

STATE OF NEW YORK  
NIAGARA COUNTY, } SS, \_\_\_\_\_

John Brundo of said county, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is now and during the whole time hereinafter mentioned was the Clerk of

Lockport Union-Sun & Journal – Rate Notice 2019 NYSEG

A newspaper published in the County and State aforesaid, and that the annexed printed display ad was printed and published in said paper on the following dates:

June 5, 12, 19, 26th

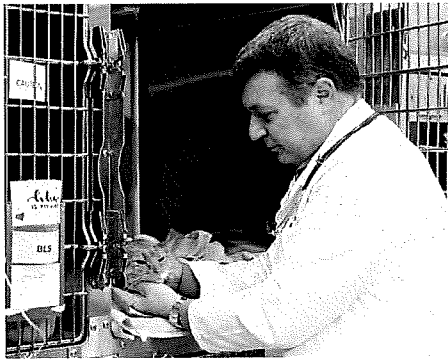
John Brundo 6/27/19  
Principal Clerk

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

6-27-19

Teresa L McCarthy  
Notary Public      Expiration Date

TERESA L MCCARTHY  
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK  
Registration No. 01MC4962698  
Qualified in Niagara County  
Commission Expires February 26, 2022



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dr. Richard Goldstein, chief medical officer at the Animal Medical Center, checks on one of his patients at the hospital's clinic in New York in May 2016. When asked his feeling about declawing cats, Goldstein said that veterinarians don't like the procedure but it's better than the alternatives of housing the cat in a shelter or putting it to death.

## CATS...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

professionals," the society said in a memo opposing the legislation.

Under the bill, which easily passed the Democratic-led Senate and Assembly, veterinarians could still perform the procedure for medical reasons, such as infection or injury.

Veterinarian Michelle Brownstein stopped performing declawing operations 15 years ago at her Rochester-area animal hospital when she said she became convinced the procedure leaves cats with lifelong problems. Some

declawed cats exhibit behavioral issues, she said, while others struggle with chronic pain at the amputation site. "The end result is a barbaric procedure that results in the mutilation of the animal," she said. "Frankly, if you're worried about your furniture, then you shouldn't be getting a cat."

Now, when a cat owner asks about the procedure, Brownstein said she discusses alternatives, such as routine nail care, scratching posts or even tiny plastic caps that can be placed over a cat's nails.

There was little vocal opposition in the Senate, which passed the bill 50-12, or in the Assembly, where

the preliminary vote was 92-27. But some lawmakers spoke out against the measure, saying declawing should be kept legal for rare cases in which cat scratches could pose a hazard to animal, she said. "Frankly, if you're worried about your furniture, then you shouldn't be getting a cat."

Opponents also said they worried that more cats might be given up for adoption or euthanized because their owners would no longer be able to get them declawed.

"I don't think government should be involved. I think we should leave it to the vets and the owners," said Sen. Robert Antonucci, R-Syracuse.



JAMES NERES/Staff photographer

The fishing dock at Joseph Davis State Park in Lewiston is closed to the public amid Lake Ontario's high water level. The International Joint Commission announced Monday that lake levels have now exceeded the record set in 2017.

## LAKE...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

...as well as to invest in our economy."

Norris said he supports Cuomo's creation of the Lake Ontario Resiliency and Economic Development

Initiative commission, which the governor says will develop a plan for "hardening" the lake's shoreline and "strengthening" the economies of lakeshore communities.

"Further, I would like to see both the state and federal governments make

a substantial and smart investment to protect property along the lake's south shore," Norris said. "I have given the governor and his team a list of recommended projects, such as building a seawall in Olcott, that would better protect New Yorkers in the long-term."

## LICENSE...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Party, Nick Langworthy of Erie County, wanted the statehouse Monday to criticize the measure and to castigate Gov. Andrew Cuomo and others who support it.

Langworthy said if the legislation becomes law, "it is going to make New York a haven for people coming here illegally."

The bill's sponsors argue that New York roads will be safer if those now driving illegally could acquire licenses and automobile insurance, suggesting that option would decrease the incentive for motorists who cause crashes to flee the scene of the accident.

Among the senators who have signaled their opposition to the measure are Jim Seward, R-Milford, Betty Little, R-Queensbury, and Rob Ort, R-North Tonawanda.

The proposal drew the surprise endorsement last week of the Business Council of New York State, an advocacy group that typically speaks out against measures that have the potential to increase taxes.

Langworthy jabbed the council as one of Cuomo's "puppets," and repeated a dig landed recently by Ort, who called the organization the "Business As Usual Council."

Some clerks, among them

Niagara County's Joseph Jastrzemski, say that because they are sworn to uphold the U.S. Constitution they should not be directed by lawmakers to issue licenses, a secure document, to people who are in this country illegally. Jastrzemski has vowed his office will refuse to process applications from undocumented immigrants.

Current law requires license applicants to furnish their Social Security numbers before obtaining a license.

The legislation, which has advanced in both the Assembly and Senate, would allow applicants to state that they have not been issued a Social Security number and provide other identification documents.

Langworthy, in response to questions, conceded the issue of trying to stop unlicensed motorists from getting behind the wheel is a challenging one, but argued stronger border security has been needed for years.

A Siena College poll issued in March found that 61 percent of New York voters oppose the legislation. Opposition was most intense in the upstate regions, while the strongest support for it came in the New York City metropolitan area.

Backers of the legislation say support has grown since former Gov. Eliot Spitzer triggered a storm of controversy in 2007 by pushing to allow undocumented

immigrants to get licenses. Spitzer withdrew the proposal after it was assailed by many of his fellow Democrats.

Voters show more enthusiasm for the idea if the question points out that no license is issued unless the applicant passes a road test and has presented identification approved by the state,

# Court weighs whether climate change violates rights of children

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)

In a courtroom packed with environmental activists, federal judges wrestled Tuesday with whether climate change violates the constitutional rights of young people who have sued the U.S. government over the use of fossil fuels.

A Justice Department attorney warned three judges from the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that allowing the case to go to trial would be unprecedented and open the doors to more lawsuits.

"This case would have earth-shattering consequences," Assistant Attorney General Jeffrey Clark said.

He called the lawsuit "a direct attack on the separation of powers" and said the 21 young people who filed it want the courts to direct U.S. energy policy, instead of government officials.

The young people are pressing the government to stop promoting the use of fossil fuels, saying sources like coal and oil cause climate change and violate their Fifth Amendment rights to life, liberty and property.

The judges seemed to feel the enormity of the case, which the plaintiffs' lawyer compared in scope to the U.S. Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling that mandated desegregation of schools in the 1950s.

If the case moves forward, the judiciary would be "dealing with different branches of government and telling them what to do," said Judge Andrew Hurwitz, instead of issuing court orders telling officials to stop doing something deemed unconstitutional.

The dire threat to people, particularly the young, demands such action, said Julia Olson, chief legal counsel for Our Children's Trust, which is



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kelsey Juliana, of Eugene, Ore., a lead plaintiff who is part of a lawsuit by a group of young people who say U.S. energy policies are causing climate change and hurting their future, greets supporters outside a federal courthouse Tuesday in Portland, Ore.

representing the plaintiffs. "When our great-grandchildren look back on the 21st century, they will see that government-sanctioned climate destruction was the constitutional issue of this century," Olson told the judges.

The lawsuit asks the courts to declare federal energy policy that contributes to climate change unconstitutional, order the government to quickly phase out carbon dioxide emissions to a certain level by 2100 and mandate a national climate recovery plan.

The Obama and Trump administrations have tried to get the case dismissed since it was filed in Oregon in 2015. "It's just really disappointing to see the lengths that they go to — to not only not let us get the remedy that we're seeking, but not even let us have the chance to prove our facts or present our case at trial," said Nathan Baring, a 19-year-old from Fairbanks, Alaska, who joined the lawsuit when he was 15.

Baring said a social media campaign in the early days featured the hashtag #KidsvsGov, which was changed to #YouthvsGov as they got older. "I think eventually it's just going to have to be #AdultvsGov," Baring said, laughing. As the case drags on, sea ice that protects coastal Alaska communities from fierce storms is forming later in the year, leaving those villages vulnerable, he said. The young people argue that government officials have known for more than 50 years that carbon pollution from fossil fuels causes climate change and that policies promoting oil and gas deprive them of their constitutional rights. Lawyers for President Donald Trump's administration say the young people didn't find any "historical basis for a fundamental right to a stable climate system or any other constitutional right related to the environment."

The lawsuit says the young are more vulnerable to serious effects from climate change in the future. The American Academy of Pediatrics, 14 other health organizations and nearly 80 scientists and doctors agreed in a brief filed with the appeals court.

## CRASH...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Volkswagen Beetle traveling north on Lakeview Road at a high rate of speed. The deputy activated his emergency lights and siren to get the vehicle to pull over but it continued to speed along the roadway.

During the course of the pursuit, the deputy said he lost sight of the vehicle and a brief time later found it wrecked in the front yard at

2306 Lockport Olcott Road.

Preliminary investigation suggests that Singleton lost control of the vehicle on a curve in the roadway, crossed the center line and continued off road, through a yard, striking a tree, multiple vehicles and the garage at the residence.

The sheriff's Accident Investigation Unit and Identification Unit were called to the scene. Singleton was transported by Mercy Flight to Erie County Medical Center for treatment.

The investigation is continuing and additional charges may be levied, pending a determination whether Singleton was intoxicated at the time of the crash. Chief Deputy Michael Dunn said Singleton was injured enough at the scene to prevent that inquiry. Dunn was uncertain of the extent of Singleton's injuries but said Singleton suffered a head laceration and was listed in "serious condition" Tuesday at EOMC.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

PSC No. 90 – Gas – Schedule for Gas Service

PSC No. 87 – Gas – Schedule for Gas Service

PSC No. 88 – Gas – Schedule for Gas Transportation Service

PSC No. 119 – Electricity – Schedule for Electric Service

PSC No. 120 – Electricity – Schedule for Electric Service

PSC No. 121 – Electricity – Schedule for Electric Service (Street Lighting)

On May 20, 2019, New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) filed with the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) a plan with testimony, exhibits and proposed delivery rate changes to the above referenced tariff schedules for service.

The changes contained in that filing would increase annual delivery revenues by approximately \$156.7 million (20.4% Delivery/10.4% Total) from NYSEG's electric operations and by approximately \$6.2 million (3.0% Delivery/1.4% Total) from the company's natural gas operations, to become effective April 2020.

The PSC may approve, modify or reject any or all of the proposed tariff changes. The complete NYSEG filing may be examined on the company's website (nyseg.com), or the PSC website (dps.ny.gov).

These cases are open and public. Individuals may provide comments directly to the Secretary of the PSC or offer comments at a public statement hearing hosted by the PSC (Reference Case Nos. 19-E-0378, 19-G-0379). As the case proceeds, documents pertaining to the case are posted on the PSC website.

# Falls man pleads to child porn charges

**COURTS: Randy Colucci faces up to 20 years in U.S. prison.**

Randy Colucci, a Niagara Falls man convicted in the death of his 22-month-old daughter in 2010, pleaded guilty Monday to possessing child pornography involving a prepubescent minor.

Colucci's arrest follows two years of plea negotiations and investigation. In April 2017, a Homeland Security agent, working undercover, discovered multiple videos and images of child pornography being shared on a peer-to-peer website. Investigators determined the IP address connected to the files related to one utilized by Colucci, 34, and executed a search warrant on Colucci's 22nd Street home the following June.

Officers recovered a laptop and hard drive containing images of children younger than 18 years old,

including children being subjected to violent sexual assaults. Colucci was arrested in April 2018 and freed on a \$15,000 signature bond, posted by his mother and sister.

Prosecutors had been facing a deadline to either indict Colucci or have the charges against him dismissed. In an earlier court filing the Federal Public Defenders Office revealed that "the government (had) provided an approved plea agreement" for Colucci, but the office did not reveal the proposed terms of the offer.

But after four adjournments to allow public defenders to meet with Colucci and review the evidence against him, and the proposed plea agreement, prosecutors moved to indict him.

Last week, Colucci was indicted by a federal grand jury in Buffalo on multiple counts of receipt and possession of child pornography. As a result of his guilty plea, Colucci could face up to 20 years in federal prison and up to

\$250,000 in fines.

Colucci was paroled from Attica Correctional Facility in 2017, after serving almost six years of a three- to nine-year sentence for the death of his daughter, Carmen. Colucci was charged with second-degree murder and manslaughter, and pleaded guilty in January 2011 to the latter charge.

Niagara Falls police were called to a residence that Colucci shared with his then-wife on March 31, 2010, after Carmen was discovered with her head lodged between a mattress and the top of a portable playpen. She died a week later from the injuries she suffered.

Detectives said their investigation showed that Carmen was "put in a (portable playpen) with her 12-month-old brother, with a twin mattress on top of the playpen and a TV on top of the mattress to keep the children from getting out."

The Coluccis did not check on the two young children for 17 hours.

## Bloodhound gets credit for locating missing woman

**NIAGARA FALLS:**

Police were led to city residence where woman was found chained in basement.

BY PHILIP GAMBINI

philip.gambini@lockportjournal.com

**NIAGARA FALLS** — Authorities were aided by the public, a local social media outlet and an intrepid pet bloodhound in the hunt for Michael Ciskiewicz.

Efforts culminated with the capture of Ciskiewicz by the U.S. Marshals Service on Monday night, less than 48 hours after authorities say the suspect kidnapped, raped and chained a female neighbor in the basement of his Monroe Avenue residence.

Ciskiewicz, 25, was found in the overgrowth of a field at 24th Street and Allen Avenue, just off Buffalo Avenue, about 7:30 p.m. He is charged with first-degree kidnapping, first-degree burglary, first-degree rape, second-degree assault and second-degree menacing.

According to reports, Ciskiewicz pleaded not guilty when he was arraigned Tuesday in Niagara Falls City Court. He is being held without bail on the charges.

Dominic Saraceno, Ciskiewicz's attorney, said his client was previously diagnosed with schizophrenia, according to WIVB-TV.

"The mental health community has left it up to police and prison guards to deal with people who suffer from mental health," Saraceno said. "Quite frankly, police officers and prison guards aren't equipped to help people who suffer from mental health illness."

Saraceno would not say whether Ciskiewicz was on any medication at the time of the incident.

The investigation began after Niagara Falls Police were called to the 3000 block of Monroe Avenue at 1 a.m. Sunday over what was believed to be an assault. A caller told dispatchers that a man was assaulting a woman. Police Superintendent Thomas Licata said the incident was witnessed by a neighbor, who eventually confronted the suspect.

The neighbor, who was threatened by Ciskiewicz, retreated to his house and



A woman was transported to Erie County Medical Center on Sunday after she was found chained in the basement of a home on Monroe Avenue in Niagara Falls.



Heavily armed Niagara Falls police stood ready during Sunday's incident on Monroe Avenue. A police negotiator was brought in to try and speak with the kidnaper suspect as the day went on.

dial 911, Licata said. By the time police arrived, the victim and the suspect were gone.

Left behind was a splash of blood. Floodlights were set up and investigators swabbed samples as evidence. The scene attracted the attention of residents in person and on social media, Licata said.

Word got back to the victim's family that the activity was taking place near their relative's home, in part due to the scene being posted to The Action Niagara Falls, a Facebook-based news outlet operated by Stanner Hamilton that typically responds to emergency situations in the region, according to Police Capt. Kelly Rizzo.

The victim's relatives visited her residence and found she was gone without her phone and car keys, Licata said. They sensed something was wrong and called police.

Local authorities subsequently reassembled at the crime scene, discovering periodic blood spatters stretching from the small splash that was first noticed to another nearby alleyway, where the trail appeared to end.

dog's torso, directed the hound's attention to the residual blood and gave the command, "Ready, go."

"We were following little tiny pin-pricks of blood," Booth said of the zig-zagging quarter-mile path Flash sensed.

But where the trail visually ran out for the cops it continued on for the hound. Booth said the dog is sensitive to the scent of deposited skin cells, which are invisible to the human eye. The dog's nose led him about 100 feet from the last visible spot of blood. Flash pointed investigators to the hatched fence of the house in which the victim was found.

"I'm glad (we) were able to save the girl when we did," Booth said. "Who knows what could have happened."

Members of the Falls' Emergency Response Team assisted investigators with entering the home where the woman was found chained in the basement. She was freed from the chains and transported to Erie County Medical Center for treatment.

She was released from ECMC late Monday afternoon and is staying with a relative.

Licata said he was impressed with the hound's work.

"If (Flash) doesn't do another good piece of police work in his life, he still did something great here," he said.



The vehicle that crashed into a tree at 326 Chapel St. on April 18.

## Driver in April crash hit with DWI charges

A city resident is facing drunken / drugged driving charges in connection with an April car crash on Chapel Street.

On Monday, Ross A. Provenzano, 21, 11 Dayton St., was charged with first-degree driving while intoxicated, first-degree operating a motor vehicle while impaired by drugs, reckless driving, driving without a license, driving at an imprudent speed and failure to keep right.

According to Lockport Police Department, on April 18 — his birthday — an intoxicated

Provenzano lost control of his vehicle at Chapel and Mill streets and struck a tree after his vehicle left the roadway. Provenzano's front-seat passenger, a Rensselaire woman, was ejected from the vehicle. She and Provenzano both were transported to Erie County Medical Center for treatment of injuries.

LPD received the results of chemical testing of Provenzano's blood on Monday and levied the charges. Provenzano turned himself in at police headquarters and was released on recognizance.

## No help in Cataract City shooting probe

**POLICE: June 8 shootout info may be referred to FBI's Safe Streets Task Force.**

BY PHILIP GAMBINI

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**NIAGARA FALLS** —

Despite a complete lack of cooperation from witnesses and victims,

Niagara Falls Police Department's top official says there are preliminary leads after Saturday

morning's gunfight outside a Niagara Street bar, reported to Erie County Medical Center for treatment.

Licata said he was impressed with the hound's work.

"If (Flash) doesn't do another good piece of police work in his life, he still did something great here," he said.

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### UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

6		8	4					
	4		5			7	9	
	3	7	2					
9	4	8			7			
			3					
	2			9	6	4		
			8		6	3		
8	7			9	2			
				6	1		8	

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Previous puzzle solution

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆

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# LOCAL

NEWS FROM NEARBY

**GOT A STORY YOU WANT TO SEE?**  
WHO: Regional News Editor  
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## LOTTERY NUMBERS

**MONDAY'S PICKS**  
MIDDAY: NUMBERS, 4-7-3 WIN 4,  
5-3-5-5  
EVENING: NUMBERS, 8-0-3 WIN  
4, 6-9-7

TAKE 5: 01-10-19-35-38  
PICK 10: 02-03-04-07-19-22-30-31-32-35-39-43-44-49-52-67-69

74-76  
CASHLIFE: 31-35-45-46-59, Cash  
Ball 4

## IN BRIEF

### Royalton ZBA meeting canceled

The June meeting of the Royalton Zoning Board of Appeals, previously scheduled for June 24, has been canceled due to a lack of new business, according to the Royalton Town Clerk's office.

### MDA 'Boot' campaign raised \$8,300 in city

Members of the Lockport firefighters union, IAFF Local 683, raised \$8,300 from community members during the recent, 65th annual MDA Fill the Boot campaign. The money goes to the Muscular Dystrophy Association on behalf of children and adults with muscular dystrophy, ALS and other muscle debilitating diseases. MDA helps fund research and life-enhancing programs from support groups and care centers to summer camps.

### JFG CreateAthon beneficiaries named

Lockport CARES and Lockport Ice Arena & Sports Center are among five nonprofit organizations that will be created to a free creative marketing blitz by J. Fitzgerald Group in July.

JFG, headquartered on West Main Street, hosts the only CreateAthon event in the Western New York region. CreateAthon is a 24-hour event during which marketing professionals devise full advertising/marketing campaigns — with brochures, digital and print advertisements, posters, TV and radio scripts, billboards, social media templates and other pieces — for select nonprofits. The recipients of this year's CreateAthon are focused on helping underserved and underprivileged children.

The other selected organizations are The Teacher's Desk, a Buffalo-based educational supply store that offers classroom items and materials to teachers at no cost; Ogilvie Lakota Children's Hospital; and a group that provides support for American families wishing to adopt children from Bogota, Colombia-based Foundation for the Assistance of Abandoned Children.

### Geriatric center at DeGraff closing

**NORTH TONAWANDA** — The Western New York Geriatric Center inside DeGraff Memorial Hospital will be shut down this summer. The center, which specializes in the

treatment of patients age 70 and older, confirmed Tuesday that it will cease operations effective Aug. 15.

Kakda Ikallit, which operates DeGraff, did not return requests for comment on the reason for the closure or the numbers of affected employees and patients. A patient of the center, Virginia Kempf, wrote a letter to the editor expressing her concern about the closure. She receives primary health care services there.

"I have come to rely on them time and again for a variety of health concerns," Kempf said. "I am faced with the loss of caregivers that provide quality geriatric-focused support." Patients of the center have also expressed frustration about the closure on Facebook. One woman posted her concern that "many seniors will have to find a new doctor" to the The Public NT Facebook Page.

### Northern border reinforcements sought

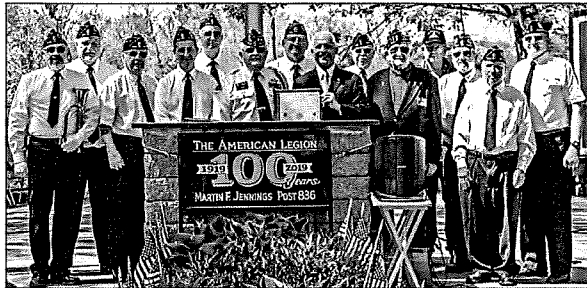
The co-chairs of the U.S. House of Representatives Northern Border Caucus, Rep. Brian Higgins (D-Buffalo) and Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-Schenectady) are calling for the addition of 1,200 new Customs and Border Protection officers along the northern border.

The request is contained in a letter sent by Higgins and Stefanik to House appropriation leaders supporting the addition of 1,846 new positions within CBP, including the 1,200 new officers. CBP employs almost 45,000 law enforcement personnel across three divisions that cover U.S. ports, borders, air, maritime and overseas operations. The recipients of this year's CreateAthon are focused on helping underserved and underprivileged children.

The House Appropriations Committee 2020 Homeland Security funding bill includes \$151 million to fill 1,846 new CBP positions including \$91 million specifically for CBP officers. It represents a significant increase over the 1,317 new CBP positions proposed in the White House 2020 budget.

The northern border, 5,595 miles, is the longest international land boundary in the world. Approximately 400,000 people and more than \$1.6 billion in goods cross the northern border daily through more than 120 ports of entry.

## MILESTONE



On behalf of Martin F. Jennings Post 836, American Legion, Commander Gary S. Pettit receives a 100-year certificate of recognition from Niagara County Clerk Joe Jastrzemski at Greenwood Veterans Memorial Park, in Wilson, on Memorial Day.

## POLICE REPORTS

### NT man gets 3 1/2 years for slashing dad

Cory J. Ochterski of North Tonawanda was sentenced Monday to 3 1/2 years in prison for slashing his father's neck in Pendleton on Jan. 13, 2018. Cory Ochterski, 41, attacked his father, Dennis Ochterski, while riding in the elder man's car on Creek Road. Cory Ochterski fled on foot after the attack, while Dennis Ochterski drove himself to DeGraff Memorial Hospital for treatment.

Defense attorney George Muscato attributed the slashing to Cory Ochterski "self-medicating" an injury with marijuana use, while Cory Ochterski said that several strained relationships, including with his father, contributed to his state of mind before the slashing.

"The walls were closing in on the day of this event," Cory Ochterski said.

Niagara County Judge Matthew J. Murphy III, who noted the irony of the sentencing taking place after Father's Day, also ordered Cory Ochterski to have no further contact with his dad.

### City of Lockport

UNLICENSED: Scott A. Willis, 60, 193 Washburn St., apt. 1, was charged with third-degree aggravated unlicensed

motor vehicle operation and an equipment violation June 17, after a 6:12 p.m. traffic stop on South Transit Street. Willis' driver's license is suspended, according to Lockport Police Department. Willis got a ticket.

ENDANGERMENT: Julia E. Reeb, 19, 401 Walnut St., lower, was charged with second-degree reckless endangerment and reckless driving June 16. Police saw her accelerate towards and onto the sidewalk on Olcott Street where people were standing. Reeb got a ticket.

IMPERSONATION: Brandon L. Oliver, 26, 192 Cottage St., apt. 5, was charged with false personation June 16, after he gave a false name when questioned by a police officer. A warrant check on Oliver came back positive, so Oliver was kept in custody pending a court appearance, according to LPD.

DWI: Jermaine M. Kimmons, 39, 411 Washburn St., was charged with driving while intoxicated, drinking alcohol in a motor vehicle on the highway and refusing a breath test June 16, after a 4 a.m. traffic stop on Harvey Avenue. Kimmons was detained for \$500 police bail.

POSSESSION: Christina L. Harris, 45, 375 Michigan St., was charged with seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance

June 16, after a 4:20 a.m. traffic stop on Harvey Avenue. Harris was found with an off-white powder-like substance, according to LPD. Harris was released on recognizance.

ASSAULT: Curtis P. Buddenhagen, 44, 18 Pound St., apt. 1, was charged with assault with intent to cause physical injury June 16. Buddenhagen is accused of striking a woman at an East Avenue residence, according to LPD. Buddenhagen was kept in custody pending a court appearance.

MENACING: Jeffrey M. Batchen, 29, 236 Chestnut St., upper, was charged with second-degree harassment (third-degree criminal mischief and second-degree menacing June 15. Batchen is accused of brandishing a knife while arguing with a woman and slapping a door and a microwave oven, causing about \$300 property damage, according to LPD. Batchen was kept in custody pending a court appearance.

### Town of Lockport

POSSESSION: Tajah R. Harris, 24, of Lockport, was charged with four counts

of seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, two counts of possession of a controlled substance in a non-original container, one count of fourth-degree criminal possession of marijuana and operating a vehicle with suspended registration June 17, after a 6:15 p.m. incident on South Transit Road, according to New York State Police. Harris got a ticket.

DWI: Alexander T. Wolfe, 25, 67 Ontario St., Lockport, was charged with driving while intoxicated June 15, after a 1 a.m. traffic stop on Beattie Avenue. In breath testing, Wolfe's blood alcohol content measured 0.13%, according to the Niagara County Sheriff's Office. Wolfe was detained for \$200 police bail.

UNLICENSED: Dene L. Johnson, 55, 1 O'Connell Island, Wilson, was charged with third-degree aggravated unlicensed motor vehicle operation June 14, after a 10:26 a.m. traffic stop on Old Niagara Road. Johnson's driver's license is suspended, according to the sheriff's office. Johnson got a ticket.

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- PSC No. 87 – Gas – Schedule for Gas Service
- PSC No. 88 – Gas – Schedule for Gas Transportation Service
- PSC No. 119 – Electricity – Schedule for Electric Service
- PSC No. 120 – Electricity – Schedule for Electric Service
- PSC No. 121 – Electricity – Schedule for Electric Service (Street Lighting)

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# David Bellavia receives highest military honor

BY KEVIN FREKING  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Tuesday awarded the nation's highest military honor to an Iraq War veteran who took on an insurgent stronghold and allowed members of his platoon to move to safety during heavy fighting in Fallujah.

The president presented the Medal of Honor to former Army Staff Sgt. David G. Bellavia, of Lyndonville, New York. He is the first living Iraq War veteran to receive the honor.

Bellavia was leading a squad in support of Operation Phantom Fury in Fallujah in November 2004. The White House said that after Bellavia helped his platoon escape fire, he entered a house and killed at least four insurgents who were firing rocket-propelled grenades.

Bellavia, who left the Army in 2005, has been awarded the Silver Star, the Bronze Star and the New York State Conspicuous Service Cross. During the ceremony, Trump recounted the events



President Donald Trump awards the Medal of Honor to Army Staff Sgt. David Bellavia in the East Room of the White House on Tuesday, for conspicuous gallantry while serving in support of Operation Phantom Fury in Fallujah, Iraq.

12 houses, and on the 10th house, insurgents opened fire, wounding multiple

soldiers. "David took over," Trump said. "He provided

own life. Only when his men were all out did David exit the building. But the fighting was far from over."

Trump said Bellavia's valor earned the building, killing four and seriously wounding a fifth.

"Bleeding and badly wounded, David single-handedly defeated the forces who had attacked his unit and would have killed them all had it not been for the bravery of David," Trump said.

Bellavia ran for Congress in 2012, losing to Rep. Chris Collins in the Republican primary, and was talked about as a potential successor to Collins when Collins temporarily suspended his reelection campaign last summer after being indicted on insider trading charges. Bellavia's name is in play again as Collins, whose trial is pending, considers whether to run in 2020.

This is the ninth Medal of Honor that Trump has presented. The honor goes to members of the Armed Forces who distinguish themselves by gallantry above and beyond the call of duty.



An inflatable Baby Trump balloon towers over protesters during a rally June 18 in Orlando, Fla. A large group was protesting against President Donald Trump near where Trump was announcing his re-election campaign.

## 'Baby Trump' blimp now a world traveler

BY KEVIN FREKING  
AND MIKE SCHNEIDER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — He was born in a London pub and now his clones are floating all over the U.S. — quite literally.

President Donald Trump increasingly is being tailed and trailed by an angry diaper-clad caricature armed with a cell phone. He's Baby Trump, the blimp who has become synonymous with resistance to the American president.

The origins story for Baby Trump began ahead of the president's visit to London last year when a group of activists gathered at a local pub to brainstorm ideas for a protest statement sure to get under Trump's skin. They succeeded beyond their wildest expectations, with a 20-foot blimp that flew near Parliament during the protests surrounding Trump's first visit to the United Kingdom and made a return appearance this summer when the president came for a state visit.

Their mission: exposing Trump "for what he is — an incredibly dangerous man-child," says organizer Kevin Smith.

Now, the Trump baby (cloned multiples times over) has become a world traveler and something of a celebrity for opponents of the president. He's also emerged as a rallying point for some supporters of the president, who see the blimp as evidence of just how over-the-top the opposition has become.

Baby Trump is booked for an upcoming appearance near the National Mall on July 4, when the president is due to speak at an Independence Day event. He went west for the Los Angeles women's march in January; he's been in the U.S.-Mexico border in support of migrants; he made his way to Orlando, Florida, last week to protest the president's 2020 campaign kickoff rally; and he's something of a regular outside Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort when the president visits Palm Beach County. The original (currently in a suitcase in the U.K.) has flown in Scotland, Ireland, France and Argentina.

The orange balloon depicting the president features yellow hair, a snarling face and outstretched arms, one of them equipped with a cell phone for tweeting. The White House, which declined to comment on the phenomenon, went out of its way to keep Trump from coming into contact with the blimp during his visit to the U.K. earlier this month, when Trump moved around mostly by helicopter to avoid protesters.

Many of the president's supporters don't find the balloon even a bit funny.

Iwonne Mitra, who waited in a blocks-long line to hear the president in Orlando last week, called it disrespectful. "It should not be like that," Mitra said. "You should respect the president no matter what."

Six U.S. clones of Baby Trump are now available for short-term "adoption" from a resistance group in New Jersey that supplies them for protests around the U.S.

The protesters who haul them around say they do it because the image supports what they believe in — and to take a poke at Trump, according to Jim Girvan, of Branchburg, N.J. He led a GoFundMe campaign to raise money to bring the blimp stateside that was so successful — it raised \$24,000 — that activists were able to buy six exact replicas of the one that flew in London. The only difference is a release valve that was necessary to comply with FAA regulations.

In Washington state, a group called the Backbone Campaign also has a Baby Trump that has flown at the border in support of migrants and in California and the Northwest.

"Utilizing humor and satire and spectacle is strategic in that it bolsters the spirit of the folks who otherwise would feel demoralized," said Bill Meyer, the group's executive director and founder. "And in certain circles, it could instill doubt."

Not with Trump supporter Greg Sinadinos, an employment benefits consultant from Tampa. He said he welcomed the blimp in Orlando because it reflects "how crazy they get in the opposition."

"It is Trump derangement

syndrome' at its best," Sinadinos said.

The balloon, generally known as "Trump Baby" in England, has also spawned T-shirts, stickers, mugs and Halloween costumes. But Smith, one of the London organizers, said the people behind the development of the blimp aren't interested in profiting off their design.

"People are using Trump Baby as a means of trolling Trump," Smith said. "We're good with that."

In New Jersey, Girvan's group, People's Motorcycles Inc., allows applicants to "adopt" a Baby Trump for protests and other events.

"Our Babies are lonely and in need of good parents that will show them off," said the group's website.

Applicants pay for the costs of permits, transportation and set-up, and it's not cheap. Mark Offerman, "adoptive parent" of the Baby Trump in Florida, said it requires about \$1,500 worth of helium to inflate it. Cold air can be used instead to cut costs, but the image may not be as dramatic as when Baby Trump takes flight.

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## SpaceX launches hefty rocket with 24 satellites, experiments

BY MARCIA DUNN  
Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — SpaceX launched its heaviest rocket with 24 research satellites Tuesday, a middle-of-the-night ride-share featuring a deep space atomic clock, solar sail, a clean and green rocket fuel testbed, and even human ashes.

It was the third flight of a Falcon Heavy rocket, but the first ordered by the military.

The Defense Department mission is expected to provide data to certify the Falcon Heavy — and reused boosters — for future national security launches. It marked the military's first ride on a recycled rocket.

Both side boosters landed back at Cape Canaveral several minutes after lift-off, just as they did after launching in April. But the new core booster missed an ocean platform, not unexpected for this especially difficult mission, SpaceX noted.

"It was a long shot," tweeted SpaceX founder and chief executive Elon Musk.

SpaceX did manage for

the first time to catch the falling, or nose cone, in a giant net on an offshore boat. The California-based company is trying to recover and reuse as many rocket parts as possible — rather than letting the pieces sink in the ocean — to drive down launch costs.

NASA signed up for a spot on this Falcon Heavy, along with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Air Force Research Laboratory, the Planetary Society and Celestis Inc., which offers memorial flights into space.

An astronaut who flew on NASA's first space station back in the 1970s, Skylab's Bill Pogue, had a bit of his ashes on board, along with more than 150 other deceased people. Pogue died in 2014.

Musk said it was "our toughest rocket launch ever." The satellites needed to be placed in three different orbits, requiring multiple upper-stage engine firings. It took several hours to release them all.

The Deep Space Atomic Clock by NASA's Jet

Propulsion Laboratory is a technology demo aimed at self-flying spacecraft.

Barely the size of a toaster oven, the clock is meant to help spacecraft navigate by themselves when far from Earth. NASA also was testing a clean and green alternative to toxic rocket and satellite fuel.

The Planetary Society's LightSail crowd-funded spacecraft will attempt to become the first orbiting spacecraft to be propelled solely by sunlight. It will be released next week from its temporary perch on a spacecraft and opened a week later.

"Our LightSail2 is up and on its way," tweeted Bill Nye, the society's chief executive officer.

It's the society's third crack at solar sailing: The first was lost in a Russian rocket failure in 2005, while the second had a successful test flight in 2015.

The Air Force Research Laboratory had space weather experiments aboard, while NOAA had six small atmospheric experimental satellites for weather forecasting.

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