill increase of \$4.29. Customers may see some charges processed on 3 May or June bill to take into account energy delivered before and after the new electricity and natural gas delivery rates went into effect.

#### RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

Regular Residential Customers: The electricity delivery charge will increase 0.287 cents per kilowatt-hour. The per therm natural gas delivery charge for the 4 to 50 therms block will increase 72.77 cents per therm and 1.79 cents for the block rate over 50 therms. There are no charges to monthly, customer or minimum charges.

Day/Night and Time-of-Use Customers: The electricity delivery charge will increase 0.251 cents per kilowatt-hour for service Class B and 0.186 cents per kilowatt-hour for service Class 12. There are no charges to monthly, customer or minimum charges.

Additional information about charges: natural gas delivery and natural gas delivery charges are available at nyseg.com under "For Suppliers and Partners," then on "Billing and Tariffs" and then on "PSC Filings."

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## Keepers of ancient Celtic traditions

**EVENTS: Druid Fearn Lickfield shares how spring is time to rise up like seed, root and bulb from Earth**

BY ROBIN CADELL

Press-Republican

PLATT'SBURGH — Fearn Lickfield explored various forms of paganism for most of her adult life.

The Massachusetts native lived in Vermont in 1985 and joined a coven of witches for a few years.

In 2004, she met Ivan McElb, a Druid in the Order of Bards, Ovates and Druids (OBOD), and her life changed.

"It was the closest fit that I had found," said Lickfield, who is teacher, administrator, director and chief of the Green Mountain Druid Training and Order in Worcester, Vt.

"That's something that happens. We don't so much find it. It finds us."

### "SPRING RISING"

Lickfield crosses Lake Champlain this weekend for a series of events at the Putnam Universal Fellowship at 4 Palmer St. in Plattsburgh.

At 6 p.m. Saturday, there will be a book signing of McElb's most recent release, "The Bardic Book of Reconciling: An Introduction to Modern Druidry," which was written in the last winter of his life.

McElb was a founding member of the Oak Dragon Project in Britain, a founding member of the Circle for Peace project in the USA, a Reiki master and the author "Crystal Journey."

At 7 p.m. Lickfield will lead an "Ecstatic Dance."

On Sunday at 10 a.m., "Spring Rising" is the topic of her discussion on the way of Druids and their reverence for and co-creation with the spirits and cycles of nature.

### DRUID 101

Druidry is the sacred shamanic, indigenous, spiritual practices that arose out of Britain and the Celtic Isles. "It's a long way back, it's hard to say exactly how long because it was an oral tradition, which gets pretty much erased by Christianity and by the Romans," Lickfield said.

"It had to go underground for a while, although there

are little pockets that remained. The stories were orally recorded, and that is some of what we have left to go as well as individuals who can trace their ancestry back and, of course, the spirit of Druidry that never dies."

Many Christian holidays have pagan remnants embedded in them such as Christmas and All Saint's Eve.

"You could say they absorbed or they grabbed depending on your approach," she said.

In today's global culture, people can study the old ways the such as the earth-centered

Druidry.

"Here in Vermont we have a correspondence course as well as an actual on-the-land program we find to be a really important piece because Druidry is really so much about an earth-based, land-based approach to spirituality," Lickfield said.

"The idea is heaven is here on Earth. Heaven is made of us. Heaven is in every tree and every stone. It's in the turning wheel of the seasons. It is, everything in nature is sacred and is a way the divine expresses itself."

Druids are always looking to make that connection to what is beneath the physical reality they see and touch and smell.

"We acknowledge and honor the body but we also are looking deeper into the subtle forces that create life as we know it," she said.

### TREE-CENTRIC

The word "druid" shares a common root with the word for oak tree and also door.

"There are different people with different explanations for this, but some people say you can translate it to mean a wise person of the forest or a knowledge-able or a wise person of the oak tree or someone who opens the door into the forest or grove. We work a lot with the grove."

Druids are a circle of trees or circular ones in the forest," Lickfield said.

"It's also a circle of Druids. It has a lot to do with the trees. Druids were not a very dogmatic bunch of people. We don't have like some central book that we can all look through for our belief system."

Druidry has core principles and beliefs — love and honor of trees — but it is fluid and evolves with individual interpretations.

"A lot of people come to this path because of a connection to a tree who told them that they were a Druid," she said.

### THREE LEVELS

There are three grades in many schools of Druidry, and each grade has its own theme and topics of exploration.

"The Bard is the first grade, or level, where the seeker gets in touch with the Awen."

"Awen is the sacred source of inspiration for the Druids," Lickfield said.

"It's based on this story that came out of Wales. This beautiful Goddess (of the Cauldron), Ceridwen, had a powerful cauldron, which brewed for a year and a day to create the three drops of Awen. It's the source of inspiration and creativity. Creativity and inspiration are very sacred to the bards."

Traditionally, their roles in society were to share stories and poems, recite genealogical trees and sing songs.

"Which was partly historical, partly entertainment and partly making or breaking of reputations," she said.

"They had a lot of power. Creativity and the importance of the heart, of really expressing and opening our hearts to the wonders of nature and really to the goddess in her many forms. That is the main archetype of the bardic grade."

### PATH WITH HEART

Druids are second grade, which is a solitary submergence into deep, shadowy places.

"You could say metaphorically going deep in the forest at night, but it's also really about going deep in your own shadowy places in order to explore and transform yourself into a higher energy being," she said.

Druids explore their ancestry, traumas and how their past their connections to who and what they truly are and their purpose.

"This is also called the Path With Heart," Lickfield said.

"The Ovate grade is a series of initiations including something called a shamanic death, so there is a lot of transformation that happens in that year of looking really deep into ourselves in order to regain

our truth and our power."

The Ovate quest is conducted with the support of trees and through oghams, a Celtic tree alphabet.

"It's also a system of love and divination," she said.

"There's a lot of deep meaning in that. The trees really support us by helping us to stay grounded and also to give us the incredible medicines that help us to be better people."

Trees are regarded as humans' closest teachers and kin on Earth.

"They teach us a lot about how to work with energy and how to breathe and how to connect," Lickfield said.

"They are bridges between Earth and sky and ultimately when humans are working with that is what we are doing, too."

### WALK THEIR TALK

Druid is the third stage, which is made by the practitioner stepping into their wisdom and gifts.

"Having gone through those two previous levels, we continue to gain skill and mastery of ourselves but now we're at a place where we are learning how to take that out into the world and how to walk our talk," she said.

"Each person is really guided to find out what that is for themselves. It's not a cookie-cutter thing."

Druids find their gifts, learn how to be a leader, learn how to be a mentor, learn to hold space in ceremony and to lead and create ceremony for others.

"They also learn how to work intensively with a particular deity."

"Again, the deity usually chooses the human rather than the other way around," Lickfield said.

The students intent what god or goddess is their guide in manifest the divine on Earth.

"This might be one of the Celtic deities or it might not be," she said.

"Ceridwen stirs her great cauldron and creates the Awen. The other main goddess of the bard is Brigid. She's an Irish goddess. She has many, many aspects. She's the goddess of the forge and the eternal flame."

For more information about Druidry, go to www.greenmountaindruidorder.org.

Email: Robin Cadell: rcadell@pressrepublican.com

Twitter: @Robincadell

## FAITH AND SPIRITUALITY BRIEFS

### West Chazy Community Church to hold craft fair

**WEST CHAZY** — The West Chazy Community Church is putting on a craft fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 28, at the Heritage Campgrounds, 55 West Church St., West Chazy.

The event will include more than 20 crafters and vendors and a Chinese auction.

### Crown Point's First Congregational looking for vendors for strawberry fest

**CROWN POINT** — Crafters and vendors are being sought for the First Congregational Church of Crown Point's 18th annual Strawberry Festival from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 24, in the Park of Crown Point.

The festival attracts patrons from across the Champlain Valley and includes food booths, Classic Car Show with up to

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# Big Ten has big presence this year at Frozen Four

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Considering the force of the impact it made on the sport, the Big Ten hockey conference sure started with a soft launch.

Five years in, its presence has finally been felt. Three teams have reached the Frozen Four after four members captured the top 12 seeds for the NCAA Tournament.

"I think this is what everyone envisioned when the new leagues all started to form, that the Big Ten would be like this," Michigan coach Mel Pearson said.

Minnesota Duluth, the outlier in these national semifinals, plays Ohio State in the first game on Thursday. The Michigan-Notre Dame matchup follows.

"We were very fortunate to get the lead that we had in the regular season with that winning streak that we had, because we found out in the second half how challenging the conference is and how much better it got," said Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson, whose team won 16 consecutive games from Oct. 27 through Jan. 19.

UMD has a proud flag from the National Collegiate Hockey Conference to wave, too.

The Bulldogs have the most recent national championship of this football-defined quarter, in this building in fact. They beat Michigan and Notre Dame in 2011 at Xcel Energy Center, about a 2½-hour drive from campus, to win the program's first NCAA title. More relevant to the current roster is the trip to the national championship game last spring in Chicago, a 3-2 loss to Denver.

"Props to the Big Ten. Pretty awesome, having three teams in here. But at the same time, we know the NCHC is one of the top, if not the top conference in college hockey," UMD captain Kameron Kuhn said on Wednesday after practice.

UMD, with only nine players remaining from the national runner-up team last season, snagged the final at-large bid for the tournament after a wild weekend of conference



tournament games that allowed the Bulldogs to nudge out Minnesota by a few percentage points. If just one of six of those contests would've gone the other way, the Gophers would've given the Big Ten a fifth entrant. Notre Dame's win over Ohio State was one of the determinants.

"I owe Jeff Jackson a lot," UMD coach Scott Sandelin said. "A couple losses in Florida will probably work. There's about five other teams I could say the same thing for."

Illinois is in the Big Ten queue for a potential expansion to eight teams, with fundraising in the works for a proposed new arena that would allow the university, which has a pop



Cleveland Browns quarterback Robert Griffin III (10) throws a pass during the first half of an NFL football game against the Pittsburgh Steelers, in Pittsburgh. The Baltimore Ravens reached a one-year agreement with free agent Robert Griffin III, late Tuesday.

## RG3 and Ravens reach agreement on one-year deal

OWINGS MILLS, Md. (AP) — Robert Griffin III is poised to resume his NFL career about 35 miles away from where he started it.

The former Washington Redskins quarterback has reached agreement on a 1-year contract with the Baltimore Ravens, who love the idea of having the 2011 Heisman Trophy winner backing up 10-year starter Joe Flacco.

"Obviously, his personality, he's a confident guy. He's a very talented quarterback," coach John Harbaugh said of Griffin on Wednesday. "He's had a lot of success in this league early on. We're excited about it. We felt like we needed

a No. 2 quarterback."

Griffin's last previous stop in an injury-riddled career came in 2015 with the Cleveland Browns. He started five games, winning only one of them.

General manager Eliazer Grezner said Griffin, 26, didn't have far to travel before showing the Ravens he can still fling the ball.

"He still lives in the D.C./Virginia area," Newsome said. "We were bringing in some receivers and we asked him if he would come in and throw and go through a full workout for us. He took a physical. He did all of that. After that, he went to visit another team. We just were able to come

to an agreement."

The terms were hushed late Tuesday night, and Newsome expects RG3 to sign the contract next week.

"I feel like we got a steal," Harbaugh said. "I felt like (Griffin) really wanted to be here. He really wanted to be a Raven."

Griffin won the Heisman Trophy with Baylor before being selected second overall in the 2012 draft by the Redskins. He enjoyed a sensational rookie season, throwing 20 touchdown passes and only five interceptions, but his career took a decisive downturn after he tore knee ligaments in a playoff loss to Seattle.

## Blackmon agrees to \$108M, six-year deal with Rockies

DENVER (AP) — Now that Charlie Blackmon has agreed to a lucrative new deal, he can afford to trade in that Jeep Cherokee he's had forever. Only that's not how he'll spend it.

"I'm going to get some new tires," he said.

That's just Blackmon being Blackmon, the insightful and quirky-headed hitter extraordinaire with the ragged beard and impressive mallet who will be patrolling the Colorado Rockies outfield for quite some time.

The NL batting champion made a long-term commitment Wednesday rather than test the free-agent market next offseason, agreeing to a contract that guarantees him \$108 million over six seasons. It's been in the works for most of spring training — and under the radar.

"I didn't want to create distractions," he said.

In January, the two-time All-Star center fielder had agreed to a \$14 million, one-year deal. The new agreement announced in San Diego, where the Rockies are playing a four-game series with the Padres, calls for a \$14 million salary this year, with \$2 million payable on April 30, and \$21 million in each of the next three seasons.

Blackmon has played options of \$21 million for 2023 and \$10 million for 2024, and his 2023 salary can escalate up to \$5 million based on plate appearances in 2022: \$100,000 each for 400, 425, 450, 475, 500 and 525, and \$1 million apiece for 550 and 575.

His 2024 salary would



Colorado Rockies' Charlie Blackmon, right, hits a double with San Diego Padres catcher A.J. Ellis waiting during the fourth inning of a baseball game in San Diego, Monday.

increase by \$2 million if he is among the top three in MVP voting from 2019-22 and by \$1 million if he finishes fourth or fifth. The 2023 salary is capped at \$18 million.

As part of the deal negotiated by agents Sam and Seth Levenson, Blackmon can hit 15 teams each season he can't be traded to without his consent.

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A residential electricity customer with an average use of 600 kilowatt-hours per month can expect an average monthly bill increase of \$1.76. A residential natural gas heating customer using 80 therms per month can expect an average monthly bill increase of \$4.01.

Customers may see some charges prorated on a May or June bill to take into account energy delivered before and after the new electricity and natural gas delivery rates went into effect.

#### RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

**Regular Residential Customers:** The electricity delivery charge will increase 0.287 cents per kilowatt-hour. The per-therm natural gas delivery charge for the 4-to-50 therms block will increase 2.277 cents per therm and 1.705 cents for the block over 50 therms. There are no changes to monthly customer or minimum charges.

**Day/Night and Time-of-Use Customers:** The electricity delivery charge will increase 0.214 cents per kilowatt-hour for Service Class 8 and 0.198 cents per kilowatt-hour for Service Class 12. There are no changes to monthly customer charges.

Additional information about changes in residential electricity and natural gas delivery charges is available at [nyscg.com](http://nyscg.com) click on "For Suppliers and Partners," then on "Pricing and Tariffs" and then on "PSC Filings."

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Mary Rogers  
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Sworn to me before this 20th day of April, 2018.

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# Before you fertilize your garden, understand the process

Spring — which is breaking now, even in the North Country — is the season when gardeners start spreading fertilizers on everything from lawns to vegetable gardens.

This can be a good thing or a very bad one, depending on the conditions in your garden, what you use, and how you apply it. So before you start, it's a good idea to spend a little time understanding the materials and the process.

The first, and most important, rule is to test your soil before you fertilize. Take soil samples from the different areas you intend to treat and submit them to your state's agricultural university soil testing lab for a basic nutrient analysis.

The cost is modest, typically \$10-\$15 per sample, and you'll probably save that much many times over because the test results will help you feed precisely, applying only the nutrients that your soil actually lacks. This greater precision also protects the environment — un-needed fertilizers are likely to wash into local streams or storm drains and either way contribute to water pollution. Excessive fertilization can also injure your plants, of course.

## BE-A-BETTER-GARDENER



THOMAS CHRISTOPHER

Armed with your soil test results, you'll know what nutrients your garden or lawn lacks. Typically, the test results call for so many pounds of nutrients per 1,000 square feet. Translating this into pounds of fertilizer takes a little simple mathematics. On the fertilizer label, you'll find a 3-digit formula, such as "5-10-5" or "26-5-10."

This formula tells you the fertilizer's percentage by weight of the three major plant nutrients: nitrogen, phosphate and potash. So, for example, a 5-10-5 fertilizer is 5 percent nitrogen, 10 percent phosphate and 5 percent potash, which means that a 50-pound bag of this product contains 2.5 pounds of nitrogen, 5 pounds of phosphate and 2.5 pounds of potash. Mastering this math

can also save you money, as comparing the actual content of different products will help you determine which product delivers the most nutrients for the dollar.

Having done your math, you are set to go shopping. A second, and controversial, issue emerges at this point. Will you buy a fertilizer composed of natural or synthetic ingredients? Note that I didn't use the term "organic," which as used in connection with fertilizers is intrinsically confusing.

Scientifically speaking, organic refers to particular types of chemical compositions, which can be found in many unnatural compounds and not in some natural ones. For instance, the insecticide DDT is, chemically speaking, organic, while granite dust, a common ingredient in organic fertilizers, is actually inorganic.

Natural fertilizers such as dehydrated manures or granular mixtures of different natural ingredients have both advantages and disadvantages. On the plus side, because most of their ingredients must be digested by soil microorganisms to release their nutrients, they typically provide a slower, long-lasting feed.

They also nurture the soil's

microorganisms, which helps keep your garden healthy. In addition, natural fertilizers generally add some small dose of organic material to the soil, which helps to enhance its structure and ability to absorb and obtain moisture.

Their disadvantages include a lack of uniformity—depending on what the animal was eating, for example, a manure may be richer or poorer in nutrients. In particular, manures from feedlots, the source of much of the bagged manures for sale in garden centers, can be high in salts that are harmful to plants.

For these reasons, I occasionally prefer to use a synthetic fertilizer. When feeding annuals in springtime, for example, I will use a synthetic fertilizer. Because the microorganisms are relatively inactive in cold soils, an organic fertilizer would not feed the plants until the soil warmed at spring's end. In addition, if I notice a plant lagging, I may apply a synthetic fertilizer because they are faster acting.

Overall, though, I prefer to use natural fertilizers, in particular those such as aged horse manure (.7-.3-.6, on average) that I can obtain by the pickup load without cost from



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**Testing your soil at the beginning of the growing season ensures that you will know what nutrients to add to your garden for optimum results.**

nearby stables. I also favor compost (0.5-0.27-0.81, on average), which my wife makes in quantity, because although it is very low in nutrients, it is rich in the kind of organic matter whose benefits to the soil I already explained.

For a long time, my standby was the many bags of coffee grounds (2.1-0.3-0.3) that my wife scavenged from a busy local café. Because it was ground fine, this material quickly decomposed, adding nutrients as well as humus, in a couple of years turning what had been a heavy clay into a rich loam.

*Be-a-Better-Gardener is a community service of Berkshire Botanical Garden, one of the nation's oldest botanical gardens in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. Its mission to provide knowledge of gardening and the environment through 25 display gardens and a diverse range of classes informs and inspires thousands of students and visitors on horticultural topics every year. Thomas Christopher is the co-author of "Garden Revolution" and is a volunteer at Berkshire Botanical Garden. [berkshirebotanical.org](http://berkshirebotanical.org).*

# Around the County

## BOE NOMINATING PETITIONS AVAILABLE

**HUDSON** — The Hudson City School District is now accepting Board of Education nominating petitions.

The Hudson City School District Board of Education will have one (2) Board seats open for re-election on the May 2018 Budget Ballot.

Nominating petitions are now available for pick up (in person) in the Central Office. Petitions are due back to the District Clerk by 4 p.m. April 25.

Prospective Nominees must have a primary residence in the Hudson City School District and be registered voters. For information, contact Leslie Coons, District Clerk at 518-828-4360 ext. 2100.

**VALATIE** — Ichabod Crane Central School District announces petitions for candidates for the Board of Education are currently available. Petitions are obtained through the District Clerk, Mindy Potts, in the Central Office, located in the High School Building, 2910 Route 9, Valatie.

Three vacancies are to be filled on the Board of Education.

The three vacancies are for three-year terms as the as the terms of John Antalek, Brendan Caluneo and Regina Rose will expire June 30, 2018. Completed petitions are due back to the District Clerk by 5 p.m. April 16, 2018.

Questions about serving on the Board of Education or the

candidate petition process can be directed to the Ichabod Crane District Clerk, Mindy Potts at 518-758-7575 ext. 3001 or via email at [mpotts@ichabodcrane.org](mailto:mpotts@ichabodcrane.org).

## ANIMALKIND RECEIVES GRANT

**HUDSON** — AnimalKind announced a grant of \$132,400 from the ASPCA® (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) to offer subsidized spay/neuter services to pets in low-income households throughout New York State.

Low and no-cost spay/neuter surgeries are one of many ways AnimalKind works to combat the problem of animal overpopulation and reduce euthanasia.

AnimalKind requires proof of income, such as military, veterans, disability, and NYS benefit cards, in order to determine eligibility for reduced-cost services.

"These funds will help us to continue our life-saving spay/neuter program and assist families who would otherwise be unable to afford this surgery," said Katrin Hecker, AnimalKind Executive Director.

"We are grateful to the ASPCA for their support as we strive to find good homes for the existing pet population in shelters while simultaneously reducing the number of cats and dogs entering into the shelter system." AnimalKind is making significant progress in protecting animals from euthanasia, creating an innovative approach to provide emergency services for pet owners in need, humanely

reducing the overpopulation of unwanted animals, rescuing those threatened by cruelty, abandonment and neglect, finding homes for cats and kittens and making our communities a safer, healthier place to live. For more information, visit [www.animalkindny.org](http://www.animalkindny.org).

## SPRING BREAK

**VALATIE** — The Valatie Free Library, 1036 Kinderhook St., Valatie, will hold the following programs during spring break in April.

For information and to register for events, call 518-758-9321. Space is limited.

Poetry Day, noon-2 p.m.

## Kozel's Restaurant

Weekend Specials

- Red Snapper
- Roast Duck
- Hake Fillet
- Porterhouse Steak

Join us for  
*Easter Dinner*

Rt. 9H 828-3326 Ghent

April 3. Learn the method of Black Out poetry, create your own haiku and more! For children 8 and older.

Relief Printmaking, 10:30 a.m.-noon April 4. Join Mary Young as she teaches us the method of relief printing. Make several prints using different techniques. Materials include Styrofoam, found objects, and more. For children 6 and older.

Paint & Sip Kids, 10:30

a.m.-noon April 6. Amy De-weerd will be reading her new book "How a Mother Loves" and giving us step by step directions about how to create some cute characters on canvas. For ages 5 to 10. Space is limited

## BARE ROOT TREE SALE

**GHENT** — Columbia County Soil & Water Conservation District's 2018 Bare Root Tree

sale has begun. Orders are pre-paid and on a first come, first serve basis, so order early for best selection.

The deadline to order April 1. Order pick-up days are April 27 and 28. Information and order forms are available at [www.ccsxcd.org](http://www.ccsxcd.org) or by calling 518-267-3311.

The District office is located at 1024 State Route 66, Ghent..

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

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A residential electricity customer with an average use of 600 kilowatt-hours/month can expect an average monthly bill increase of \$1.79. A residential natural gas heating customer using 80 therms/month can expect an average monthly bill increase of \$4.21.

Customers may see some charges prorated on a May or June bill to take into account energy delivered before and after the new electricity and natural gas delivery rates went into effect.

### RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

**Regular Residential Customers:** The electricity delivery charge will increase 0.293 cents per kilowatt-hour. The per-therm natural gas delivery charge for the 4-to-50-therms block will increase 7.639 cents per therm and 1.795 cents for the block rate over 50 therms. There are no changes to monthly customer or minimum charges.

**Day/Night and Time-of-Use Customers:** The electricity delivery charge will increase 0.239 cents per kilowatt-hour for Service Class 8 and 0.202 cents per kilowatt-hour for Service Class 12. There are no changes to monthly customer charges.

Additional information about changes in residential electricity and natural gas delivery charges is available at [nyseg.com](http://nyseg.com) (click on "For Suppliers and Partners, then on "Pricing and Tariffs" and then on "PSC Filings").

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## CALENDAR

## Friday, April 13

■ Claverack Senior Citizens 1 p.m. Town Court Building, Route 217, Mellenville 518-672-7911

■ Hudson Historic Preservation Commission 10 a.m. City Hall, 520 Warren St., Hudson, 518-828-1030

## Saturday, April 14

■ Germantown History Department 9 a.m.-noon 1767 Parsonage, 52 Maple Ave., Germantown 518-537-6687

## Monday, April 16

■ Austerlitz Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee 7 p.m. Town Hall, 812 Route 203, Spencertown 518-392-3260

■ Austerlitz Fire Commissioners 7:30 p.m. Spencertown Fire Company, One Memorial Drive, Spencertown 518-392-3260

■ Canaan Planning Board 7 p.m. Upstairs Town Hall, 1647 Route 5, Canaan 518-781-3144

■ Chatham Village Planning Board 7:30 p.m. Tracy Memorial Village Hall, 77 Main St., Chatham 518-392-5821

■ Clermont Fire Commissioners 7 p.m. Town Hall, 1795 Route 9, Clermont 518-537-6868

■ Gallatin Planning Board 7 p.m. Town Hall, 667 Route 7, Gallatin 518-398-7519

■ Germantown Town Board 7 p.m. Town Hall, 50 Palatine Park Road, Germantown 518-537-6687

■ Kinderhook Village Recreation Committee 7 p.m. Village Hall, 6 Chatham St., Kinderhook 518-758-9882

■ Red Hook Planning Board 7:30 p.m. Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook 845-758-4606

■ Taghkanic Zoning Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Town Hall, Route 82, West Taghkanic 518-851-6673

■ Tivoli Planning Board Workshop 7 p.m. Historic Watts dePeyster Hall, 1 Tivoli Commons, Tivoli 845-757-2021

■ Webutuck School District Board of Education 7:30 p.m. 845-373-4100

## Tuesday, April 17

■ Claverack Free Library 5 p.m. Claverack Library 518-851-7120

■ Columbia County Planning Board 6:30 p.m. in the 1st Floor Committee Room, 401 State St., Hudson

■ Columbia Economic Development Corporation Loan Committee 1 p.m. 4303 Route 9, Hudson

■ Copake Agricultural Advisory Committee 5 p.m. Town Hall, 230 Mountain View Road, Copake 518-329-1234

■ Hudson Common Council Formal Meeting 7 p.m. City Hall, 520 Warren St., Hudson, 518-828-1030

■ Philmont Planning Board 7 p.m. Village Hall, 124 Main St., Philmont 518-672-7032

■ Rhinebeck Village Planning Board 7:30 p.m. Village Hall, 76 East Market St., Rhinebeck 845-876-1922

## Wednesday, April 18

■ Copake Environmental Committee 7 p.m. Town Hall, 230 Mountain View Road, Copake 518-329-1234

■ Columbia Economic Development Executive Loan Committee 8:30 a.m. 4303 Route 9, Hudson.

■ Ghent Commercial Zoning Review Committee 6:30 p.m. Town Hall, 2306 Route 66, Ghent 518-392-4644

■ Hudson Zoning Board of Appeals (tentative) 6:30 p.m. City Hall, 520 Warren St., Hudson, 518-828-1030

■ Livingston Fire District Board of Commissioners 7 p.m. District Office, 2855 Route 9, Livingston

■ Millerton Village Town Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 p.m. Village Hall, Dutchess Avenue, Millerton 518-789-4489

■ New Lebanon Planning Board 7:30 p.m. Town Hall, 14755 Route 22, New Lebanon 518-794-8888

■ North East Town Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 p.m. Town Hall, Maple Avenue, North East 518-789-3778

■ Pine Plains Central School District Board of Education 7 p.m. Stissing Mountain Middle/High School Library, 2989 Church St., Pine Plains 518-398-7181

■ Tivoli Village Board workshop 6 p.m. meeting 7 p.m. Historic Watts dePeyster Hall, 1 Tivoli Commons, Tivoli 845-757-2021

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**RAMPAGE**  
Dwayne Johnson PG-13  
2D-DAILY 4:05 7:00 SAT & SUN 1:30 4:05 7:00

**TRUTH OR DARE** PG-13  
DAILY 4:05 7:15 9:25 SAT & SUN 1:25 4:05 7:15 9:25

**CHAPPAQUIDDICK**  
Katie McKeon, Clancy Brown PG-13  
DAILY 4:00 7:00 9:15 SAT & SUN 1:15 4:00 7:00 9:15

**A QUIET PLACE** PG-13  
Emily Blunt, John Krasinski  
DAILY 5:10 7:15 9:15 SAT & SUN 1:00 3:05 5:10 7:15 9:15

**READY PLAYER ONE** PG-13  
Tye Sheridan, Olivia Cooke, Ben Mendelsohn  
3D-SAT & SUN 1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00

**BLOCKERS** PG  
John Cena, Leslie Mann  
DAILY 4:15 7:20 9:30 SAT & SUN 1:30 4:15 7:20 9:30

**SHERLOCK GNOMES** PG  
Ben Stiller, Casey Wilson, Jesse Williams  
SAT & SUN 1:00 3:00

**BARGAIN MATINEES DAILY \$6.00**

**By Jordan J. Michael**  
Columbia-Greene Media

KINDERHOOK — Wildflower Road — the private dirt road for a three-decade old subdivision in Kinderhook — will be turned over to the town following an assessment and appropriate work.

A half-mile in length, Wildflower Road has 15 lots, said resident John Ganning, who has lived on the pathway for seven years.

The citizens maintain the private road and will be paying for the upcoming construction.

“I’m on the fence about the decision, but some people really wanted to hand over the responsibility,” Ganning said. “We have one work day a year where we buy a big pile of gravel and fill potholes. Some guys put in more time than others.”

Pat Prendergast, the town engineer, appraised Wildflower Road with a private contractor last week who declined to be identified. Prendergast said bids for the work — a lump-sum bid that includes drainage, paving and cutting back of brush — were due this week.

An offer for paving the lane was opened noon Thursday, Town Supervisor Patrick Grattan said.

“Specifications for the road are being drawn and it will go to the lowest responsible bidder,” Grattan said. “The residents will pay for the work with a bond and the work should start after we have a meeting in May.”

Discussion about the town taking over Wildflower Road



JORDAN J. MICHAEL/COLUMBIA-GREENE MEDIA

**Wildflower Road, a private dirt road in Kinderhook, will be dedicated to the town after it is paved later this year. Residents have maintained the road for thirty years.**

started more than six years ago, said Highway Superintendent John Ruchel, adding he recently walked the road with Prendergast.

The pathway must meet stipulation of the town before the municipality maintains it, Ruchel said, and the issue revolves around drainage and grading.

“I don’t think that the road has been graded in a long time, but the base is in good shape for its age,” Ruchel said. “Dirt roads crown in the spring, which tapers the road; it has to shaped back up.”

The town requires a road to

be at least 20 feet wide, Ruchel said.

The cost of asphalt is fair right now, Prendergast said, so the paving of Wildflower should be simple. The sub-base is in stable condition, he added.

“Hopefully, the same width is kept and no surroundings are destroyed,” Ganning said. “At a meeting about a year ago, the town indicated that the road wouldn’t change much.”

The drainage pipes underneath Wildflower Road are metal, Prendergast said, and will need to be replaced by

plastic. Also, the ditches are full of trees and brush, he said, which disrupts the water flow. “Every spring, we clean ditches,” Ruchel said.

Last week, the quiet lane was laden with potholes.

“Residents had to get together and pool money to preserve the road, but that will be the end of that and it’ll be another nicely paved road in town,” Prendergast said. “The people asked the town to help with the road and the town board listened. Paving it will increase the value of homes in the area.”

Wildflower Road is off of

Mason Road, another dirt pathway. Mason Road connects to Route 203.

Wildflower inhabits 22 taxpayers, according to Columbia County tax records. The project, done by a private contractor and paid for by the residents, could cost an estimated \$600,000, Grattan said, but he suspects it will cost much less.

When the work is finished, the road would be dedicated to the town.

“Improvement comes at a cost,” Ganning said.

The new roadway will not present a significant tax increase, Grattan said, adding it would cost Kinderhook about \$1,800 extra per year for snow plowing services.

“Those residents already pay the full amount of taxes,” Grattan said. “It comes down to the town having more capabilities to maintain the road and blacktop makes that easier.”

When Ruchel last looked at Wildflower Road, he said he did not see a plow truck around the area.

“People aren’t always aware of the cost factor, but they’ll end up paying less after the town takes over,” Ruchel said. “I can count on less than five fingers the amount of times a private road has become a town road, and I have worked here for 29 years. There’s at least 15 private roads in town, but I am not up-to-date on what people have to pay.

Reach Jordan J. Michael at 518-828-1616, ext. 2309, or at [jmiichael@registerstar.com](mailto:jmiichael@registerstar.com).

COLUMBIA COUNTY  
POLICE BLOTTER

*Editor’s Note: A charge is not a conviction. All persons listed are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Charges can be amended or dismissed.*

## STATE POLICE

■ Gabriel Cascante-Borbon, 32, of Chatham, was arrested at 11:05 p.m. March 29 in Chatham and charged with criminal obstruction of breathing by applying pressure, a class A misdemeanor. He was released on his own recognizance.

■ Darius M. Fischer, 59, of Waterbury, Connecticut, was arrested at 9:25 p.m. March 30 in Ghent and charged with operating a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .08 percent or higher and driving while intoxicated with alcohol or drugs, both unclassified misdemeanors and first-time offenses. He was released on his own recognizance.

■ Kim E. Faxon, 55, of Hudson, was arrested at 12:39 a.m. March 31 in Greenport and charged with operating a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .08 percent or higher and driving while intoxicated, both unclassified misdemeanors and first-time

offenses. She was given an appearance ticket for a later court date.

■ Keshyn E. Henvill, 20, of Albany, was arrested at 3 a.m. April 1 in Kinderhook and charged with fifth-degree criminal possession of a marijuana over 25 grams, a class B misdemeanor. He was given an appearance ticket for a later court date.

■ Joshua M. Clayborne, 29, of Newburgh, was arrested at 4 p.m. April 2 in Greenport and charged with fourth-degree grand larceny, a class E felony. He was held.

■ Justin R. Wheeler, 30, of Ghent, was arrested at 5:53 p.m. April 2 in Hudson and charged with driving while intoxicated, an unclassified misdemeanor and first-time offense. He was given an appearance ticket for a later court date

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CALENDAR

Saturday, April 21

- Germantown History Department 9 a.m.-noon 1767 Parsonage, 52 Maple Ave., Germantown 518-537-6687
- Stuyvesant Rail Station Restoration Committee 9 a.m. Town Hall, 5 Sunset Drive, Stuyvesant 518-758-6248

Monday, April 23

- Canaan Recreation Committee 7 p.m. Upstairs Town Hall, 1647 Route 5, Canaan 518-781-3144
- Claverack Town Board Workshop 7 p.m. Town Office Building, 91 Church St., Mellenville 518-672-7911
- Columbia County Environmental Committee 6:30 p.m. 1st Floor Committee Room, 401 State St., Hudson
- Copake Planning Board 7 p.m. Town Hall, 230 Mountain View Road, Copake 518-329-1234
- Gallatin Planning Board 7 p.m. Town Hall, 667 County Route 7, Gallatin
- Ghent Commercial Zoning Review Committee 6:30 p.m. Town Hall, 2306 Route 66, Ghent 518-392-4644
- Hudson City School District Board of Education 7 p.m. Hudson High School, 215 Harry Howard Ave., Hudson
- The Hudson IDA meets at 1 p.m. at City Hall, 520 Warren St., Hudson
- Kinderhook Village Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 p.m. Village Hall, 6 Chatham St., Kinderhook 518-758-9882
- Philmont Village Board Workshop 7 p.m. Village Hall, 124 Main St., Philmont 518-672-7032
- Rhinebeck Town Board 6:45 p.m. Town Hall, 80 East Market St., Rhinebeck
- Stuyvesant Planning Board 7 p.m. Town Hall, 5 Sunset Drive, Stuyvesant 518-758-6248
- Tivoli Zoning Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Historic Watts dePeyster Hall, 1 Tivoli Commons, Tivoli 845-757-2021

Tuesday, April 24

- Chatham Central School District Board of Education 6:30 p.m. High School Library, Chatham 518-392-2400
- Columbia Economic Development Corporation Full Board 8:30 a.m. 4303 Route 9, Hudson
- Greenport Planning Board 7:30 p.m. Town Hall, 600 Town Hall Drive, Hudson 518-828-4656
- Hudson Development Corp. noon 1 North Front St., Hudson
- Rhinebeck Planning Board 6:45 p.m. Town Hall, 80 East Market St., Rhinebeck
- Stuyvesant Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 p.m. Town Hall, 5 Sunset Drive, Stuyvesant 518-758-6248 (as necessary)

Wednesday, April 25

- Claverack Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 p.m. Town Court Building, Route 217, Mellenville 518-672-7911 n Clermont Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 p.m. Town Hall, 1795 Route 9, Clermont 518-537-6868.
- Columbia County Board of Supervisors Public Works Committee 6 p.m. 401 State St., Hudson. 518-828-1527
- Columbia Economic Development Corporation 8:30 a.m. 4303 Route 9, Hudson.
- Copake Hamlet Revitalization Task Force 7 p.m. Town Hall, 230 Mountain View Road, Copake 518-329-1234
- Kinderhook Town Historical Committee 7 p.m. Town Hall, 3211 Church St., Valatie
- Philmont Village Board Workshop 7 p.m. Village Hall, 124 Main St., Philmont 518-672-7032
- Pine Plains Zoning Commission 5:15 p.m. Town Hall, 3284 Route 199, Pine Plains 518-398-7155
- Red Hook Central School District Board of Education 7 p.m. District Office Conference Room, Mill Road Elementary School, 9 Mill Road, Red Hook 845-758-2241
- Red Hook Town Board 7:30 p.m. Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway, Red Hook 845-758-4606
- Taghkanic Comprehensive Plan Committee 6:30 p.m. Town Hall, Route 82, West Taghkanic 518-851-7638

# Supervisors table Lovers Lane sale

By Richard Moody  
Columbia-Greene Media

HUDSON — The Columbia County Board of Supervisors withdrew a resolution to sell property in New Lebanon to a rail trail organization in Rensselaer County at the request of members on the New Lebanon Town Board who say the sale was rushed to the board of supervisors.

A resolution allowing the county to sell 16 Lovers Lane to the Corkscrew Rail Trail Association was removed from the agenda for the Board of Supervisors April 11 meeting. The association is planning a 2.5-mile rail trail along the old Rutland Railroad, which ran from Bennington, Vermont, to Chatham.

The trail will cross the Rensselaer County and Columbia County line at Stephentown and will run to southern New Lebanon.

The county planned to sell the property to the association for \$500, according to the resolution. The property has an assessed full market value of \$25,700, according to Columbia County property records.

“We had a Town Board meeting the night before and the board asked the town attorney to submit a letter that the board of supervisors do that,” New Lebanon Town Supervisor Colleen Teal said. “The board of supervisors will table the resolution until July.”

Several town councilmen expressed concerns about the county selling the property, which is now owned by the county due to delinquent back taxes, before the public had an opportunity to discuss the issue. Councilmen Jesse Newton, Kevin Smith and Mark Baumli said they were concerned the county will take a piece of property off the tax rolls forever before considering other options.

New Lebanon will hold a public hearing on the issue May 17, Teal said. “So the whole public can submit their thoughts and send the full board’s opinion to the board of



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO COURTESY OF BRUCE SHENKER

**A section of the Corkscrew Rail Trail that runs through Rensselaer County to the southern part of New Lebanon. Three councilmen said the Town Board was too quick to hand over an opinion on the sale of 16 Lovers Lane to the Corkscrew Rail Trail Association to the Columbia County Board of Supervisors.**

supervisors again,” Teal said. “It is never a bad idea to have more public input. All the feedback I have received has been in support of the sale.”

The disgruntled town board members said Monday there would be discussion about the issue at the town’s April 10 meeting. The Town Board held a meeting on the issue last month, when the board deadlocked on a vote to approve the sale because of Baumli being absent, and sent the county a negative recommendation with positive public input the board received at that meeting.

“The rail trail association has no easements in town,” Baumli said Monday. “They have to get easements from every other property owner whose

property the trail runs through. Why would we take this property off the tax rolls if the trail does not have easements in town? We are just putting the cart way in front of the horse.”

There are several properties along the rail trail’s route the association would have to work around because it cannot access them, including New Lebanon High School, Larabee Fuel Co. Inc. and Suburban Propane on Route 20.

Larabee and Suburban house their fuel tank systems in a field that cannot have unauthorized pedestrian traffic, Newton said.

“I’ve talked to town residents and most are not against the rail trail,” Newton said. “I am not against a rail

trail. What I have a problem with is taking a property off the tax rolls forever and giving it away.”

The taxes for the property — county, town and school taxes combined — are about \$603 a year, Newton said, adding the property is developable and could be an ideal place to raise a family.

A house on the property was destroyed by fire in 2011. Adam Crawley, a father of three, was killed.

“The house needs to be torn down and a variance needs to be placed on the road,” Newton said. “There are not many small-house properties in the area to build on. It is not viable to take a piece of property you can build on off the tax rolls forever.”

**THE SCENE**

*Places to go and things to do...*

Look for your arts and entertainment information in the B section of Thursday and Friday’s paper.

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**I Feel PRETTY** PG-13  
Amy Schumer  
DAILY 4:15 7:05 9:20 SAT & SUN 1:20 4:15 7:05 9:20

**TRUTH OR DARE** PG-13  
Katie Mara Clancy Brown  
DAILY 4:00 7:00 9:15 SAT & SUN 1:15 4:00 7:00 9:15

**CHAPPAQUIDDICK** PG-13  
Emily Blunt John Krasinski  
DAILY 5:10 7:15 9:15 SAT & SUN 1:00 3:05 5:10 7:15 9:15

**A QUIET PLACE** PG-13  
Dwayne Johnson  
3D-SAT & SUN 1:30 2D-DAILY 4:05 7:00 9:15

**BLOCKERS** PG-13  
John Cena Leslie Mann  
DAILY 4:15 7:20 9:30 SAT & SUN 1:30 4:15 7:20 9:30

**SHERLOCK Gnomes** PG **READY PLAYER ONE** PG  
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**“TRUTH or DARE”** PG-13  
Co-Feature starts about 9:40 pm  
**“A QUIET PLACE”** PG-13

**SCREEN 3** Fri 4/20 thru Sun 4/22 starts about 8:00 pm  
**“A QUIET PLACE”** PG-13  
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**“ANNIHILATION”** R

**SCREEN 4** Fri 4/20 thru Sun 4/22 starts about 8:00 pm  
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## Food bank

FROM PAGE 3

sic needs, including the essential need for nutritious food.”

Wednesday’s event was held at the Green Island school because students there will benefit from the funds through the Backpack Program, which provides students in need with a backpack stocked with nutritious food ahead of weekends and school breaks, like the one beginning later this week.

Heatly School will receive \$15,000 of the money Hannaford donated, allowing it to continue serving students with the Backpack Program through the 2022-23 academic year.

“The impact on students here is phenomenal,” Superintendent of Green Island Union Free School



LAUREN HALLIGAN — LHALLIGAN@DIGITALFIRSTMEDIA.COM

Dr. Teresa Thayer Snyder, Superintendent of Green Island Union Free School District speaks at a press conference held Wednesday at Heatly School in Green Island.

District superintendent Dr. Teresa Thayer Snyder said during the press conference, noting that the sustenance provided through the Backpack Program creates opportunity for the children.

The recent donation to the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York is one component of a

\$500,000 commitment by Hannaford to child nutrition throughout New York and New England. Half of those dollars are being raised through the new Hannaford Chef’s Table program, with a financial match of \$250,000 from Hannaford.

The Chef’s Table is a partnership between Han-

naford and four local chefs who maintain the same passion for building community and helping home cooks make fresh, affordable meals, a press release explained. The program features affordable recipes using quality and fresh ingredients created by the participating chefs in local Hannaford stores. Shoppers who purchase at least three participating products will trigger a \$2 donation from Hannaford to child nutrition efforts, with a guaranteed commitment of \$250,000 from Hannaford.

The Capital Region-based participating chef is Ric Orlando, owner of New World Bistro Bar in Albany. Orlando, a longtime supporter of the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York, will be featured in Hannaford stores this summer with a focus on seasonal grilling recipes.

## Baking

FROM PAGE 3

company Melissa & Doug.

The idea for Baking with Baby has been in Toth’s mind for a long time. About six years ago she actually filmed a home video with her son using the same premise, put it on YouTube and people found it hilarious.

Baking with Baby is not your typical baking show, Toth said. “It’s entertaining, and more comedic.”

The show’s tagline is: “You may not learn to bake but you will laugh.”

Through Aidala’s

voiceovers, “This baby is pretty much making fun of me the whole show,” Toth said. “The baby is just the antithesis of me basically. It’s really funny.”

Between the adorable baby, the pinup look, the comedic element and the sought-after recipes — Toth is hopeful that Baking with Baby will become a hit, as there’s nothing else quite like it.

Though it’s her first time ever producing a show, Toth has high aspirations that Baking with Baby could someday air on Food Network or another major platform. “I dream big,” she said.

Beyond that, Toth envi-

sions creating product lines of baking-related goods.

As Baking with Baby’s second episode is getting underway, Toth is browsing her recipe book for which treat she will share next.

“The one everyone wants is the red velvet. It’s the coveted recipe,” she said, hinting that she may give out the never-before-revealed red velvet cake recipe on a future episode of the show.

Along with different recipes, Toth also plans on featuring some different babies in the show, especially as Leo gets older.

Toth often gets asked about Bettie — as well as referred to as Bettie wher-

ever she goes within the Capital District — so with this new venture she’s happy to share that Bettie is still alive, looking glamorous, and baking.

More information about Baking with Baby is available online at [www.choos-eahappyday.com/baking-with-baby](http://www.choos-eahappyday.com/baking-with-baby) and [www.facebook.com/bakingwithbaby](http://www.facebook.com/bakingwithbaby).

The pilot episode of Baking with Baby is available for viewing on Amazon Prime and YouTube.

Baking with Baby sponsor packages are available for future episodes.

## Calendar

FROM PAGE 5

to 3 p.m.

**LUNCHTIME MEDITATION:** Held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 12:30 p.m. at the Saratoga Springs Public Library. Free and open to all. Sponsored by One Roof Holistic Health Center.

**MECHANICVILLE DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY:** The ASL Club at Mechanicville Library invites those with existing American Sign Language skills to come together and practice their Sign Language on the first Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. Reiki with Gina, 6:30 p.m. For questions or to register for Reiki, please call 518-664-4646. 190 North Main Street, Mechanicville.

**MLK MARCH:** MLK Saratoga, several social justice groups and the interfaith community are partnering to organize a historically relevant silent march and vigil to honor the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr on April 4, the 50th anniversary of Dr. King’s assassination, beginning at 5:30 p.m. People will gather in front of the City Center and march down Broadway in silence, carrying only signs that read “Honor King: End Racism.” They will congregate in Congress Park, and church bells will ring at 6:05 p.m., the time when Dr. King was shot. There will be a brief program including songs from the civil rights era and Dr. King’s own words. More information is available at <https://www.mlksaratoga.org/>.

**OLDE SARATOGA SENIORS:** The Olde Saratoga Seniors’ next meeting will be a casseerole luncheon held on Wednesday, April 4, at the Town Hall, Spring Street, Schuylerville. Please bring a dish to share. New members are always welcome. For more information contact Pat at 518-338-2329.

**ORIGAMI FOR KIDS:** Don’t know what to with the kids during Spring Break? Come to Ballston Spa Public Library on Wednesday, April 4 at 2 p.m. to learn the basics of origami. Kids ages 7-12 are invited to attend a free workshop led by instructor Dan Busha of Paper Dragon Sculpture. Registration is required, limit 10 participants. Call 518-885-5022

or stop in to reserve a spot. Ballston Spa Public Library is located at 21 Milton Avenue with a parking lot behind the building on Low Street. For more information call, stop in or visit <http://ballston.sals.edu>.

**POETRY:** On Wednesday, April 4, Caffè Lena (47 Phila Street, Saratoga Springs) and host Carol Graser will present poetry readings by Jessica Cuello & Anthony Bernini. An open reading will follow. Doors open for sign-ups at 7 p.m. and the readings will start at 7:30 p.m. \$5 general admission; free for students. Call 518-583-0022 or visit [www.caffelena.org](http://www.caffelena.org) for more information.

**SARATOGA SPA STATE PARK:** Wilton Wildlife Preserve will be joining in on the fun of the annual fish stocking day. Stop by their table at the Geyser Picnic Area from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. to do a fun nature craft after putting your fish in Geyser Creek.

**SCHUYLERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY:** Dino Story Time, 10 a.m. Special DIY Cupcake Decorating Workshop, 1 p.m. 52 Ferry Street, Schuylerville. Call 518-695-6641 for more information.

**WILTON HERITAGE SOCIETY:** The Town of Wilton celebrates their 200th anniversary this year. The Wilton Heritage Society will hold their monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 4, at the Wilton Senior Center, 18 Traver Road, Wilton. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. and consists of a business meeting, a video if time permits and light refreshments.

**WILTON WILDLIFE PRESERVE:** History Walk, 2 p.m. at Camp Saratoga. On this walk participants will be invited to imagine how those before us lived in this area on the trails that we walk today. Find out about the Native American trail, the railroad beginning in the 1830s, historic farm land, the Boy Scout camp, and the present Preserve & Park. Frog Watch, 7 p.m. at 80 Scout Road. Starting with an indoor presentation at the Park Office, participants will learn about the frogs and toads of our area. Then head outdoors to listen and look for amphibian friends! Participants will be helping Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park collect important data for Frog WatchUSA! Group size is limited and is for ages 5 and up. Preregistration for each event is required by

April 3. For more information or to register, please call the Preserve & Park office at 518-450-0321 or via email at [info@wiltonpreserve.org](mailto:info@wiltonpreserve.org).

**Thursday, April 5**  
**FOAL PATROL KIDS:** Join the National Museum of Racing on Thursday, April 5, from 10 a.m. to noon for a family-friendly celebration of Foal Patrol and the unveiling of the new Foal Patrol Coloring Book by artist Sharon Crute. Admission is free and all children in attendance will receive a complimentary coloring book. There will also be snacks, giveaways and a variety of educational activities featuring mares and foals and the educational concepts of Foal Patrol. 191 Union Avenue, Saratoga Springs.

**GREEN DRINKS:** A “green gathering” for those who work, volunteer, or have a passion for promoting the environment, conservation, and sustainability. 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at Harvey’s Restaurant and Bar (the “Library Room”), 14 Phila Street, Saratoga Springs. Cash bar. Happy Hour runs until 6:30 p.m. with 1/2 priced drafts, wines, and cocktails. Non-alcoholic drinks and food may also be ordered. For more informa-

CALENDAR » PAGE 7

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# Boyhaven

FROM PAGE 1

end of this month. I'm hoping the (town) board will do that."

The deal was supposed to be finalized by the end of 2017, but Boy Scout officials gave the town extension because Ostrander didn't take office until Jan. 1, when he succeeded former long-time Supervisor Dan Lewza.

About 10 different parties including builders, developers and real estate firms submitted bids for the camp.

The town submitted a \$500,00 bid, an amount donated by an anonymous source. Plans call for bond-

ing another \$500,000.

The town issued a bonding request for proposals and has received responses, which town Attorney James Craig is in the process of reviewing.

When considering potential buyers, Boy Scout officials placed a high priority on keeping the land free from development, one of the main reasons the town was selected.

"The board decided local stewardship and having the land be a public park was overall the best situation," Twin Rivers Council President Richard Stockton said last summer. The state Department of Environmental Conserva-

tion has expressed interest in buying 250 acres of wooded camp property, which would be added to the nearby Middle Grove State Forest. Kayaderosseras Creek runs through the Boyhaven property.

But Ostrander said Milton can't negotiate with the DEC until the purchase from Twin Rivers is finalized.

Some residents support selling a portion of land to DEC for the revenue it would generate, while others say the town should maintain complete control of the camp. With or without DEC's involvement, after buying Boyhaven, the town has to decide how to use it.

When submitting its bid for Boyhaven, the town indicated that all of 2018 and early 2019 would be used for planning purposes,

with a goal of allowing the first public recreational uses in summer 2019. But Woolbright said there's no reason trails on the property couldn't be used next winter, while plans for summer take shape.

Although founded in 1924, since 1991 the camp was only used for Cub Scout and Webelo programs, not Boy Scouts. Overnight outings were discontinued following the 2015 season. For the past two years it had only been for used for day programs.

Competition from more conveniently located town- and city-run day camps and recreation programs took its toll on Boyhaven.

With proceeds from sale of the property, Twin Rivers Council plans improve



SARATOGIAN FILE PHOTO

Bunkhouse-style lean-tos are set amidst a stand of tall pines at Camp Boyhaven.

two other scout sites, Camp Wokpominee on the east side of Lake George

in Fort Ann, and Rotary Scout Reservation in Poes-tenkill.

# Parting

FROM PAGE 1

Trump defeated Democrat Hillary Clinton. But more than a half-dozen Democrats are still seeking their party's nomination to challenge Stefanik, hoping to ride a "blue wave" of anti-Trump sentiment in this year's mid-term congressional elections. The district Stefanik represents includes a portion of Saratoga County.

Two of those candidates, Patrick Nelson of Stillwater and Emily Martz of Saranac Lake, were among those present on Thursday.

Stefanik's comments indicated that she's already separating herself from Trump as the campaign



PAUL POST — PPOST@DIGITALFIRSTMEDIA.COM

Second Amendment supporters hold signs outside Moreau Community Center where U.S. Rep. Elise Stefanik held a public forum. Stefanik said she supports the Second Amendment, but said steps must be taken to prevent mass shootings such as one last month that claimed 17 lives at a school in Florida.

takes shape.

"I'm going to make news

today," she said. "I think Scott Pruitt should resign.

I fundamentally disagree with how Pruitt has handled the EPA."

Environmental advocates are upset by funding cuts that threaten to undermine clean air and water standards, and policies that could open sensitive areas to development and industrial use.

In regard to Trump's offensive remarks about women and alleged instances of sexual misconduct, Stefanik said, "I've been very concerned about the president's rhetoric toward women. I've spoken out against it. No one is above the law."

The crowd included Stefanik supporters and detractors.

She has come under considerable fire during her term in office for be-

ing inaccessible to constituents. Joseph Seeman, of Ballston Spa, criticized Thursday's event, saying it should have been held at larger venue, in the evening, so more people could attend.

Stefanik said she holds outreach activities at all times of day throughout her 21st District, which stretches from Watertown to northern Saratoga County. It is the largest district, geographically, east of the Mississippi River.

Another "Coffee With the Congresswoman" forum is scheduled Friday in Moriah.

Queensbury resident Sara Carpenter, whose husband is battling leukemia, was Stefanik's harshest critic on Thursday, say-

ing she's done little to improve healthcare since taking office.

"Why don't you care enough about the people in our district to get the Congress to do something?" she said. "I'm very disappointed. Get off the bench. I want an elected representative who won't just talk about what needs to be done, but will make it happen."

Stefanik said she supported the 21st Century Cures Act, which provided \$45 billion for healthcare, and the recently-approved federal omnibus bill, which included significant healthcare funding, too.

The event was moderated by Glens Falls Chronicle newspaper editor and publisher Mark Frost.

# Revival

FROM PAGE 1

day, he said the U.S. statements about a pullout were a cause for "concern on the street level" but that Kurdish officials were receiving reassurances from U.S. generals on the ground that American troops were staying.

Last week, an explosion killed two coalition personnel, an American and a Briton, during an operation to capture a known IS member in Manbij, where U.S. troops maintain a large presence. It was the first such blast to hit the U.S.-led coalition since it deployed in the town months after the U.S.-backed forces liberated it from IS in 2016 following fierce battles that lasted nearly three months.

Since then, the town has served as a model of stabilization, but officials are now expressing concern about IS attempting to re-emerge.

The U.S.-backed forces — a mix of Kurdish and Arab fighters known as the Syrian Democratic Forces, or SDF, — routed IS militants from almost all the territory the extremists controlled in northern Syria, including the group's de facto capital of Raqqa, in October. In November, a coalition of Iranian, Iraqi, Syrian and Russian forces secured the militant's last urban stronghold, Boukamal, in eastern Syria on the border with Iraq.

That seemed to herald victory over the militants. The various sides then turned their attention to pursuing their own interests in the disintegrated

country.

The IS militants kept a sliver of territory along the Euphrates River near Boukamal, and some nebulous zones of control in the desert of eastern Syria and on the border with Iraq — but nothing that seemed beyond containment.

But in a surprise attack, the militants stormed Boukamal on Monday, triggering heavy fighting before Iranian-backed Shiite militias beat them out, according to a war monitoring group and Syrian opposition activists with connections to the region. Approximately 400 Islamic State fighters crossed the Euphrates River and ambushed the town, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group, killed 11 pro-government fighters in clashes, and losing five of their own.

From their desert territory the IS militants have harassed forces at oil stations, as well, according to Mohammad al-Ayed, director of the Palmyra News Network.

U.S. and Kurdish officers had warned of an IS resurgence when Turkey attacked the town of Afrin in northwestern Syria in March to drive out the main Kurdish militia, known as the YPG.

The YPG forms the backbone of the Syrian Democratic Forces, America's main partner in Syria, which then shifted hundreds of fighters from operations against IS in eastern Syria to the front lines against Turkey in Afrin.

That forced a pause in operations against the main IS holdout in Syria. The U.S.-led coalition has cut its airstrikes against IS by half since the Kurdish-led fighters moved away from eastern Syria, said coalition spokesman Col. Ryan Dillon.

The U.S. relies on ground maneuvers by the Syrian Democratic Forces to flush out IS fighters and expose them to airstrikes, Dillon said. "If the SDF are not constantly putting pressure on ISIS elements, that allows them to quietly reconsolidate," he added, using an alternate acronym for the Islamic State group.

Meanwhile, with the Syrian government focused on vanquishing the rebels in their stronghold of eastern Ghouta, near Damascus,

IS militants surged from a pocket of territory they hold on the southern edge of the capital to snatch a neighborhood right from under the government's nose.

Some 120 pro-government fighters were killed in the battle of Qadam, according to the Observatory, losses that went unmentioned in state media. Other clashes between the two sides brought the government forces' death toll to 204 in 23 days, the Observatory said.

IS has lost almost all the territory it once controlled in Syria and Iraq, land that had encompassed a third of those countries. But the pockets it still holds provide protection.

IS fighters have excellent knowledge of the desert areas along the Syria-Iraq border, dating back to the early days of the Islamic State group and even before, when the group was called al-Qaida in Iraq, said Jalal al-Hamad, a Europe-based Syrian activist who monitors the war with an organization called Justice

for Life.

IS has extensive tunnels there and can move relatively undetected, avoiding Syrian and Russian airstrikes, al-Hamad said,

though American planes can detect them. The militants use bad weather, particularly dust storms, to cross the Euphrates, he said.

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Russia

FROM PAGE 1

as central to national security decisions as the intelligence agency he now heads.

Throughout the hearing, he drew a sharp contrast with his ousted predecessor, Rex Tillerson. He lamented the “demoralizing” vacancies at the top echelons of the department during Tillerson’s tenure and said he planned to fill those vacancies, asking the Senate’s help to get nominees confirmed.

He cast his close connection to Trump as an advantage that would help him restore the significance of the department.

“My relationship with President Trump is due to one thing: We’ve demonstrated value to him at the CIA. So, in turn, he has come to rely on us,” Pompeo said. “I intend to ensure that the Department of State will be just as central to the president’s policies and the national security of the United States.”

His remarks before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee were the first chance for lawmakers and the public to hear directly from the former Kansas congressman about his approach to diplomacy and the role of the State Department, should he be confirmed. Pompeo’s views on global issues are well known — he was questioned extensively by senators for his confirmation to run the CIA — but Democratic senators have raised



JACQUELYN MARTIN — THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CIA Director Mike Pompeo, picked to be the next secretary of state, listens during his introductions before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee during a confirmation hearing on his nomination to be Secretary of State, Thursday on Capitol Hill in Washington.

questions about his fitness to be top diplomat, given his hawkish views and past comments about minorities.

Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J., took Pompeo to task over for saying previously that Muslims have a special obligation to denounce extremism and for his longstanding position that gays should not be able to marry.

“I continue to hold that view,” Pompeo said of gay marriage, though he declined repeatedly to answer whether he believes gay sex is a “perversion.” Instead, Pompeo responded to the criticism by saying repeatedly that his record at the CIA and elsewhere proves he treats everyone equally and with respect, regardless of religion, gender or sexual orientation.

He sought to pre-empt concerns about Trump’s apparent unwillingness to challenge Russian President Vladimir Putin directly.

He said a long list of punitive actions taken under Trump show the U.S. takes the threat from Russia seriously, adding that “we need to push back in each place we confront them,” including the economic and cyber arenas.

“Each of those tools that Vladimir Putin is using, we need to do our best to make sure he doesn’t succeed,” Pompeo said.

An avowed opponent of the Iran nuclear deal, Pompeo said he’d work immediately if confirmed to “fix” the agreement that Trump has threatened to abandon if it’s not strengthened. Pompeo wouldn’t say explicitly if he’d advocate a withdrawal if there’s no fix by Trump’s May 12 deadline, suggesting there could be an extension if significant progress was being made by then. Still, he affirmed that he won’t support staying in over the long term unless more restrictions are placed on Tehran.

“If there’s no chance that we can fix it, I will recommend to the president that we work with our allies to achieve a better outcome and to achieve a better deal,” Pompeo said.

Still, he acknowledged



JACQUELYN MARTIN — THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Retired U.S. Army Col. Ann Wright, center, protests the nomination of CIA Director Mike Pompeo, front right, for secretary of state, as he waits to testify before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee during a confirmation hearing on his nomination to be Secretary of State, Thursday on Capitol Hill in Washington.

that Iran, technically speaking, is not violating the terms of the 2015 accord between the U.S., Iran and other world powers, adding: “I have seen no evidence that they are not in compliance.”

Since being nominated last month, Pompeo has spent much of his time at the State Department immersing himself in briefing books and undergoing mock hearings and prep meetings on key issues like Iran, Syria and North Korea, as well as the inner workings of the department, a person close to Pompeo said. He’s also spoken to all eight living former secretaries — including Hillary Clinton, whom he famously criticized over the 2012 attack on U.S. facilities in Benghazi, Libya.

Pompeo, who was confirmed for the CIA job by a 66-32 vote, developed a reputation for being more outwardly political than many past directors of the traditionally apolitical agency. He developed a visibly close

relationship with the president, traveling to the White House on most days to deliver the classified President’s Daily Brief in person rather than leaving the

task to other intelligence officials. Often Trump would have the CIA director stay in the West Wing after the briefing to accompany him to other meetings.

Forum

FROM PAGE 1

“We’ve spent so much time focusing on the sickness and the disease,” said Farr. “We need to start focusing on the people who are recovering, and there’s 23 million of us in this country recovering from the disease of addiction.”

Farr shared that there’s been three times as many heroin-related overdose deaths since 2010 in the United States, and 78 people die every day from it.

But Farr said addiction overall has been a problem, not just one specific addictive disease.

He shared that one in 14 New Yorkers will report substance-dependence or use disorder this year.

Joining the presenters was Saratoga Springs Police Chief Greg Veitch.

Veitch explained how the police were training to react to crack cocaine, meth and ICE over the years, but heroin has been a much more difficult problem.

Veitch said the epidemic



JOSEPH PHELAN — JPHELAN@DIGITALFIRSTMEDIA.COM

Brian Farr hosted the two-hour event Wednesday night.

has hit the police community pretty hard from an emotional standpoint.

“We are sympathetic and compassionate for what is going in a very difficult situation,” said Veitch.

The City of Saratoga Springs has between four and six heroin-related deaths per year in recent years, but Veitch offered a glimmer of hope, saying the investigators have started to see the number of investigations involving heroin tailing off.

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## Superhero

FROM PAGE 1

Mosseau, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's regional 2012 Woman of the Year, is participating once again in this philanthropic competition to support blood cancer research - this time on a national level.

The upcoming Superhero Pub Crawl event is one component of Mosseau's ongoing fundraising campaign to beat the villain that is cancer.

"We run because none of us should ever have blood cancers take the lives of our children, our parents, our spouses, our friends and our neighbors," Mosseau said, adding that these lives are taken every nine minutes.

"We run because our world desperately needs superheroes," Mosseau continued. "We need people with honor and integrity, people with courage and conviction, people with respect and compassion, people who know that their real job in this world is to care



PHOTO BY SARAH MARTINO PHOTOGRAPHY

Six-year-olds Bella Caruso and Evan Fronk are the 2018 Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Boy and Girl of the Year.

for others. We need superheroes that are more powerful than the Justice League, smarter than the XMen, and braver than GI Joe."

For the first time, Mosseau and supporters are competing against other teams across the nation with a goal of raising \$200,000 in a 10-week period that ends on June 1.

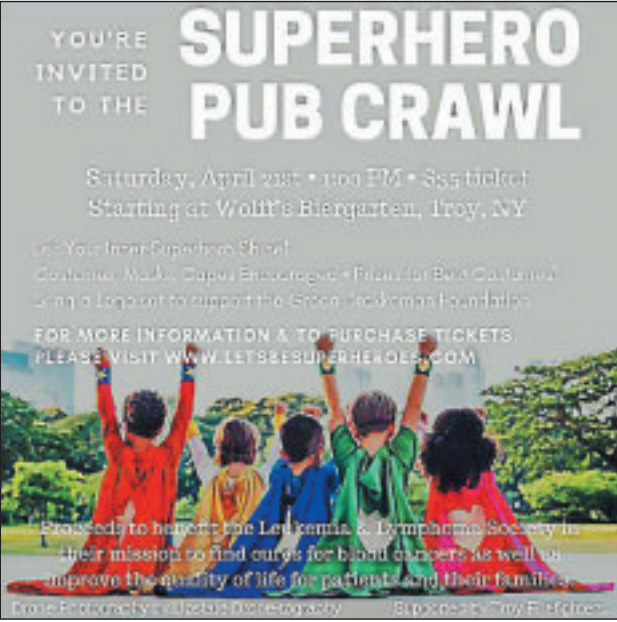


IMAGE PROVIDED

The first Superhero Pub Crawl to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society will be held on Saturday in Troy.

All of these efforts are in honor of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's local Boy and Girl of the Year Bella Caruso and Evan Fronk, both six-year-olds affected by childhood leukemia, as well as all individuals who have been diag-

nosed with cancer.

Caruso was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, Type B shortly before her fourth birthday. It was a hard two years of ups and downs but after 796 days of treatment she is finally cancer-free.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sabrina Mosseau

Now six years old, Caruso is in the first grade and loving life. She enjoys strawberries, puppies, barbies, roller coasters, vanilla ice cream, dancing, playing outside, jumping into the pool, baby dolls, coloring and riding her bike, scooter and four-wheeler.

Fronk was diagnosed with Pre-B Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia in 2014 at the young age of three years old. On Sept. 8, 2017, Fronk rang the end of chemotherapy treatment victory bell! Today, he loves animals and playing outside along with Pokemon,

Wild Kratts, Power Rangers, Transformers and pretty much anything Disney. He likes being around other kids and playing video games and legos.

Just before the start of Saturday's Superhero Pub Crawl the Troy Fire Department has volunteered to pick up Caruso and Fronk on a fire truck for a ride around the city.

All are invited to let their inner superhero shine at the fundraising event, which will also feature auction items, raffles and prizes for the best costumes. The event is scheduled for 1 to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$35 each, with proceeds to support the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Those who cannot attend but would like to support the cause can donate online at [www.letsbesuperheroes.com](http://www.letsbesuperheroes.com) or attend another upcoming fundraiser like next month's LLS Runway to a Cure Fashion Show.

*More information is available online at [www.letsbesuperheroes.com](http://www.letsbesuperheroes.com).*

## Syria

FROM PAGE 1

It's unclear whether Trump will go ahead with a total U.S. withdrawal while IS retains even a small presence in Syria.

Since January, when Trump asserted in his State of the Union address that "very close to 100 percent" of IS territory in Syria and Iraq had been liberated, progress toward extinguishing the extremists' caliphate, or self-proclaimed state, has ground to a halt and shows no sign of restarting. U.S. warplanes continue to periodically bomb remaining pockets of IS in eastern Syria, but ground operations by U.S. partner forces have

slowed.

"We've halted forward progress and are essentially attempting to avoid losing territory we've gained to date," said Jennifer Caffarella, an analyst at the Institute for the Study of War. She sees two potential solutions: send additional U.S. combat power to eastern Syria to take on IS more directly, or resolve a diplomatic dispute with Turkey that has largely sidelined the main U.S. military partner in Syria, the Syrian Democratic Forces.

Now that Trump has upped the ante by attacking Syria directly for the second time in just over a year, Caffarella said in an interview this week, it is possible that Syria and its two main international supporters —

Russia and Iran — will retaliate militarily against American forces and their Kurdish and Arab partners in eastern Syria "in an attempt to compel an American withdrawal by raising the cost of continued American involvement."

The U.S. began bombing IS in Syria in September 2014 and deployed an initial contingent of 50 special operations troops in the country the following year. The anti-IS campaign gained momentum in 2016 and made its biggest gains during Trump's first year in office.

A spokesman for the U.S.-led military coalition against IS refused this week to say how many IS fighters remain. Col. Ryan Dillon said they are holed up mainly in two places in eastern Syria. He said they are in and around the town of Hajin on the Euphrates River north of Bukamal and in Dashisha near the city of Deir el-Zour. They are "contained" in these areas, he asserted, suggesting they are not in immediate danger of being ousted.

Of concern, Dillon said, are indications that IS is stepping up successful attacks against pro-government fighters elsewhere in Syria.

The Trump administration has been saying in recent months that 98 percent of IS territory has been liberated, suggesting the campaign was close to final victory, although on April 3 the Army general overseeing the campaign, Joseph Votel, put it differently, saying "well over 90 percent" of the caliphate had been retaken.

"The situation continues to become more and more complex," Votel said, alluding in

part to the effects of a Turkish incursion into the town of Afrin in northwestern Syria.

The Afrin operation was part of a Turkish plan to drive the main Syrian Kurdish militia, known as the YPG, away from the Turkish border area. Turkey considers the YPG a threat to its national security and an extension of Kurdish insurgents inside Turkey. But the YPG also is America's main partner in Syria; it forms the backbone of the Syrian Democratic Forces, or SDF. Turkey's advance on Afrin prompted the SDF to shift from fighting IS to confronting Turkey in Afrin.

The result: "We are no longer in an offensive effort on the ground against them (Islamic State)," Defense Secretary Jim Mattis told reporters March 27.

Even so, eliminating IS in Syria remains the goal, he said after Trump announced the missile strikes to punish the Syrian government for its alleged chemical weapons use.

The barrage of 105 missiles launched by the United States, Britain and France last week to destroy elements of Syria's chemical weapons arsenal was designed to deter President

Bashar Assad from repeating his alleged use of chlorine gas and perhaps nerve gas on civilians in a Damascus suburb. It was unrelated

to the IS problem, except in the sense that it highlighted the jumble of actors involved and the absence of a broad U.S. strategy.

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N 18-1910A

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I, Jennifer Peterson, being duly sworn on oath now and during all times herein stated, have been the publisher and designated agent of the publication known as,

Elmira Star Gazette("Publication")

and have full knowledge of the facts herein stated as follows:

The ad for NYSEG Rate Notice 2018-Delivery Rates was printed to the Publication's full circulation on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of March and the 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.

By: Jennifer Peterson

Subscribed and sworn before me

This 24 day of April, 2018.

Notary Seal:

Elizabeth M. Conklin  
Notary Public

Elizabeth M. Conklin  
Notary Public, State of New York  
Broome County No.01CO6338552  
Commission expires March 14, 2020



WEATHER

TODAY

Cooler with a.m. showers

HIGH 46 LOW 27

FOR THE LATEST FORECASTS

www.stargazette.com/weather

SATURDAY

Milder with clouds and sunshine

HIGH 55 LOW 30

SUNDAY

HIGH 41 LOW 23

Partly sunny, cool and breezy

MONDAY

HIGH 46 LOW 29

Sunshine and patchy clouds

TUESDAY

HIGH 49 LOW 35

Cloudy with rain

WENY NEWS 5

5 DEGREE GUARANTEE

Today's forecast is provided by WENY News Meteorologists Joe Veres and Ally Debicki.

DOWNLOAD THE AccuWeather APP

BY THE NUMBERS

<b>ELMIRA</b>	<b>BINGHAMTON</b>	<b>ITHACA</b>
Yesterday's high 54°	Yesterday's high 47°	Yesterday's high 51°
Yesterday's low 44°	Yesterday's low 39°	Yesterday's low 41°
Normal high 50°	Normal high 46°	Normal high 47°
Normal low 27°	Normal low 29°	Normal low 28°
Record high 82° in 1945	Record high 75° in 1986	Record high 80° in 1945
Record low 10° in 1959	Record low 9° in 1959	Record low 10° in 2015
<b>PRECIPITATION</b> <i>in inches</i>	<b>PRECIPITATION</b> <i>in inches</i>	<b>PRECIPITATION</b> <i>in inches</i>
Yesterday 0.12	Yesterday 0.15	Yesterday 0.04
Month to date 1.43	Month to date 2.62	Month to date 1.84
Normal m-t-d 2.52	Normal m-t-d 2.77	Normal m-t-d 2.45
Year to date 4.58	Year to date 8.82	Year to date 5.74
Normal y-t-d 6.32	Normal y-t-d 7.53	Normal y-t-d 6.51

<b>SNOWFALL:</b> <i>totals for Elmira</i>		
Yesterday 0.0"	Season to date 35.0"	
Month to date 5.8"	Normal s-t-d 36.2"	
Normal m-t-d 9.4"	Last season 38.0"	

**EXTREMES:** High: 95°, Thermal, CA Low: 1°, Yellowstone Lake, WY

THE MOON

FULL MAR 31

LAST APR 8

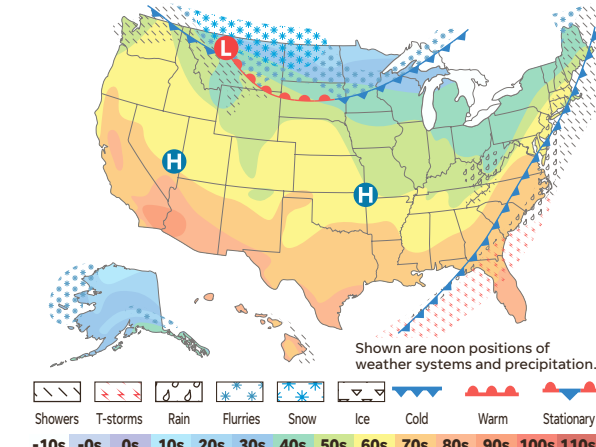
NEW APR 15

FIRST APR 22

SKYWATCH

	RISE	SET
Sun	6:54 a.m.	7:31 p.m.
Moon	6:44 p.m.	6:44 a.m.
Venus	7:43 a.m.	9:09 p.m.
Mars	2:37 a.m.	11:39 a.m.
Jupiter	11:00 p.m.	8:57 a.m.
Saturn	2:39 a.m.	11:52 a.m.

FORECAST FOR MARCH 30, 2018



INTERNATIONAL

City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W
Amsterdam	54	39	pc	Geneva	52	37	r	New Delhi	98	67	pc
Athens	67	54	pc	Havana	87	64	s	Nice	59	47	t
Baghdad	77	57	s	Hong Kong	80	71	s	Paris	50	38	sh
Bangkok	92	79	pc	Jakarta	91	77	pc	Prague	55	40	pc
Beijing	66	48	pc	Jerusalem	57	48	c	Rio de Janeiro	87	75	s
Beirut	69	58	pc	Johannesburg	77	58	pc	Rome	65	54	r
Belgrade	70	54	pc	Kabul	79	49	s	San Juan	81	73	s
Berlin	50	35	pc	Lima	76	67	pc	Seoul	67	46	s
Brasilia	82	65	pc	London	49	40	r	Singapore	90	76	t
Bucharest	64	41	s	Madrid	53	41	c	Stockholm	38	19	s
Budapest	57	48	t	Melbourne	73	52	pc	Sydney	84	70	s
Buenos Aires	87	62	s	Mexico City	74	49	pc	Taipei City	81	67	pc
Cairo	74	55	pc	Montreal	47	26	c	Tokyo	61	47	s
Cape Town	69	57	c	Moscow	33	24	pc	Toronto	44	27	c
Dublin	46	37	sh	Nairobi	76	58	pc	Vancouver	53	38	c
Frankfurt	57	40	sh	Nassau	82	69	pc	Vienna	54	46	pc

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

For Corrections

Please bring errors in stories, photos, graphics or headlines to the attention of Digital Strategist Kevin Hogan at 607-798-1338.

STAR-GAZETTE

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Weekend hours: 2 - 5 p.m.  
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Howell

Continued from Page 1A

and printing equipment at its Howell Packaging division and purchase a new thermoformer for its Howell Plastics division, both in Elmira.

The expansion is supported by an \$800,000 capital grant awarded by the Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council.

The project will enable Howell to maintain its current workforce of 182 employees and create 14 new jobs.

“We are excited to participate in New York state’s initiative to support investment in advanced manufacturing technologies,” Howell President and CEO Katherine Roehlke said in a news release. “This project will allow us to continue to grow and remain steadfast in our commitment to the Elmira community.”

Howell’s manufacturing facilities are located at 79 Pennsylvania Ave. on Elmira’s Southside.

The fourth generation, family-owned business was founded in 1883 and originally manufactured wooden cigar boxes.

Today, Howell has three divisions and provides packaging products and services to the pharmaceutical, industrial, and consumer products industries.

The Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council identified the expansion as a priority project in round six of its funding cycle, and as a result, the company was awarded an \$800,000 performance-based grant through Empire State Development.

The multi-million dollar renovation project is expected to be completed by the end of 2018.

The project is part of Southern Tier Soaring — a regional offshoot of the state’s commitment to invest \$500 million through the Upstate Revitalization Initiative, which in turn is expected to generate more than \$2.5 billion in pri-



**A planned expansion will enable F.M. Howell & Co. in Elmira to preserve its workforce and add new jobs.**

JEFF MURRAY / STAFF PHOTO

Online

■ For more information on F.M. Howell & Co., go to howellpkg.com.

■ To learn more about Southern Tier Soaring, the state’s initiative to revitalize the economy of the Southern Tier, go to esd.ny.gov/southern-tier-soaring-uri.

vate investment.

Local officials are excited about the opportunities.

“F.M Howell has been a locally-owned business in the heart of our community for over 135 years. These monies will allow the company to continue to be a major employer in our region and to be competitive in the global economy,” said Chemung County Executive Tom Santulli.

“The City of Elmira is excited about the expansion of F.M. Howell, one of our longstanding, family-owned manufacturers, and thanks them for their commitment to the city,” Elmira Mayor Dan Mandell added. “We also greatly appreciate the commitment of the Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council, Empire State Development, and Gov. Cuomo for their investment in Elmira’s economy.”

Follow @SGJeffMurray on Twitter

LOTTERIES

N.Y. lottery: (518) 388-3300  
www.nylottery.org

Pa. lottery: (800) 692-7481  
www.palottery.com

NY Lottery

Wednesday:  
**Numbers Midday** 1-6-6,  
Lucky Sum: 13  
**Win 4 Midday** 1-8-3-6,  
Lucky Sum: 18

**Numbers Evening** 6-6-1,  
Lucky Sum: 13

**Win 4 Evening** 1-4-5-7,  
Lucky Sum: 17

**Take 5** 08-12-23-29-36

**Pick 10** 03-04-12-15-25-33-46-47-53-59-60-62-64-65-67-69-74-77-79-80

**Lotto** 04-19-25-39-54-55, Bonus: 46  
**Powerball** 06-08-26-52-53, Powerball: 21, Power Play: 2

PA Lottery

Wednesday:  
**Cash 5** 19-21-22-25-39  
**Match 6 Lotto** 11-22-29-38-42-45

**Pick 2 Day** 9-8, Wild: 7

**Pick 2 Evening** 1-3, Wild: 1

**Pick 3 Day** 3-3-7, Wild: 7

**Pick 3 Evening** 6-2-9, Wild: 1

**Pick 4 Day** 7-8-3-5, Wild: 4

**Pick 4 Evening** 9-6-2-6, Wild: 1

**Pick 5 Day** 3-8-4-1-7, Wild: 7

**Pick 5 Evening** 8-5-6-5-4, Wild: 1

**Powerball** 06-08-26-52-53, Powerball: 21, Power Play: 2

**Treasure Hunt** 01-03-04-08-22

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Good Friday, March 30, the 89th day of 2018. There are 276 days left in the year. The Jewish holiday Passover begins at sunset.

On this date in:  
**1822:** Florida became a United States territory.

**1870:** The 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which prohibited denying citizens the right to vote and hold office

on the basis of race, was declared in effect by Secretary of State Hamilton Fish. Texas was readmitted to the Union.

**1923:** The Cunard liner RMS Laconia became the first passenger ship to circle the globe as it arrived in New York.

**2006:** American reporter Jill Carroll, a freelancer for The Christian Science Monitor, was released after 82 days as a hostage in Iraq.

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# The face of Venezuela’s bloody protests plays on in NY

Claudia Torrens  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK – When Wuilly Arteaga takes his violin out of its brown case and starts playing Rihanna’s “This Is What You Came For” near the platform of a busy Manhattan subway station, several passersby stop to listen or shoot video with their phones. Then someone recognizes the violinist and runs to greet him.

“Brother!” says a fellow Venezuelan in Spanish, taking a selfie with the musician.

Arteaga gained international fame as a young face of the Venezuelan opposition, playing his instrument in the streets of Caracas during the deadly protests that rocked the South American country last year. The 24-year-old violinist has gone from dodging tear gas to entertaining New York City commuters as well as playing in Queens, Manhattan and Long Island clubs and bars. He dreams of returning to Venezuela but says it’s too dangerous for him to go back now under President Nicolas Maduro’s socialist government.

“I suffered a lot only because I played the violin against the government. I was tortured, I was put in jail. I don’t want to repeat that experience. Even though I am here and I feel safe, I fear returning to Venezuela and going through the same thing,” he said at the small, empty studio where he lives in Manhattan.

“My biggest dream is to make music



Venezuelan musician Wuilly Arteaga plays his violin inside a small apartment in New York provided by a benefactor. The musician has gone from dodging police and tear gas in Caracas to entertaining New York City commuters.

BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP

in my country, but for the moment I can’t do it,” he added.

Arteaga walks the cold streets of the city with his violin and a big portable speaker system. Other times he visits a music studio and composes songs for a pop album he dreams of releasing. He is often absorbed in his cellphone, chatting with friends, calling his girlfriend in Venezuela or accepting a gig to play at a Latin club.

Even though he smiles in his Instagram posts, where he describes himself as “the hip hop violinist,” he says many days he feels alone. Only seeing people enjoy his violin makes him forget his

solitude and last year’s “stormy” months, as he describes them.

The young violinist won notice after playing somber renditions of Venezuela’s national anthem during the 2017 protests. During one clash with security forces, he and his violin were dragged to the ground and he was later thrown in jail, where he said he was beaten.

He arrived in Manhattan in September, after receiving an invitation from the Human Rights Foundation to play and speak about Venezuela at a forum. Because of threats he says he received by phone and social media, he decided to stay. He plans to start taking English

classes and has applied for a visa granted to artists, athletes or people with abilities in science or business.

“Because every day I think and remember the many things that I went through in jail, it makes it hard to say I’ll be able to be happy at some point. But I think that little by little, I’ve realized that I can achieve it,” he says. “And that’s why I am finally ready to make the most out of all the wonderful experiences that I can have in this city.”

More than 2,000 miles away, oil-rich Venezuela has been sinking deeper into a political and economic crisis. Maduro, who is running for a second six-year term, has drawn criticism abroad and at home for tactics considered dictatorial. Independent groups estimate as many as 3 million to 4 million Venezuelans have abandoned their homeland in recent years, with several hundred thousand fleeing in 2017 alone.

In New York, besides focusing on his music, Arteaga still speaks about Venezuela in forums and events in Washington.

While there are some who hug him in the streets, there are others who insult him when they recognize him, he says.

“Venezuela is going through a very dark moment,” he said. “Many of us have been forced to leave the country, but that does not mean that we have forgotten about Venezuela or that we have stopped working for the well-being of Venezuelans.”

## LOCAL BRIEFS

### Eaton Corp. will lay off 29 employees in Horseheads

Eaton Corp., in Horseheads, which manufactures electrical distribution components for industrial customers, plans to lay off nearly 30 of its employees.

The company, at 200 Westinghouse Circle, currently has 201 employees.

Company officials informed employees March 28 of its intent to reduce its workforce by 29 manufacturing produc-

tion positions, effective April 30.

“This difficult decision is in response to challenging business conditions and is in no way a reflection of the hard work and dedication of the affected employees,” the company said in a statement. “All actions are being undertaken with care and concern for the affected employees. We are working with the New York State Department of Labor to assist affected employees during the transition process.”

### Steuben County sheriff reports new telephone scam

The Steuben County Sheriff’s Office is warning residents about a new phone scam that surfaced recently.

Citizens have reported receiving telephone calls from “Apple Pay” advising them of suspicious activity on their accounts.

The calls instruct residents to click on three options on the internet or to call back on a provided number. A call to the

originating number results in a recording that confirms that fraudulent Apple Pay calls are being received from that number and to report it to the FBI.

Calls received from 225-765-3500, 859-971-5400 or 515-440-9000 are fraudulent and should not be responded to, the sheriff’s office said.

“Do not respond to requests for information concerning services you do not use, and always report suspicious activity,” Sheriff Jim Allard said.

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# What to know: Computer problems plague NY tests

Joseph Spector  
Albany Bureau  
USA TODAY NETWORK

ALBANY – Standardized testing for some students took a bad turn Wednesday when students taking the English exams on computers dealt with myriad glitches with the system.

Some schools reported that students who were taking the tests in grades 3-8 couldn't log in; others had "system error" as the only choices on multiple-choice questions.

In some cases, students' computerized notes didn't save, and some schools delayed the tests until the problems were sorted out.

But on Thursday morning, the state Education Department said the testing was going well without any hitches.

More than 1 million students have been taking the tests, mainly on paper.

Here's what happened and what districts are doing:

### What happened?

The state said 263 out of nearly 700 school districts agreed this year to offer computerized exams to at least some students.

That was a big jump from about 180 districts that did so last year as the state Education Department is hoping to move entirely to computer testing in the next few years — rather than relying on pencil and paper.

The English exams started Tuesday on computer for students in grades 3-8, while the paper exams started Wednesday.

The tests take two days — down from three days last year.

While there weren't many hiccups Tuesday, on Wednesday, the problems were pronounced.

Questar, the Minnesota-based company that administers the tests, had trouble getting the computer programs working properly, causing problems

**"Today's disastrous foray into computer testing left children frustrated and teachers angry that their warnings were ignored."**

Jolene DiBrango  
NYSUT executive vice president

across the state.

"Questar Assessment Inc., New York State's assessment vendor, experienced delays in the delivery of computer-based tests to students in some schools across the state this morning," state Education Department spokeswoman Emily DeSantis said.

"Questar resolved the matter as quickly as possible with the delay times varying."

### Who was affected?

The state Education Department has been mum on how many students who tried to take the tests Wednesday were unable to.

But it said how many did take them: 49,000 completed the tests on Wednesday; that's up from 32,000 students who took it by computer Tuesday.

The state said it expects to have more figures on who did and didn't take the exams later Thursday.

Schools said they were able to squeeze in the exams for some classes as the computer system came back on line through the day Wednesday.

Others said they pushed the testing back to later this week.

Districts have until Tuesday to have students complete the computer exams.

"We have been in constant contact with schools and reminded them that there is flexibility built into the test schedule," DeSantis said.

She added, "Testing will continue. We will provide as much flexibility as possible to districts to administer tests on subsequent days."

### What's next?

Questar has yet to respond to the problems. It received a five-year, \$44 million contract from the state Education Department in 2015 to develop state testing.

The contract came after the state dumped Pearson, the London-based testing giant, over criticism on how it developed its Common Core tests.

Now the New York State United Teachers union is criticizing the state, saying it has moved too quickly toward computerized tests.

In January, the union warned the state to slow plans after Questar said it a data breach on some of last year's tests.

The union has fought the standardized tests under the Common Core standards.

Already about 20 percent of students each year opt out of the tests because of opposition to standardized exams.

"If children are going to sit for state standardized tests and are prepared to do their very best, the State Education Department must be able to guarantee that the tests are fair and accurate, and they don't leave kids anxious and rattled," NYSUT Executive Vice President Jolene DiBrango said in a statement.

"Today's disastrous foray into computer testing left children frustrated and teachers angry that their warnings were ignored."

But other school officials said the problems weren't as significant as the union portended.

"I think we're just going through growing pains," said Dennis Lauro, executive director of Lower Hudson Regional Information Center, which helps run the tests through BOCES.

# Study: Brain injuries boost dementia risk

Carla K. Johnson  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE – A large study offers more evidence of a link between traumatic brain injuries and dementia later in life, with repeated injuries and severe ones posing the greatest danger.

Researchers analyzed 36 years of health records of 2.8 million people in Denmark, where a national health system makes it possible to explore connections in a far-reaching way.

Overall, the risk was small. About 95 percent of people who suffered a brain injury never developed dementia.

But a single severe brain injury increased the risk of later dementia by 35 percent compared with a person who never had brain trauma. A mild brain injury increased the risk by 17 percent. Each additional brain injury added to the danger.

Overall, the risk of dementia was 24 percent higher for people with a traumatic brain injury compared with people without one. The study was published Tuesday in the journal *Lancet Psychiatry*. A study of 3.3 million people in Sweden earlier this year showed similar results.

Despite the size of the studies, they won't settle scientific questions about brain injuries from sports, war, car crashes or domestic violence.

Scientists know that a blow to the head can damage brain cells, but they don't know exactly how that might lead to later cognitive problems, said lead researcher Dr. Jesse Fann of University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle.

This kind of study can't prove a cause-and-effect relationship, but researchers tried to eliminate the possible effects of age, gender, marital status and health, including depression. And they looked at other types of trauma, such as broken bones, and found that brain injuries were more closely tied to dementia.

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**New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG)**  
NYSEG has filed tariff revisions June 29, 2016 with the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) for new electricity and natural gas delivery rates to become effective May 1, 2018. These tariff revisions cover the third annual delivery rate increase under the terms of a three-year rate plan approved by the PSC in June 2016 and they include a \$30.3 million increase in electricity revenue and a \$14.8 million increase in natural gas revenue.  
  
A residential electricity customer with an average use of 600 kilowatt-hours/month can expect an average monthly bill increase of \$1.79. A residential natural gas heating customer using 80 therms/month can expect an average monthly bill increase of \$4.21.  
  
Customers may see some charges prorated on a May or June bill to take into account energy delivered before and after the new electricity and natural gas delivery rates went into effect.  
  
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