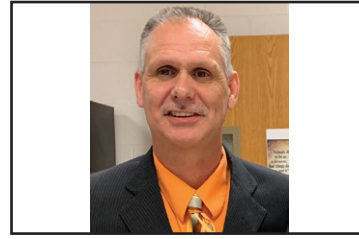




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Walton veterans honored



Commander Len Rutherford and Melvin Woodin.



Don Ogden received a certificate in recognition of 70 years of service in the American Legion.

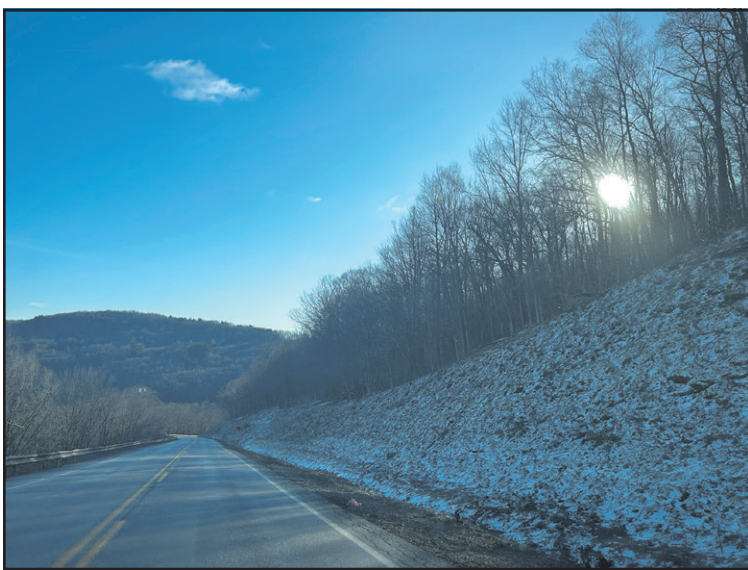
American Legion Post 32, Walton, honored two Walton legionnaires with longevity certificates signed by National Commander Daniel Seehafer, National Adjutant Daniel Wheeler, and Post 32 Commander Len Rutherford at a March 19 meeting.

Melvin Woodin received a certificate honoring his 50-year continuous membership, and Donald Ogden received his certificate for 70 years of continuous membership.

Rutherford noted that Ogden is only the second member of

Post 32 to have reached the 70-year milestone. Several members of the Ogden family attended the presentation and enjoyed a corned-beef and cabbage dinner prepared by the Post 32 American Legion Auxiliary.

Colchester: Police purchases, cemetery tree trimming



Elizabeth DeFalco/The Reporter

A hillside on county Route 26, locally referred to as Telford Hollow, was recently cleared of trees by Colchester highway department with a newly-purchased bucket truck.

By Elizabeth DeFalco

DOWNSVILLE - Colchester council members authorized the purchase of a new police vehicle, hired a contractor for tree trimming at Gregorytown Cemetery, and discussed project updates during their meeting Wednesday, March 20.

Acting Police Chief Ernie Cawley presented updated quotes for a new police vehicle from Chevy and Ford.

"It's not very exciting," Cawley warned, "there was a huge increase in the Ford."

"There's a huge increase in everything," Councilmember Janet Champlin said.

In 2022, the base price for the Ford was \$32,024 excluding the

necessary outfitting for a police vehicle. Today, the base price of the same vehicle is \$44,500 based on state contract bid pricing, Cawley said, but will cost \$51,500 with requested additions, and does not include a console, computer mount, partitions, an inside light bar, or police vehicle lettering. Cawley said he was quoted roughly \$13,000 to complete outfitting the Ford vehicle.

The Chevy vehicle's base price is \$49,800, Cawley said, and was given a rough estimate of \$14,000 to complete outfitting the vehicle.

"So they're about the same price to be road ready between the two," Cawley said.

"Well, we need another car to go along with the police building," Champlin said with a laugh.

Cawley received authorization to purchase either the Ford or Chevy vehicle, depending on which can be delivered first, and complete the vehicle to be "road ready" at a cost not to exceed \$65,000.

Also discussed:

• At the request of town employee Nate Homovich, council members hired Adam Shields for tree trimming services at the Gregorytown Cemetery, 2182 River Road, Downsville. There are five large pine "problem trees" at the cemetery, Supervisor Art Merrill said, and will pay Shields \$500 to climb, rope off, See Colchester... page 3

DelCo fire chiefs oppose proposed OSHA reg revisions

Public comment period open until May 6

By Elizabeth DeFalco

DELHI - Proposed changes to federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards could negatively impact the already small budgets and number of volunteers for local fire departments, Delaware County Emergency Services Director and Fire Coordinator Steve Hood said during a Fire Advisory Board meeting March 20.

OSHA's fire brigade standard has not been revised in 40 years, Hood said, "And now they've touched it. They've beat it with a stick. This is bad, and everybody needs to make sure their fire districts are aware of this."



file photo

Margaretville Fire Chief Nelson Delameter.

The fire brigade standard will be replaced in its entirety by a proposed emergency response standard if adopted, according to OSHA's draft regulations.

The proposed changes will require departments to develop emergency response and risk management plans, develop and institute medical and physical fitness requirements, require medical screenings which may

include lab fees, implement minimum training requirements from the National Fire Protection Association, implement equipment and personal protection requirements, vehicle requirements, and operational requirements, Hood said, among many other things.

"It's a ton of money, first, and it's going to be a ton of time," Hood said.

conditions that could adversely affect the responders ability to perform.

Additionally, proposed revisions will require each department to develop a behavioral health and wellness program, which at minimum must include assessments, basic counseling, crisis intervention assistance, assessments for "alcohol and substance abuse, substance use

"It's going to be the demise of the volunteer fire service."

MARGARETVILLE FIRE CHIEF NELSON DELAMETER

The draft standards state minimum medical and fitness requirements must be developed based on different "tiers" of responder duties and tasks, and each responder must annually qualify to meet the set standards.

To help responders meet those standards, each department will be required to establish and implement a health and fitness program to "enable responders" to maintain the fitness requirements, and must include the assignment of a health and fitness coordinator, periodic fitness assessment for all responders, available exercise training, health education and counseling, and a process to collect and maintain health-related fitness program data.

If they cannot, a physical performance rehabilitation program must be developed, according to the proposed regulation revision.

Departments will be required to develop a medical evaluation program, where responders must give a medical and vaccination history, physical examination, and any lab tests required to detect physical or medical

disorder, stress and anxiety, depression, and personal problems that affect work performance," prevention strategies, and protocols to address occupational exposure to "atypically" stressful events.

To collect and store all of the personal health data, departments will be required to establish a confidential, permanent health file for each responder.

A problem with the proposed changes is the reference to National Fire Protection Association standards, Hood said, which can be changed at the association's discretion if it's realized a certain standard does not work. If OSHA's proposed regulations reference a specific National Fire Protection Association standard, that standard is locked into OSHA's regulations regardless of future revisions, Hood said; OSHA's fire brigade regulations were not revised since 1975 before this year.

If adopted, the regulations will not be recommendations, Hood clarified, but a requirement for all departments to adhere to.

See DelCo Fire Chiefs... page 4

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BY THE NUMBERS

38-42

Chromosomes in brown trout (humans have 23)

900

Eggs per pound of body weight a female brown trout produces

20

Years - age a brown trout can live

95%

Mortality rate in first year of life in the wild for brown trout

Source: wildtrout.org

WALTON

By Patty Wood

pwood2@frontier.com

Holy Week events sponsored by the Walton Ministerium start today, March 28, with Maundy Thursday services: 4 p.m. communion service at the Congregational Church on North Street. At 5 p.m. at the Christ Episcopal Church, Gardiner Place. A 6 p.m. Foot/Handwashing/Seder meal at the United Methodist Church, 101 North Street. Service at United Presbyterian on East Street at 7 p.m.; communion service at New Hope Community Church, Stockton Ave.; tenebrae service at First Baptist on Townsend Street, and Mass at St. John's Catholic Church on Benton Ave.

Good Friday Services will take place March 29; a 4 p.m. tenebrae service at Congregational Church, a 5 p.m. Stations of the Cross at the Christ Episcopal Church and 7 p.m. commemoration service at St. John's Catholic Church, and a joint UPC/Alliance service at UPC at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, March 30 St. John's Catholic Church will host an Easter vigil at 7 p.m.

And on Sunday, March 31, all are welcome to a 6:30 a.m. Easter "Sonrise" service at More Park and the free community Easter dinner at New Hope Community Church from 2-4 p.m. Don't spend the holiday alone. Have a full roast pork dinner with all the trimmings and dessert with fellowship and conversation with others in the community. All are welcome. Takeouts will be available, and limited delivery for the homebound or elderly with reservations by Friday, March 29 by calling Ellie Truman at 607-865-8211.

The DVH Volunteers will host a pie and quiche sale Thursday, March 28 from 9 a.m. at the lobby entrance to the gift shop at the hospital. If you get there quick enough you might even score some blueberry coffee cake. Proceeds from the sale will go to the projects and help that the volunteers provide to the hospital. Great place to grab some Easter desserts.

Did you know that the gift shop is now manned from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Friday? Many local crafters have gifts on consignment, such as Peg

Bolton's quilts and aprons, Karen Bowker's candles, Jen Pagan's tumblers, Jane Ward's paintings, and several more. They have jewelry, cards, candy, and occasionally fresh flowers. Anyone can come and shop, whether you have an appointment in the hospital that day or not. Check it out when you can.

The volunteers also host other bake sales and a chicken barbecue during the year, and they support the hospital when they bring food trucks into the hospital parking lot. This year's first food truck will be Jim's Hotdogs from Downsville Fridays, April 9 and April 23. Other trucks lined up are Smokeout BBQ, and Ty's Tacos. Look for more information in the coming weeks for the schedule.

Riverside Alliance Church will have a chicken barbecue, pie and bread sale on Saturday, March 30 at Walton Motors on Delaware Street. The bake sale will include pies, cheesecakes, breads, cinnamon rolls and spring rolls; both regular size and smaller versions. Come get some chicken and goodies for your Easter meals. Chicken will be ready around 9:30 and bake sale items will arrive around 9. All proceeds benefit the youth fund for camp and conferences.

Homemade spaghetti dinner fundraiser for Hamden Hill Ridge Riders at the Covert Hollow Clubhouse Saturday, March 30 from 4-7 p.m. There will also be a basket raffle. Menu is spaghetti, meatballs, homemade rolls, and a side salad. Eat-in or takeout, free will offering, and handicap accessible.

The First Friday ALA dinner at the Walton Vet's Club on April 5 will feature chicken cordon bleu, rice pilaf, gravy, veggies, coleslaw, bread, and, as always, a delicious assortment of desserts for \$12. Serving from 5 p.m. until sold out. For takeouts, call 607-865-8094.

UHS Delaware Valley Hospital is scheduled for a Community Shred Event Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (or when truck is full). Safely disposing of old paper records, including old medical insurance papers, can

help prevent identity theft. The event will be held rain or shine in the physical therapy/community pharmacy parking lot. You may watch your documents be shredded if you prefer. Materials that can be placed in RSG Paper Shredding Bin include copy paper, even with staples & paperclips, computer, faxed, white or colored paper, non-shiny brochures, business cards, sticky notes, white envelopes with windows, manila folders, and magazines. Materials that cannot be placed in RSG Paper Shredding Bin include cardboard, shiny or coated paper, tissue paper or paper towels, hanging file folders, carbon paper, food, glass, plastic, large volumes of routing yellow envelopes, carbonless forms, and metals (other than paperclips and staples). Now is a good time to clean out all your old paperwork that is no longer needed to decrease the chance of identity theft.

The Southern Tier Nam Knights will host the last buffet style breakfast of the season Sunday, April 14. Cost is \$12 per person. Menu is scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, hash browns, coffee, tea, OJ, apple juice, and the place is at the Vet's Club. Serving from 8-11:30 a.m. They use the funds raised for the important events they donate to throughout the year.

The William B. Ogden Library invites the public to join their seed exchange program at the library for a fun way to swap and share seeds. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, everyone's welcome to bring in their extra seeds and pick up something new. It's a chance to discover unique varieties, connect with fellow garden enthusiasts, and maybe even learn a thing or two. They've got everything from colorful flowers to tasty veggies, so come grab some seeds, and get planting.

Some of the events at the library this month include local author Patricia Lacey Saturday, April 6 reading and signing her book "Who Sees Who at the Zoo" from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. She will also be accompanied by illustrator Trish Drumm. Copies will be available for purchase and you can get your copy signed. Perfect for young readers and the young at heart, this event is not to be missed.

Adults and teens 16+ are in-

ited to enjoy a seasonal mocktail and to create their own work of art on canvas with guidance from instructor Linda Karpovich on Thursday, April 11 at 6 p.m. The painting is called "Country Bouquet" and features a variety of wildflowers in a mason jar. All materials will be provided and no experience is necessary to walk away with a custom masterpiece. Space is limited so registration is required by calling the library at 607-865-5929.

Linda Karpovich is also a certified instructor for the NYS Defensive Driving Course and will present a 6-hour defensive driving course on the lower level of the library. This will take place over two separate days, April 18 and 25, with three hours in each session from 5-8 p.m. Upon completion, participants will receive a certificate that they can submit to their insurance company for a 10% savings off their basic liability and collision insurance for three years. The total cost to participate is \$35. Space is limited. Stop by the library with payment to secure your spot.

Embark on a journey of artistic discovery with the library series of classes designed for teens - an exploration of art inspired by remarkable female artists. This month's featured artist is Frida Kahlo on Wednesday, April 24 from 3:30-5 p.m.

The Walton Chamber of Commerce and Castle on the Delaware will host another designer purse bingo fundraising event Saturday, May 4. Doors open at 1 p.m.; calling starts at 2; 12 games of bingo or 36 chances to win for \$40. An extra \$10 card will get you in the 13th game for the mystery purse worth several hundred dollars. There will be gift basket raffles and gift certificates for local businesses for door prizes. Register and pay at www.waltonchamber.com For more information contact Sheryl Crandall at 607-434-0777.

The free pictures with the Easter Bunny event was moved due to last week's lousy weather to this Saturday, March 30 from 12-1 p.m. at the little gazebo behind Townsend School. The event is compliments of Angelica Helm. Park in the back parking lot and come to the playground, you can't miss it.

My granddaughter and I went to the library for the eclipse event and it was really interesting. They had a great turnout with lots of good feedback. We will not have a full eclipse here in our area as we will still be able to see just a sliver of the sun. 100% eclipse is in the Buffalo area. Be sure to

have the right eclipse glasses to view it so as not to burn your eyes. The eclipse will take place April 8.

On April 13 the Walton Booster Club Cheerleading groups will be having a benefit breakfast at TAs. There will be basket raffles and the girls will be waiting tables; \$2 from each breakfast will be donated to the club.

Booster Club Volleyball sign-ups will be held March 29 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Townsend School. For grades 3-6, registration fee is \$30.

Final registration for Walton Little League will be Friday, March 29 when teams will be selected and uniforms ordered. So far there are four T-ball teams, three coach pitch, two minors and two major teams. There is still time to play if you message the Walton Little League Facebook page or a board member.

The Walton Chamber of Commerce held an informational meeting about effectively using social media for your business, presented by Jessica Vecchione, at the Walton Theatre last week. The session was well attended and many good questions were asked. There seems to be some interest in another hands-on event to walk you step by step through the process of different media formats. Reach out to me if you have an interest in another meeting, and also if you have any other topics that would interest you that the Chamber could pursue organizing.

The Delaware Co Board of Elections has announced that early voting for the 2024 presidential primary will be held until Saturday, March 30 at the board of elections office in Delhi. Primary voting day is April 2 in our own community.

Music on the Delaware is currently making plans for the first Porchfest on June 15. This free event will feature musicians performing on porches and venues throughout town. They are seeking musicians of all genres, solo or bands, porches to be used for performances, and volunteers for set up and tear down that day. You can sign up at www.musiconthedelaware.org/porchfest. You can also get more information on that website.

The new walk-in clinic at DVH has already proven to be a valuable asset and it is getting used regularly. Hours have already been extended - starting April 1, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and Saturdays it will be open 10-2. I think this is a great new addition to healthcare services in Walton.

Free mental health education classes

NAMI Family to Family is a free, eight-session education program for the family and friends of adults with mental health conditions. The course includes information on illnesses such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression and other mental health conditions.

NAMI Family to Family provides:

- Information about mental health conditions,
- Information about treatment and recovery.
- The tools to use to support your loved one during difficult times.

• Information about local resources.

• Self-care for caregivers

The program is taught by trained family members who have a loved one with a mental health condition. NAMI family to family education is an evidence-based program (EB). For information on the research base for this program, visit nami.org/research.

The sessions will be held Wednesdays May 1 to June 26 from 6 - 8:30 p.m. at The New Hope Community Church, 45 Stockton Ave., Walton.

Classes will be available in person or through Zoom. Zoom complies with all applicable privacy laws, rules, and regulations in which it operates.

To register by Friday, April 26, call 607-287-6869, email namidelawareco@gmail.com or sstallone@rehab.org

An email confirmation will be sent with meeting information.

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Delco recognizes Public Health Week April 1 - 7

By Elizabeth DeFalco



file photo

Delaware County Public Health Director Amanda Walsh.

dia posts to celebrate the week.

Becoming more civically engaged allows for better community decision-making, the resolution states, for things like more walkable neighborhoods, funding for public health projects, and how to prepare for future pandemics or disasters.

"When our communities are healthy, we have the building blocks for healthy lives," the resolution states.

DELHI - Delaware County supervisors passed a resolution recognizing April 1 - 7 as Public Health Week in order to encourage civic engagement and healthy neighborhoods at a meeting March 27.

Since 1995, the American Public Health Association has sponsored public health week to educate the public, policymakers, and health professionals about issues important to improving public health, the resolution states.

The theme of 2024's public health week is "protecting, connecting, and thriving." According to Public Health Director Amanda Walsh, public health displays will be set up in the lobbies of the county office buildings at 99 and 111 Main Street, a radio show on WIOX, and a variety of social me-

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Colchester..

continued from front page



Elizabeth DeFalco/The Reporter

Five trees at Gregorytown Cemetery, River Road, Downsville, will be trimmed to allow more sunshine onto the hill to help dry the ground.

and trim down each tree, and ensure gravestones are not damaged - for a total of \$2,500.

Trimming will allow more sunlight onto the grounds, help rid the area of moss, and keep the location drier for easier access and overall maintenance of the cemetery, Homovich said following the meeting.

Once the trees at Gregorytown

Cemetery are addressed, and council members can evaluate Shields' work, Merrill said he will ask Shields to consider trimming trees at Old Cemetery, or Covered Bridge Cemetery, on the corner of Covered Bridge Road and Warren Drive, Downsville.

The 1996 GMC bucket truck purchased by the highway department in January to trim trees,

could not be used at either cemetery without requiring headstones to be moved, Highway Superintendent Ken Eck said.

"You gotta move half the cemetery around to get a truck in there," Merrill agreed.

While discussing the bucket truck, purchased for \$25,000, Eck said the truck already "paid off in flying colors." Seven highway department employees were certified to operate the bucket truck, Eck said, and it has been in use for nearly two and a half weeks. Crews trimmed and removed trees from the hillside on county Route 26, referred to locally as Telford Hollow, and areas of McDonald Road, Eck said.

"They (residents) said it looks fantastic, and it's the first time that the sun's shone in there in years," Champlin said, which Merrill agreed with, and said sunshine is important to the longevity of roads.

The town was denied a state Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) grant applied for the purchase of a new salt shed and various projects at the highway department, Merrill said, but was not surprised by the denial. Merrill and grant writer Colleen Signor Griffith will have a post-application conference with CFA representatives to review and identify "weak areas" in the application.

Endwell Rug is in the process of installing flooring in the court and police building on River Road next to the highway department, Merrill said, and said the police side of the building is "95% done" with police staff "almost ready to move in."

Highway staff have to dig trenches for Margaretville Telephone Company to set up an internet connection for the building, Merrill said, along with other small projects.

Council members approved the use of Covered Bridge Park for a sunrise Easter service Sunday, March 31 at 7 a.m. for Colchester Community United Methodist Church.

Colchester Police responded to 30 calls in February including five assists to other departments or agencies, two erratic operator complaints, two 911 hang-ups, three harassment complaints, three disabled vehicles, five general calls, and one missing person report, among other activity. Police issued 45 traffic tickets and investigated two accidents involving one personal injury and one property damage report.

In February, Downsville Justice Court collected \$9,355 and

the Cooks Falls Justice Court collected \$22,079 in fees and fines. The fees have been remitted to the state and a portion of those funds will be returned to the town.

The Cooks Falls water district collected \$610.22 in water sales in February and reported 17 customers in arrears with a balance of \$850. The Downsville water district reported 52 customers in arrears with a balance of \$4,238.28 in February, and collected \$1,718.91 in water sales.

The town clerk collected \$1,296.12 in building permits, inspection fees, certificate of occupancy searches, certified copies, miscellaneous fees, and police fees in February.

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Sidney grapples with homeless, prepares for summer recreation

By Andrew Kantor

SIDNEY - There's little to be done for a group of homeless people sleeping in the gazebo in downtown Sidney, simply because they've refused offers of help. That was the reluctant conclusion of Sidney trustees in response to a resident concern at the meeting held March 25.

Village authorities have spoken with the people several times, said Mayor Ray Baker.

"We hooked them up with the county and with Catholic Charities. They don't want the help."

heartbreaking."

Preparing the parks for recreation

The village's insurance company has issued payment for the utility pole that collapsed recently at Keith Clark Park. Local contractor Brad Theobald has volunteered his time to install two replacement poles donated by the Delhi Telephone Company to replace both the fallen pole and another that's rotted through.

Registrations for this year's baseball and softball season are among the largest ever, according to Recreation Director Brett French. So far 244 kids have

a pickleball court, community garden, park or tennis courts, although the specifics won't be decided until and unless the village receives a grant.

The next step will be to file the full grant application, for which Delaware County officials have offered support from the county's grant writer.

In other business

Trustees discussed a former seasonal worker who has filed for unemployment benefits. Despite the person having held two other jobs since working for the village — and the job being a seasonal one — the state unemployment



Andrew Kantor/The Reporter

Sidney trustees at their March 25 meeting. From left Trustee Victor Tartaglia, Barry MacPherson, Clerk Lisa French, Mayor Ray Baker, Trustees Pat Cristelli and Thomas Hoskins.

"We scoot 'em out and they come back," Baker explained, sometimes breaking into abandoned homes. "They [the police] can arrest them, but that doesn't do a lot for them."

While Sidney isn't by any stretch the only place dealing with the homeless issue, it does seem to have more than other towns and villages in the area. That's because the Super 8 Motel on Delaware Ave. is one of the few facilities in the area that will accept people who receive temporary housing assistance.

"Unfortunately — and I've complained — we have three different counties (Broome, Chenango and Delaware) that will bring people to the motel, [and] drop them off," Baker said. "They'll put them up for a month, then they're on their own. A lot of them are stuck here."

"It's very sad," he said. "It's very

signed up — so many that French is looking for at least one more coach to help out with third and fourth grade students. The position doesn't pay, but includes a "very nice" hat and T-shirt.

The Sidney Municipal Pool will be opened as scheduled this year, and the village will be hiring American Red Cross-certified lifeguards. Employment applications are available at the village offices at 21 Liberty St.

Hoping for a grant

The trustees sent a letter of intent to New York state, which is the first step to apply for a Restore New York grant, which the state gives "for the revitalization of commercial and residential properties."

The trustees hope to use it to repurpose a large area on River Street — one that currently consists of vacant lots — into a playground or park. It could include

office has said the village must pay part of the employee's claim. The trustees plan to challenge the decision.

Clerk Lisa French said she continues to collect overdue property taxes, including about \$10,000 so far in March.

Police Chief Eric Oliver reported that the department responded to 207 calls for service in February, made 30 arrests (including five for felonies), gave out 16 parking tickets, and assisted other local agencies 13 times.

Trustees paid the village's bills: \$81,241 for general expenses, \$15,209 for water and sewer services, \$15,100 for community development, \$2,581 for trust and agency, and \$3,315 in capital expenses for total of \$117,445.

The next meeting of the Sidney village trustees will be Monday, April 8 at 7 p.m. at the village offices.

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DelCo Fire Chiefs...

continued from front page

"It's going to be the demise of the volunteer fire service," Margaretville Fire Chief Nelson Delameter said. "We're not opposed to doing it right, but this is above and beyond."

"It's actually quite disgusting what they're putting in there," Hancock Chief Blaise Bojo agreed.

Hood encouraged all members and departments to review the proposed standards and submit a comment, not only opposing the proposed revisions, but identifying a specific proposed change and why it is an unrealistic expectation for a local, volunteer fire department.

Hood said he will submit a comment on behalf of the Delaware County Emergency Services Department, but was unsure whether or not county supervisors intended to pass a resolu-

tion opposing OSHA's proposed regulation changes.

"Well, we better pressure them to do one," Bloomville Fire Chief Mike Pietrantonio said.

The proposed regulations are in a 90-day open comment period which closes May 6, Hood said, and encouraged those who submit comments to request for an extension to allow departments to fully digest the proposed regulations and determine what changes are manageable and what changes are not possible to implement.

A copy of OSHA's 608-page regulation proposal, a summary, and where to post public comments can be found on the Firefighters Association of the State of New York's website: <https://fasny.com/osha-fire-brigade-standard-1910-156>

DelCo DSS: addressing homelessness

By Elizabeth DeFalco

DELHI - Delaware County supervisors accepted \$121,902 in state family assistance funds to support the county's rental supplement program to address homelessness, Wednesday, March 27.

The rental supplement program helps support those experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness by paying a portion or all of their monthly rent. With the \$121,902, Delaware County Department of Social Services (DSS) anticipates assisting up to 20 households or individuals who are homeless, and up to 30 households or individuals who are at risk.



file photo
Delaware County Deputy Commissioner Keith Weaver.

In 2023, 153 individuals presented as homeless and 80 of those individuals were housed by DSS, and seven families presented as homeless and were housed. So far in 2024, 18 of 24 individuals presenting as homeless were housed by DSS, and no families have presented as homeless.

Colchester: Short-term rental regs

By Elizabeth DeFalco

DOWNSVILLE - Colchester council members tabled a vote to adopt short-term rental regulations following a no-comment public hearing Wednesday, March 20, immediately preceding their regular monthly meeting.

The regulations are modeled after Andes, Margaretville, and Walton's short-term rental regulations. Council members held multiple workshops, starting in September 2023, with Code Enforcement Officer Rich Hascha to develop regulations.

With Councilmember Julie Markert, who arrived towards the end of the meeting, and Councilmember Greg Lavorgna absent, Supervisor Art Merrill and Councilmembers Janet Champlin and Dan Pinner agreed to table the vote until the April 3 meeting.

"We want all five of us to go into this together," Merrill said.

In the proposed regulations, a short-term rental, or transient rental, is defined as any dwelling unit rented or leased for a period of 30 days or less, excluding hotels, motels, and bed and breakfasts.

Proposed regulations

- A short-term rental permit application must be approved before opening for operation and must be renewed annually. An undetermined permit fee will be required with the initial application, and a reduced permit fee will be required for each annual renewal. Permits will expire Dec. 31 of that year.

- Applicants must file separate applications, pay an individual permit fee, and obtain a separate permit for each dwelling unit to be used as a short-term rental. A dwelling unit is defined in the

regulations as a single unit providing complete, independent living facilities including permanent amenities for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation.

- Each application must include contact information, including names, addresses, and day and night telephone numbers of the property owner and

initial permit or a renewal, must notify all property owners within a 200-foot radius of their proposed rental operation. The notification must be done in writing via first class certified mail.

- Complaints regarding the operation of a short-term rental should be given to the code enforcement officer. If a violation is found, the code enforcement of-



Elizabeth DeFalco/The Reporter

Colchester Councilmember Janet Champlin, left, Supervisor Art Merrill, and Councilmember Dan Pinner during their meeting March 20.

local manager, the number of off-street parking spaces, occupancy level, description of the unit, proof of inspection, house rules, and proof of insurance and bed tax identification number. If the property owner does not reside in the Colchester area, then a local manager must be designated who is required to respond on-scene to an emergency situation within 45 minutes of being notified.

- All short-term rental units must have an information card posted on or inside a main door including name, address, and phone number of property owner or local manager, and instructions on dialing 911 in emergency situations.

- All applicants, whether for an

officer will issue a notice detailing the alleged violation, required remedial action, and a date by which to address the violation. If unaddressed, the town may take legal action or revoke operation permits. First violations are punishable by a fine of no less than \$350 and no more than \$700, or six months imprisonment. If the town does take legal action due to an unaddressed violation, the violator is responsible for any and all costs incurred by the town, including attorney fees.

The proposed regulations can be reviewed in full at the town clerk's office. It is anticipated that council members will vote on the regulations Wednesday, April 3 at 5 p.m. at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

DelCo supervisors urge changes to state law governing incapacitation

By Lillian Browne

DELHI - Delaware County supervisors are expected to approve a resolution urging changes to the state's criminal procedure law which governs a defendant's ability to "stand trial" or their fitness to proceed in a legal case at a regularly scheduled meeting Wednesday, March 27.

At issue is the requirement that counties bear the costs for a person charged with a crime to be "restored" to a mental capacity where they can participate in their defense after they are deemed mentally incapacitated.

The resolution before supervisors states competency restoration costs have taken away millions of dollars for critical behavioral health programming in Delaware County. Given the advances in behavioral health since the law was first implemented decades ago, the resolution continues, "It is time for the state to reform the statutory authority governing competency restoration to ensure that only individuals who are appropriate subjects of 730 court orders are sent for restoration."

The resolution further supports a Senate and Assembly Bill proposing a change to the law.

The restoration process is not treatment, Delaware County Community Health Director

Doug Elston explained, and that's where the issue lies.

"It's not treatment or therapy," Elston said. "A lot of people believe that in this process, the person is actually getting treatment or therapy. But that's not true. The goal is to restore them to the point where they can participate in their own defense. And so during that psychiatric hospitalization, it's likely they're going to be put on medication. If the client (defendant) is willing. If the client (defendant) is not willing, the facility has the ability to petition the court to provide what's called 'treatment over objection.'" Once an incapacitated person is deemed stable following a 730 hold and after receiving instruction on the court process, they are returned back to the county jail to stand trial, Elston explained.

The resolution also calls for an amendment to the law making clear that "restoration" is not mental health treatment; that there be specific criteria established for mental health examiners to streamline the process; that examiners tell the court whether there is a reasonable chance of restoration which would allow a court to divert a patient's (defendant's) care to mental health treatment; that counties be reimbursed by the state for the psychiatric exams; and that individuals be transferred to psychiatric

care/treatment facilities if they are unable to be restored.

"The problem - and why this is front and center now - is that New York state is the only state in the country that the cost of this 100% falls on the county which is required to pay for stays in a psychiatric hospital," Elston said. In most other states, Elston continued, the state government pays for hospitalization under those circumstances. The cost for one day of hospitalization, Elston said, is \$1,300.

As an example of the disconnect and costs, Elston said, the county had an individual who was deemed incapacitated, not because of a mental illness, which is what the statutory law indicates, but because of suspected vascular dementia. The individual was placed in a state psychiatric facility for more than 30 days. "So that one hospitalization pretty much absorbed our whole 730 budget line," Elston said.

Under the 730 process an insurance company cannot be billed, Elston explained, because the individual is being held involuntarily.

Delaware County currently allocates \$50,000 to 730 evaluations, Elston said.

"And there are some years where we don't spend that amount."

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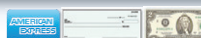
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Franklin seats first female mayor

By Elizabeth DeFalco

FRANKLIN - Following a mid-March election, Franklin welcomes a new, but familiar, mayor into office. Mayor Johanna VanDeusen, former trustee, was elected Franklin's first female mayor on March 19 with 28 votes to fill the seat of Tom Briggs, who did not seek reelection after serving as mayor since 2014.



file photo

Franklin Mayor Johanna VanDeusen.

"No one made it a secret I was running for mayor," VanDeusen said, laughing. Shortly after the 2022 village elections, Briggs began a sort of mentorship with VanDeusen, looping her into ongoing projects and procedures nearly two years prior to her election.

And he said, 'Can I come visit you when you move into the new house?'"

VanDeusen is co-owner of Franklin Eyewear in Delhi and was raised in Franklin, she said; an experience she now shares with two of her grandchildren.

As Franklin's first female trustee, a member of the Franklin Rotary Club, and a grandmother who participates in after-school pick up, VanDeusen said she hopes to bring a new perspective to the position. Her main priority, she said, is to ensure Franklin maintains its sense of community while embracing progress that helps the village thrive.

VanDeusen's seven year old grandson has already taken to subtle bragging about his upcoming visits to the "mayor's house," she said. "A couple months ago, we talked about me running for

"I'm from Franklin. I love Franklin, and I want to see Franklin maintain its sense of com-

munity but I also feel like there's ways to bridge the gaps between people that have always lived in Franklin and new residents," VanDeusen said. "And I love that we have so many new residents."

Other priorities for VanDeusen are to complete the small stretch of water main replacement on Main Street, revitalize the village's business district, and complete various other projects. While there are many things to complete, VanDeusen said she was not nervous because Franklin residents have made her feel excited about the new journey through their support.

"I plan on having an open line of communication with residents and will work my hardest to the betterment of Franklin," VanDeusen said. "I think this will be good for Franklin."

VanDeusen's swearing in ceremony will be held at village hall April 8, the same day as the solar eclipse. While she said she can't decide whether the solar eclipse is a good omen or a bad omen, VanDeusen said she joked with Briggs that his last few hours in office "will get very, very dark."

Delhi Planning approves parking lot for Sportsfield Specialties

By Elizabeth DeFalco

DELHI - Delhi Planning Board members approved site plan revisions for Sportsfield Specialties' expansion for the construction of a parking lot during a brief meeting Monday, March 25.

In October 2023, architect Lee Marigliano presented plans for an expansion of the athletics field equipment manufacturing facility of approximately 45,000 over a three year period. The expanded footprint - a 15,000 square foot storage building, an 8,000 square foot addition to house paint

features be included, Marigliano said.

"We had the option of either putting in another pond, expanding our existing ponds, or doing what's called these underground stormwater chambers."

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, underground stormwater chambers capture and store runoff in large pipes, which can then be released directly back into surface waters through an outlet pipe.

Planning board members compared the system to a culvert



file photo

Sportsfield Specialties, state Route 10, Delhi.

equipment, and a 36,000 square foot shipping warehouse addition - will enhance manufacturing capacity and provide employees with a new locker room and lunch room.

An existing shop and storage building will be demolished, which would remove 12,000 square feet from the floor plan, as well as a 2,400 square foot section of an existing pole barn.

Following a public hearing and a recommendation to approve from Delaware County's Planning Board members, Delhi planning board members approved the site plan contingent on approval by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on a stormwater pollution prevention plan.

Because expansion plans will increase the amount of impervious surface on the property, DEP requires additional stormwater

pipe, but for stormwater.

"We opted to use the underground stormwater chambers because they're out of sight, out of mind," Marigliano said, "and then we figured since we're creating this flat area with these underground chambers, let's develop that flat area so that in the future, if we wanted to, we could pave and put some additional parking spaces."

The parking lot will be approximately 7,000 square feet to accommodate an additional 20 parking spaces, Marigliano said, and will be located off the main entrance on state Route 10, behind the complex sign.

Planning board members issued a negative declaration on a DEP Environmental Assessment Form, and accepted the revision to Sportsfield Specialties' site plan for expansions to include construction of a parking lot.

Funding police: Sheriff's office receives federal, state grants

By Elizabeth DeFalco

DELHI - Delaware County supervisors accepted a \$11,140 federal grant to help pay for 20 new bulletproof vests for the Delaware County Sheriff's Office, and a \$12,218 state grant to support the Police Traffic Services program, Wednesday, March 27.

Delaware County was awarded \$11,140 in United States Department of Justice Bulletproof Vest Partnership grant funds to purchase bulletproof vests for the sheriff's office. The funds represent 50% reimbursement of the cost to purchase the vests, Assistant to the Sheriff Jessica Miller said, the cost of a vest is \$1,320. Bulletproof vests are rotated and replaced every five years in accordance with manufacturer mandates.

The sheriff's office currently has 22 vests for sheriff's deputies,

13 vests for the jail, and 11 vests for probation department staff.

Old bulletproof vests rotated out of use are used for training purposes among other things, Miller said.

The sheriff's office was also awarded \$12,218 in state grant funds to participate in the Statewide Police Traffic Services program, which was created to increase seatbelt usage and reduce dangerous driving behaviors in an effort to reduce serious injuries or fatalities from traffic accidents, the resolution states.

"As a result of receiving this grant, we are able to conduct enhanced traffic enforcement as well as to participate in more traffic safety initiatives such as Operation Safe Stop, Click It or Ticket, No Empty Chair Campaign, Speed Awareness Campaigns etc.," Undersheriff Kim Smith said, "which help to lead

to safer highways in Delaware County."

The grant funding will allow the sheriff's office to assign patrols, primarily on overtime, to conduct traffic enforcement on highways identified as having higher instances of accidents with personal injury or fatalities, Smith said.

"Ultimately, by providing increased traffic enforcement and reducing dangerous driving behaviors, the potential for injurious and fatal [motor vehicle] accidents are reduced," she said, making Delaware County a safer place to live.

The top three contributing factors of injurious and fatal motor vehicle accidents statewide are speed, driver distraction or inattention, and impairment, Smith said, and accidents have become more frequent since 2020 and 2021.

DelCo Planning: \$1.3 million transfer for Sidney FEMA buyout demolitions

By Elizabeth DeFalco

DELHI - Delaware County supervisors authorized a budget transfer of \$1,366,332.24 to pay for the last demolition expenses of flood buyout homes in Sidney Wednesday, March 27.

In 2016, Delaware County was awarded \$18,915,104 from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) to purchase 129 homes and elevate seven homes with significant flood damage after Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee in 2011. Many of the homes were in the village of Sidney along the Susquehanna River.

The reimbursable program requires the county to pay contractor expenses upfront prior to submitting to the state Governor's Office of Storm Recovery for reimbursements. A demolition invoice received March 1 exceeds remaining funds in the planning department's general grant related expense funds, and supervisors authorized a transfer of



file photo

One of the FEMA buyout homes on River Street, Sidney.

\$1,366,332.24 to pay the invoice. "The project funding is through a reimbursable grant so the county has only put up what was needed to cover immediate costs," Johnson-Bennett said, "That allowed us to secure reimbursement as we spent the money so as to make the county whole throughout the process."

The \$1.3 million payment is the final payment, Johnson-

Bennett said, and is seeking full reimbursement for what remains. While demolitions are complete, county Department of Public Works crew members must demolish two small sheds in upcoming weeks during better weather, Johnson-Bennett said.

Excluding \$1.3 million transfer, the county has spent \$7,677,668.60 to demolish flood buyout properties.

DelCo supervisors approve budget transfers for insurance costs

By Elizabeth DeFalco

DELHI - Delaware County supervisors authorized a transfer of funds from each county department to cover 2024 insurance premiums for liability claims, administrative costs, and funding of the insurance reserve account at a meeting Wednesday, March 27.

A total of \$788,182 from 32 departments was transferred into the unallocated county insurance fund, and any unexpended year-end balance will be transferred to the insurance reserve fund.

The county is self-insured for workers' compensation, Clerk of the Board Penny Bishop said, and the transfers are to pay renewal premiums for insurance policies including general liability and crime, owners and con-

tractors, auto, public officials, law enforcement, professional liability, excess catastrophe, and inland marine.

Insurance costs to each department is based on number of employees, property values, and profession, Bishop said. Most departments will pay between \$1,000 to \$10,000 in insurance costs, while departments like the sheriff's office, county jail, social services, public works, and solid waste will pay \$56,161, \$102,489, \$99,430, \$175,039, and \$98,965, respectively.

The jail's insurance costs predominantly come from \$46,097 in property insurance and \$29,369 in professional insurance with 28 employees, whereas social services' insurance costs are \$44,654 in general liability insurance and \$27,140 in inland marine insurance with 100 employees.

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DelCo Fire Advisory Board members discuss response plans

By Elizabeth DeFalco

DELHI - Delaware County Fire Advisory Board members discussed ways to structure each fire department's response plan so they best integrate with the county's new computer-aided dispatch system during a meeting Wednesday, March 20.

Over the last month, representatives from Tyler Technologies, vendor for the new computer-aided dispatch system, have hosted training sessions with public safety staff to obtain, develop, and integrate Delaware County's information into the new system, Delaware County Emergency Services Director and Fire Coordinator Steve Hood said. Part of the necessary information is a response plan from each department, Hood said. When implementing a plan into the new system, staff discovered they are "based on a lot of assumptions."

Each department's response plan contains four "activations," Deputy Emergency Services Director and EMS Coordinator Margaret "Maggie" Wilson said. Each activation is a resource plan, based on individual departments, and which departments should be toned to respond to a call. The first activation is typically full response from that specific department, Wilson said. For example, in an instance when a fire call is received in Bovina, dispatchers will choose to tone the Bovina Fire Department's first activation, which will tone the fire department, full automatic aid from Andes, with Delhi and Margaretville departments covering the station's calls.

In some emergencies, the situation does not require dispatchers to escalate to the department's second activation, Wilson said, but if additional resources are needed the department can request their second activation be dispatched, and dispatchers will tone out their second activation fleet which could include resources from multiple departments.

Or, Wilson said, responding departments can request a specific resource be dispatched, like a tanker, if only additional water is needed rather than dispatch the full second activation fleet. The problem is, if a department

within the second activation doesn't respond, or a resource from the department's third or fourth activation is requested to be dispatched, the system will not recognize any deviations from their original response plan, Wilson said.

For example, if Bovina Fire Department was responding to a fire and is on their second activation but requested an extra tanker from South Kortright, the new system will not recognize South Kortright's tanker was already individually dispatched and will automatically retone South Kortright for a tanker when the third activation is requested, per Bovina's response plan.

"So you may get toned on the third alarm but you were already there for the second," Bovina Fire Chief Kevin Brown clarified, which means no additional tanker will be en route on the third activation.

A possible solution, Wilson suggested, is instead of designating specific departments for resources in second, third, and fourth activations, departments can choose their activations to be "proximity" response. If a department with proximity activations requested their second activation be dispatched, the system will recommend the two closest departments to the fire's location for the dispatcher to tone, and full responses from both departments would be dispatched, Wilson said. The first activation cannot be proximity for any department's response, Rossley explained, because the system refers to town boundary lines rather than district lines.

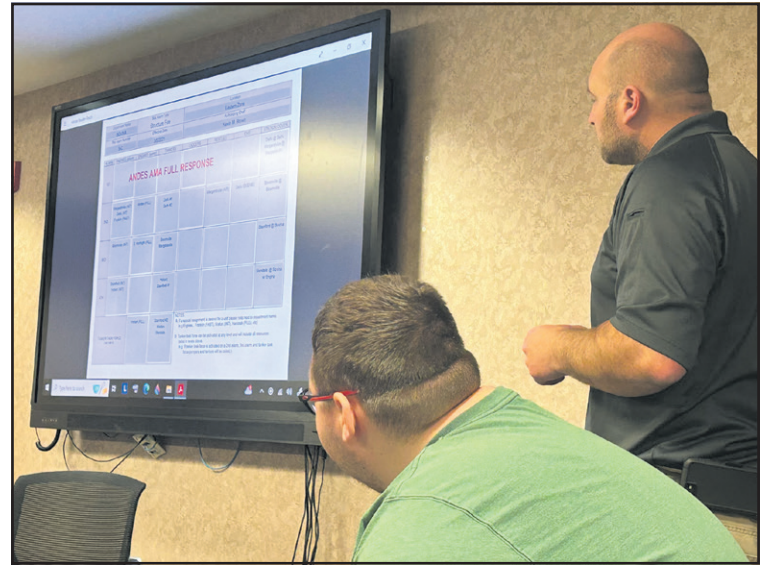
"My concern with that is, you know, you could run into an issue where during the day a department doesn't have any staffing," Hancock Fire Chief Blaise Bojo said. "We're covering departments all the time that are down to two members, but they might be listed as our closest."

That same problem still occurs with a designated response, Wilson said; day of the week and time of day are two large factors in the number of available crew members for all departments, she said, and departments are likely going to escalate to third and fourth activations faster during the day than at night due to lack of a full crew.

Individual resources can be requested in proximity as well, Rossley said, as each apparatus for all departments will be identified and logged into the new system. If a responding crew requests the three closest fire engines be dispatched to assist, the system should identify and locate the three closest engines to the scene for dispatchers, Rossley said, but will identify multiple engines from the same department as the closest regardless of available crew members.

Wilson requested all departments begin by reviewing a map of their district and dividing it into "quadrants," which will help build the new system, she said. Once their district map is divided, Wilson said departments should closely review their response plans and ensure its procedure makes sense if all four activations are necessary, and consider a lack of available resources.

"You have to be honest about what you're going to get. You know, I would love to say we're going to get all of our people to come and we're gonna get all those trucks off the floor in Bloomville, but..." Wilson said,



Elizabeth DeFalco/The Reporter

Delaware County 911 Coordinator Mark Rossley, standing, explained how each department's response plan will be used for dispatching at a Delaware County Fire Advisory Board meeting Wednesday, March 20.

before Bloomville Fire Chief Mike Pietrantonio added, "Not on a Friday night or Saturday night."

All response plans can be edited once integrated into the new system, Wilson said, but because of the extremely time consuming process to integrate a single response plan, encouraged departments to have a "smooth first run."

Board members agreed to appoint communication committee members, and other board members interested, to review and demonstrate response plans of multiple departments once completed to ensure they're viable.

The new computer-aided dispatch system is expected to be operational in August.

Delco DPW transfers money for truck purchase, awards bids

By Elizabeth DeFalco

DELHI - Delaware County supervisors authorized a \$55,762 budget transfer for the Department of Public Works (DPW) to purchase two tandem axle dump trucks, complete with snow removal equipment, at a meeting Wednesday, March 27.

Due to a difference in the quote received to purchase the two dump trucks and the \$600,000 budgeted for the purchase, a \$55,762 budget transfer was requested by DPW committee members. The funds were transferred from DPW's assigned unappropriated machinery fund, which was budgeted at \$3,933,616 for 2024, into the machinery equipment line budgeted at \$1,006,500 for 2024.

DPW's machinery fund is mostly funded by equipment rental fees, Assistant DPW Commissioner Lisa Henderson said, "paid" from the department's road maintenance equipment rental budget line, leftover funds from the year before, revenue from other departments for the purchase of fuel and for repairs to department cars, the sale of scrap metal, revenue from the sale of old equipment, insurance recoveries, and a Catskill Watershed Corporation grant that covers repairs to the vacuum truck.

"Buying trucks is a tedious process these days and this might not even be the final cost," Henderson said. "All this does is let us place the order. There may be additional costs when the truck actually goes to production in 14-18

placement project in Deposit for \$2,558,539.85. In February, DPW committee members approved a construction phase contract with McFarland for \$427,035 for the bridge replacement project. The costs are 95% reimburseable



file photo

Delaware County Department of Public Works trucks.

months."

Henderson said there was no "fluff" built into the budget when planned in September 2023, which led to the need for additional funds when quotes were received. Other business:

- Supervisors also awarded a bid to Tioga Construction in Herkimer to complete the replacement of Dug Road as part of the Cold Spring Creek bridge re-

by the Bridge NY program. DPW Commissioner James Thomas said.

Additionally, supervisors awarded a bid for bridge structural preservation to AMSTAR of Western New York, Cheektowaga, for \$419,000. The bridges are located in Walton, on Nichols Road over East Brook, and in Colchester on Morton Hill Road crossing Morton Brook.

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Linemen from Delaware County Electric Cooperative (DCEC) were deployed in advance of anticipated high winds and icy conditions, which left 1,600 customers without power Saturday, March 23. Power was restored to most customers Monday, March 25 and to all customers by Tuesday, March 26.

DelCo Mental Health: Recruitment, retention efforts pay off

Staff participates in active shooter, NARCAN trainings

By Lillian Browne

WALTON - Delaware County Director of Community Health Doug Elston announced a vacant psychiatric nurse position has been filled at the Behavioral Health Facility in Walton, at a meeting of the Delaware County Mental Health Committee, Monday, March 18. The new hire will begin mid-April, Elston said, and brings clinic staff to a psychiatrist and two nurse practitioners. Psychiatry staff evaluates clients/patients for medication and prescribe medication. Staff then follow the individual for the duration of their treatment at the clinic. That is significant, Elston said, because there are other counties in upstate New York which do not have community-based clinics or county-operated clinics and do not have prescribers "in house."

Last month, the department received approved funding for an off-hours, on-call licensed clinician to "clear" individuals at the Delaware County Jail from

constant watch, Elston reported. Every inmate that goes into the jail is evaluated, assessed and medical history reviewed. Part of the history is a suicide screening where inmates are asked a series of questions to determine suicidality. One of those questions is: Have you had a close friend or a loved one die from suicide?

"If the person says yes, that person is automatically placed on 'constant watch,'" Elston said.

The clinician is a licensed mental health professional - not jail staff - but someone who has a healing arts degree, like social work for example, who screens inmates to determine whether they should remain on constant watch or whether they can be stepped-down to 15 minute intervals or taken off the watch list altogether, Elston explained.

He hopes to fill the position of the on-call licensed clinician by the end of April, he said.

The department currently staffs a forensic social worker at the jail, for approximately 10 hours a week as needed.

The department also has two

social worker vacancies and one program coordinator vacancy.

In other business, Elston announced that the integration of client/patient electronic health records is ongoing. Though he is



file photo

Doug Elston, director of Delaware County Community Health.

unsure of the final cost, he said, it is expected that there will be monthly maintenance costs and fees. The county currently budgets approximately \$80,000 annually for records management. Once the integration is complete, clinicians in the substance use

disorder clinic are able to access patient's mental health records, and vice versa.

"By integrating the two (records systems), not only is it going to make the treatment much more effective - because there's going to be the combination of mental health and substance abuse going on at the same time - but it also allows for the clinicians to have easier access," Elston said. "It improves communication."

Once the new electronic health records system is implemented, Elston continued, the patient/client can log in and see when their next appointment is or what the correct spelling of the medication is, and dosage. The client will be able to access parts of their own record online in the privacy of their own home," he said.

Staff also participated in various trainings, Elston reported. Most staff have been trained in administering NARCAN, also known as naloxone - a medication that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. Once all staff have been trained in the mental health and alcohol and substance use clinics, paperwork will be sub-

mitted to OASAS (New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services) to have the clinic designated as having an opioid overdose prevention program. Once it receive the designation, Elston said, it will be easier and quicker to acquire NARCAN.

Staff also participated in a four-hour active shooter training conducted by the Delaware County Sheriff's Office and six requests for staff training were approved. The trainings were paid for with a recruitment and retention grant received during the Covid pandemic. There is approximately \$58,000 left in the grant to be spent on staff training, Elston reported.

Expanded clinic hours - from 8 a.m. rather than 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. rather than 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays - which began in November 2023, have allowed patients/clients more flexibility at the beginning and end of the day, Elston said.

There are currently 104 drug and alcohol clinic patients/clients; 608 mental health clinic patients/clients and 40 patients/clients receiving supportive housing services.

DelCo Finance: Sales tax, petty cash, corrections

By Elizabeth DeFalco

DELHI - Delaware County Finance committee members discussed 2024 sales tax distributions, petty cash increases for the department of social services (DSS), and corrections for board of elections' 2023 and 2024 budgets during a meeting Wednesday, March 27.

So far in 2024, Delaware County collected \$4,360,849.89 in sales tax from three state sales tax distributions received in March. The first sales tax distribution, received March 6, was \$2,330,440.43. The second distribution, also received March 6, was for \$1,690,191.87 and the third distribution was for \$340,217.59, received March 13.

"We're down a little bit for the third month in a row," Finance Committee Chairperson and Colchester Supervisor Art Merrill said. "And remember, we're down compared to last year."

By March 13, 2023 after the third sales tax distribution was received, Delaware County collected \$4,641,376.85 - a \$766,933.83 increase from March 2022.

"Last year was a record-setter for us," Stamford Supervisor John Kosier said.

Though sales tax revenues are down in 2024, Merrill said he suspects they will "creep up" as seasons change and weather becomes nicer.

Also discussed:

- In February, supervisors accepted an \$18,159.12 state pre-paid postage grant awarded to the Delaware County Board of Elections to cover costs of postage relating to absentee ballots, envelopes, and postage machine



file photo

Finance Committee Chairperson and Colchester Supervisor Art Merrill.

items for the 2024 presidential election.

The funds were added to the board of elections' 2024 budget, Clerk of the Board Penny Bishop explained, but \$1,598.16 was meant to cover expenditures already made in 2023. To correct the oversight, supervisors approved a budget amendment to decrease the postage grant award by \$1,598.16 in the 2024 budget,

and another budget amendment to increase the 2023 budget's grant postage line by \$1,598.16, at their meeting later in the day March 27.

- Supervisors also approved a request from DSS to increase their petty cash fund from \$250 to \$500 at their meeting later in the day March 27. DSS' petty cash fund was last increased in 1985, Merrill said.

"I think that requires a long committee discussion," Department of Social Services Chairperson and Hamden Supervisor Wayne Marshfield said sarcastically.

- Following an executive session to discuss contract negotiations with Economic Development Director Glenn Nealis and Planning Director Shelly Johnson-Bennett, committee members agreed to recommend supervisors authorize the county to administer a \$5 million Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant on behalf of the village of Sidney. The funds will be used to install five precast, concrete box culverts below state Route 8, approximately 950 feet northwest of the intersection of state Route 8 and River Street, as part of a larger flood hazard mitigation project.

The request will go before county planning committee members, then supervisors for final approval.

DelCo Veterans Services reports busy month

By Lillian Browne

DELHI - Delaware County supervisors received an update on Veterans Services activity from Director Mark Dunlop at a social services committee meeting held March 18.

There has been an increase in walk-ins, calls and requests for rides and appointments, Dunlop said. There were 51 claims in February. With warmer weather on the horizon, Dunlop said, there will be more outdoor activities, including a possible kayaking event in Downsview on the east branch of the Delaware River, which will disembark at the American Legion Post. Event details have not been finalized, Dunlop said.

A mobile canteen is also being planned in Walton this summer, Dunlop said. A mobile canteen held in Margaretville on Feb. 15 was well attended by veterans, he said. He noted that when there



Lillian Browne/The Reporter

Hamden Supervisor Wayne Marshfield, and Director of Veteran Services Mark Dunlop.

is a presentation, there seems to be more interest and interaction from veterans.

Dunlop is also hoping to have a more visible presence for Clear Path for Veterans at area farmers markets during the warmer weather, he said. He has also submitted an annual application to FreshConnect farmers market vouchers for veterans. He antici-

pates they will arrive in May and veterans can pick up their \$50 voucher which can be used like cash at any farmers market.

For more information about services available, call 607-832-5345 Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to make an appointment or stop in at 97 Main Street, Suite 4, Delhi.

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DelCo DPW committee hears homeless shelter updates

By Alyshia Korba

DELHI - Delaware County Department of Public Works (DPW) committee members heard updates on the progress of the homeless shelter reconstruction in Delhi, approved equipment purchases and staffing updates at a meeting March 27.

DPW Commissioner Jim Thomas reported the demolition permit to remove the garage at 161 Main Street, Delhi, the site of the county's proposed homeless

trucks was also approved to be authorized by supervisors. They were budgeted at \$5,000 and will be purchased for \$1,378. Thomas said these are necessary because staff have difficulty hearing each other while operating the equipment.

The committee also approved Thomas's recommendation that three heavy equipment operator positions be filled. One of the positions is vacant due to a retirement; one employee was fired, and another is vacant due to a



Alyshia Korba/The Reporter

shelter rebuild following a 2021 fire, has been received. The garage was not damaged by the fire, Thomas said, and is not in bad condition, but due to its location, is not sufficiently accessible. The garage was previously used for storage, Thomas said.

The purchase of two communication headsets for the vacuum

resignation. The employee that resigned took a higher paying position elsewhere, Thomas said. Employee Jeremy MacIntyre was promoted from mechanic to senior auto mechanic.

Members of the committee also expressed concerns over the potential rise in steel costs resulting from the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Maryland.

Safety first: DSS office building security

By Lillian Browne

DELHI - A request has been made to have security officers in place at the Delaware County Social Services office buildings at 99 Main Street in Delhi, and DSS South behind Delaware Valley Hospital in Walton, similar to security positioned at the Delaware County Office Building at 111 Main Street in Delhi, reported Social Services Deputy Commissioner Keith Weaver at a meeting held Monday, March 18.

The request was spurred, in part, by an incident at 99 Main Street recently where an individual brought guns and knives into the building in a bag.

"One was an AR-style BB gun," Weaver said; and the other appeared similar to an automatic handgun. The individual also possessed several pocket knives and a "machete," Weaver said.

Though the individual turned over the BB guns and knives without incident to a police officer who was dispatched from 111 Main Street, under different circumstances, the situation could have had a bad outcome, Weaver said.

Under New York law, firearms are not permitted in municipal/public/government buildings.

A security officer would be the first point of contact for someone entering a DSS building, rather than a receptionist, Weaver said. The county is seeking to fill the security positions, which have been budgeted for. In 2024, the Department of Social Services budgeted \$138,870 for security, according to Clerk Penny Bishop. The security contract also covers DSS South when the building is operational, Bishop said.



Lillian Browne/The Reporter

There has been a request for security officers at 99 Main Street, Delhi, which houses Delaware County Social Services, Child Protective Services, Adult Protective Services, Foster Care services and Public Health.



Lillian Browne/The Reporter

111 Main Street, Delhi - Delaware County Office Building.

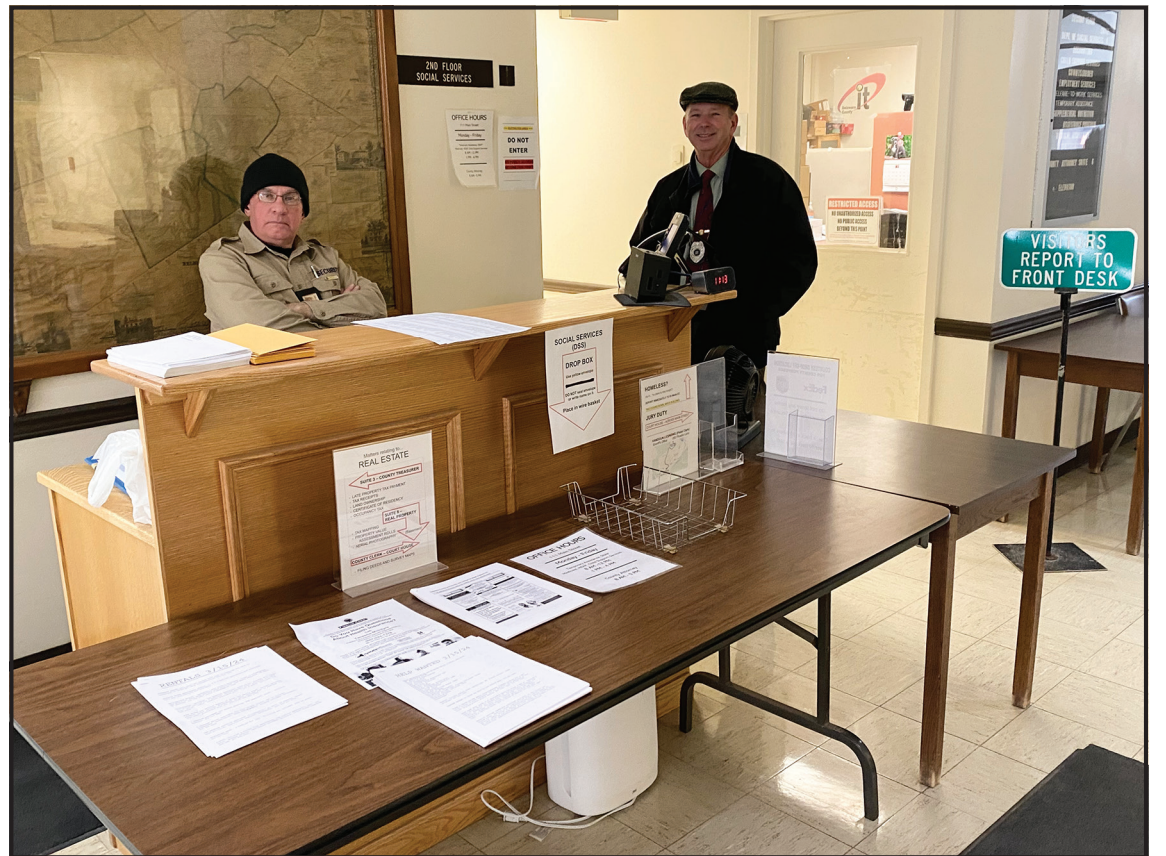
The county contracts with Delhi Police for police presence Monday through Friday from 7 - 10 hours per day, depending on the county's needs and police availability. Delhi Police are specifically assigned to the department of social services and provides services at various county facilities including buildings at

99 and 111 Main Street and other county-owned and operated buildings in the village of Delhi. The county pays Delhi Police \$38 per hour.

In 2023, Delhi Police billed Delaware County \$74,879 for police service at the rate of \$36 per hour.

The Bovina Farmer

Spring is in the air. ©Steve Burnett



Lillian Browne/The Reporter

There are security and police officers at the Delaware County Office Building, 111 Main Street, Delhi.

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Donald Gray will retire Friday, March 29 after 26 years with the United States Postal Service. Aside from one year of his career as a clerk, he was a city carrier for Walton. Gray graduated from Walton Central School in the class of 1981, and spent 1982-1985 in the United States Navy.

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2024 Delhi St. Patrick's Day Parade

Bagpipes, clovers and rain greet parade goers



A four leaf clover marches in the Delhi St. Patrick's Day Parade Saturday, March 23. Benjamin Patton/The Reporter

DELHI - The rain did not wash away the enthusiasm at Delhi's annual St. Patrick's Day parade, Saturday, March 23, sponsored by the Greater Delhi Chamber of Commerce.

Grand Marshal William "Bill" Cairns spirited floats and march-

ers which included Delaware National Bank, Shire Pub, Delhi Girl Scouts, Delhi Fire Department, Andes Fire Department, Cooks Falls Fire Department, Delhi Telephone Company, and Delaware Academy faculty, among others.



William "Bill" Cairns was the 2024 Delhi St. Patrick's Day Parade grand marshal. Benjamin Patton/The Reporter



Marchers hand out candy to kids during the Delhi St. Patrick's Day Parade Saturday, March 23. Benjamin Patton/The Reporter



Ilan Lamont performs on his bagpipe Saturday in Delhi. Benjamin Patton/The Reporter



Bizzy Bees Learning Academy marches in the Delhi St. Patrick's Day Parade Saturday, March 23. Benjamin Patton/The Reporter



Georgia Hilmer and her son August, 10 months, listen to Ian Lamont perform on his bagpipe as part of a demonstration at Cannon Library Saturday, March 23. Benjamin Patton/The Reporter



The Leatherstocking District Pipe Band marches in the Delhi St. Patrick's Day Parade Saturday, March 23. Benjamin Patton/The Reporter



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DELAWARE COUNTY COURT

Davenport man released from jail awaiting appeal

Superior court states 'reasonable possibility of reversal'

By Lillian Browne

DELHI - A March 19 jail sentence of a Davenport man has been stayed and his conditional release from jail ordered, following a superior court hearing Monday March 25.

George Sydlar, 74, was sentenced by Kortright Town Justice Yvonne Pagillo to 30 days in jail March 19 following a jury trial conviction for falsely reporting an incident. Sydlar was found guilty of falsely reporting an incident on Jan. 19.

Following the trial, District Attorney Shawn Smith issued a press release stating Sydlar refused to cooperate with probation for a pre-sentence investigation, maintaining his innocence throughout the proceeding.

Sydlar showed no remorse at sentencing, Smith's press release said, "instead indicated he was not sorry for his criminal behavior."

Assistant District Attorney Schuyler Kinneman, following sentencing, stated that the only appropriate sentence is incarceration for a person who refuses to accept responsibility for his actions.

Sydlar was taken into custody by the Delaware County Sheriff's Deputies and transported to the Delaware County Jail to serve his sentence, which is where he remained until Tuesday, March 26, when he was released, outfitted with an ankle monitor, awaiting the determination of an appeal which must be done within 120 days, according to an order signed by Acting Delaware Coun-

ty Court Judge John Lambert.

At the March 25 hearing, Kinneman told Lambert that there are no grounds for appeal because Sydlar's lawyer, Andrew VanBuren, did not provide any case law to support claims of jury misconduct cited in VanBuren's request for a stay.

Lambert disagreed, writing, "The court has reviewed the arguments of the defendant [Sydlar] and the People [district attorney] and finds that there is a reasonable possibility of reversal on appeal."

In his application to stay the jail sentence, VanBuren, in part, cited improper jury conduct stating the jury did not follow the law that requires each element of a case be proven, among other assertions.

Delhi man sentenced to 6 mo. jail for manslaughter

By Alyshia Korba

DELHI - A Delhi man, **Simon G. Wyson**, 26, was sentenced to six months of incarceration followed by five years of probation for charges including vehicular manslaughter in Delaware County Court Monday, March 25.

Wyson was sentenced according to an agreed-upon plea for a six-count indictment including felony second-degree vehicular manslaughter, two counts of second-degree assault, second-degree manslaughter, aggravated vehicular homicide and misdemeanor driving while

ability impaired. Wyson was charged with causing the death of Danielle P. Migdal and injury to Michael Goodwin in a motor vehicle crash that occurred July 26, 2022 in Davenport.

Several friends and family members of Migdal attended the sentencing including her mother, Bobbi Conant, who read a statement at sentencing.

"It seems that [Wyson] is getting only a slap on the wrist while the consequences for Danielle's friends and family will be a lifetime without her," Conant said.

Wyson's attorney, Richard Gumo, said that it was God's plan that Migdal was killed in the

crash.

Prior to sentencing, Judge Gary Rosa stressed that this is Wyson's chance to make better choices in the future. He said that Wyson previously called the agreed upon sentence "unfair," to which Rosa stated, "You should consider which is more unfair — your sentence or her death sentence."

Wyson said he is pained by Migdal's death.

"I completely understand where the mother is coming from, and I feel her pain," Wyson said. "I loved that girl more than anything."

Walton woman gets conditional discharge on DWI

By Alyshia Korba

DELHI - **Carolyn Covell**, 33, of Walton, received a one-year conditional discharge for charges relating to driving while intoxicated following a hearing in Delaware County Court Monday, March 25.

As part of a plea deal, Covell pleaded guilty to driving while ability impaired by drugs as a misdemeanor and aggravated unlicensed operation of a vehicle as a misdemeanor. She was sentenced to a one year conditional discharge with the requirement that she complete an impaired driver program and victim impact panel. The original plea offer from District Attorney Shawn Smith was a guilty plea to one count of driving while ability impaired by drugs with a sentence five years of probation and the

successful completion of adult treatment court.

Judge Gary Rosa stressed that any arrests during the conditional discharge period would violate the sentence and she would be subject to additional penalties.

The charges results from two arrests, both in the village of Walton.

Covell was arrested Sept. 30, 2022 and charged with aggravated driving while intoxicated with a child and endangering the welfare of a child. On Jan. 21, 2023, Covell was arrested and charged with two counts of aggravated driving while intoxicated, one count of aggravated unlicensed operation of a vehicle, two counts of endangering the welfare of a child, and operating a motor vehicle without insurance and with a suspended registration.

The plea deal followed a hearing during which the court heard

from arresting officer Kathryn Mitchell who made the 2023 arrest while working for the Walton Police Department. Mitchell described the arrest including the field sobriety tests she performed.

Covell's attorney, Kevin O'Brien, questioned Mitchell's reasoning for suspecting Covell of being intoxicated, noting that Mitchell did not report any issues with Covell's driving. Mitchell originally pulled Covell over because of the vehicle's suspended registration but then suspected that she was intoxicated because she had red and watery eyes, had to be asked multiple times for her license and registration, and because she was eating a cinnamon roll. Upon questioning by O'Brien, Mitchell explained that some drugs can cause hunger which led her to be suspicious of the cinnamon roll.

Walton man sentenced to prison for drug possession

By Alyshia Korba

DELHI - A Walton man, **Patrick Ladd**, 41, was sentenced to four years in prison followed by two years of parole on drug charges as part of a negotiated

plea and sentence agreement in Delaware County Court Monday, March 25.

Before sentencing, Ladd pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of attempted third-degree criminal possession of a controlled sub-

stance, admitting to possessing methamphetamine and heroin in Walton on Dec. 17, 2023.

Ladd was originally charged with two counts of third-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance.

Sidney man sentenced to prison for selling fentanyl

By Alyshia Korba

DELHI - **Brandon Hendricks**, 50, of Sidney received a sentence of five and a half years in prison with two years of post-release supervision for drug charges, following a plea and sentence deal,

in Delaware County Court Monday, March 25.

"I know it's a lengthy prison sentence but I believe it is warranted," District Attorney Shawn Smith said.

Hendricks was arrested Nov. 1, 2023 in the village of Sidney for possessing and selling fentan-

yl. As part of a deal, Hendricks pleaded guilty to one count of third-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance and one count of third-degree criminal sale of a controlled substance, admitting he possessed and sold fentanyl on two different occasions Feb. 13.

Walton man pleads guilty to burglary charge

By Alyshia Korba

DELHI - A Walton man, **Robert Smith**, 44, pleaded guilty to a charge of third-degree burglary as part of a plea and sentence agreement in Delaware County Court Monday, March 25.

The plea offer by District Attorney Shawn Smith included five years of probation with the condition that Smith complete adult treatment court. Upon successful completion, Smith will be allowed to withdraw his guilty plea

and plead guilty to a reduced burglary charge - a misdemeanor - and be re-sentenced to three years probation.

Smith admitted to knowingly and unlawfully aiding in a burglary that took place Dec. 30, 2023 in the town of Walton.

He is being held at the Delaware County Jail and if a slot becomes available at an inpatient drug treatment facility, he will be transferred to the facility prior to his next court date.

Smith is scheduled for sentencing April 22.

Margaretville man indicted for animal cruelty

DELHI - **James G. Lor**, 32, Margaretville was indicted by the Delaware County Grand Jury 21, 2024 and charged with aggravated animal cruelty, a felony.

Lor is accused of killing a dog using a knife, March 12 and at-

tempting to cook it and eat its organs. The ownership of the dog is unknown.

Lor was arraigned and is being held at the Delaware County Jail without bail, awaiting further court proceedings.

Police Blotter

Incidents published in the Police Blotter come directly from reports provided by local law enforcement agencies. These reports are a record of the actions taken on a given day by these agencies. Nothing in the published blotter should be construed as a finding of guilt.

Delaware County Sheriff's Office

- **Samone Wilson**, 34, Cooperstown, was arrested Feb. 13 on a Davenport Town Court warrant for failure to appear.

- **Sean Gillespie**, 25, Delhi, **Marissa Peck**, 27, Andes, **Shaun Carman**, 32, Delhi and **Erin Hubbell**, 27, Margaretville, were arrested March 13 and charged with third-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell and second-degree criminal possession of drug paraphernalia, accused of possessing fentanyl. Peck was additionally charged with seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance.

- **Nehemiah Clark**, 45, Bloomville and **Jordan Clark**, 25, Andes, were arrested March 11 and charged with seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance. They were issued appearance tickets to answer the charge in Kortright Town Court.

- **Sean Gillespie**, 25, Delhi, was arrested March 12 and charged with seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance. Gillespie was issued an appearance ticket to answer the charge in Delhi Town Court.

- **Ford Bailey Banks**, 27, Davenport, was arrested March 5 and charged with second-degree burglary, petit larceny and third-degree criminal trespass. A court appearance is scheduled in Harpersfield Town Court.

- **John Mahler**, 36, Walton, was arrested March 18 and charged with fourth-degree criminal mischief and trespass. Mahler was issued an appearance ticket to answer the charges in Walton Village Court.

- **Lawrence Peloso**, 65, Mount Upton, was arrested March 24 and charged with driving while intoxicated, moving from lane unsafely, and speed not reasonable, following a one car motor vehicle crash in Sidney. Peloso was issued an appearance ticket to answer the charges in Sidney Town Court.

Walton Police Department

- **Christopher Charles**, 50, Bronx, was arrested on March 2 and charged with third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, following too closely, operating an unregistered motor vehicle, driving without a license, operating a motor vehicle with no insurance, and improper license plates. Charles was issued an appearance ticket to answer the charges in Walton

Village Court.

- **Shaun Carman**, 32, Walton, was arrested March 13 and charged with third-degree criminal sale of a firearm and criminal possession of a firearm. He is being held at the Delaware County Jail on other charges.

- **Austin A. Conway**, 19, Walton, was arrested March 17 and charged with first-degree disseminating indecent material to a minor, tampering with physical evidence, sexual misconduct, endangering the welfare of a child and obstruction of governmental administration. Conway was released on recognizance to answer the charges in Walton Village Justice Court.

- **Russell J. Smith Jr.**, 21, Walton, was arrested March 17 and was charged with first-degree rape, second-degree obstruction of governmental administration, sexual misconduct and endangering the welfare of a child. Smith was released on recognizance to answer the charges in Walton Village Court.

- **Donald A. Kern**, 34, Walton, was arrested March 17 and charged with second-degree criminal contempt. Kern was released on recognizance to answer the charges in Walton Village Justice Court.

Otsego County Sheriff's Office

- **Walter F. Currie Jr.**, 60, Franklin, was arrested March 21 and charged with suspended registration. Currie was issued an appearance ticket to Oneonta Town Court to answer the charge.

Sidney Police Department

- **Jose L. Rodriguez**, 33, Sidney, was arrested March 15 and charged with third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

- **Kelley Bennett-Yang**, 51, Sidney, was arrested March 16 and charged with fourth-degree criminal mischief, second-degree harassment and two counts of second-degree obstruction of government administration.

- **Cheyenne N. Strong**, 29, Sidney, was arrested March 7 and charged with third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, suspended registration and a Sidney Village Court warrant for failure to appear.

- **Peter Barilli**, 74, Bainbridge, was arrested March 18 and charged with suspended registration.

- **Gerald C. Schmitt**, 44, Norwich, was arrested March 19 and charged with suspended registration.

OPINION

GUEST COMMENTARY

‘Everyone Complains about the Weather..’

By Art Siegel

Mark Twain’s well known adage, “Everyone complains about the weather but no one does anything about it,” has found many analogous applications for more than a century, but perhaps none more appropriate than those who would use it to describe our nation’s porous borders. If we think of Twain’s “Everyone complains about the weather” as America’s so-called “border crisis,” we may think of decades-long federal administrations and congresses as Twain’s, “no one does anything about it.” Commentaries related to the nation’s immigration policies date back to Benjamin Franklin and our 13 British colonies. Many European immigrants abandoned 17th, 18th and 19th century Europe to find a new, more abundant life and accessible fertile land in America. Yet, as early as the 1750s, Benjamin Franklin could foresee a crowded America bereft of economic opportunities.

Franklin’s essay, (1751), “Observations Concerning the Increase of Mankind, Peopling of Countries, etc.,” recommends that an overcrowded England send more of their subjects to its American colonies to grow into a much greater and more influential England. He correctly reasoned that population in the colonies grows exponentially (doubles) every 25 years and would soon be greater than that of the mother country. Nevertheless, Franklin recognized the limits to growth even before it had begun because of his observation of Europe’s limited economic opportunity for 90% of Europe’s population. Fertile agricultural land was the primary measure of

wealth in 18th and 19th century Europe. Early 19th century novelists Jane Austin and Honore’ de Balzac incidentally describe wealth according to land ownership and its wealth accumulating and income earning potential. Only 10% of Western European society could own enough productive land to achieve financial security and a life of abundance and dignity. In spite of the fact that wealth is much greater in the U.S. today for virtually everyone than any colonial American could have imagined, the pattern of wealth distribution today is disturbingly similar to that of 19th century Europe.

In 2019, according to the Federal Reserve Board, approximately 76% of U.S. accumulated wealth belongs to only 10% of U.S. population. Presciently, Franklin forewarned that the limit to economic expansion reached in Europe but not in America in the 18th century, should stabilize in America when the “crowding and interfering with each other’s means of subsistence finally occurs.” This last concept would inspire Thomas Malthus, late 18th century political economist, to write his dire “Malthusian” inevitable overpopulation growth and starvation observations (1798, “Principle of Population”).

In 1965, the 89th Congress passed the Immigration and Nationality Act and President Lyndon Baines Johnson signed it into law. This act succeeded the long held immigration National Origins Formula (1924). The “National Origins Formula” admitted a strictly limited number of immigrants based on the percentages of citizens representing the current population of each resident national origin. This formula was designed to preserve

the current mix of nationalities. This period was marked by relatively low annual immigration (an average of 231,000 between 1920 and 1970).

Since 1965, the number of immigrants has steadily grown, both legal and illegal. According to the Dept. of Homeland Security, 2.6 million immigrants came to live and/or work in the U.S. (2022), the largest number in American history. In 2023, federal officials encountered 2.1 million unauthorized arrivals. Since 1970, U.S. population has grown from 217 million to 336 million today, primarily immigrant driven. One essential question related to this record flow of immigrants comes to mind.

If immigration policy should first serve the welfare of the receiving nation, how well is current U.S. immigration policy influencing American environmental/economic sustainability and quality of life: food security, housing security (homelessness), educational opportunities and medical services, to name only a handful of the most serious quality of life issues? Since 1970, land per capita of every description and resource potential has declined by 65% as well as access to our nation’s nationally elected officials which has remained essentially static since Alaska was admitted as the 50th state in the union in 1959 (the Congress limited the number of House of Representatives at 435 in 1911). Nationwide, according to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 650,000 are homeless today as compared to 228,000 in 1990 and 18,000 died last year as a result, almost as many as the 19,000 Americans who died of gun murder in 2022. Housing costs in inflation-adjusted dollars has doubled since 1970 and home equity has declined in recent years. U.S. Census Bureau reports of homeownership rates indicate little increase from 1960 (62%) to 2022 (65%). Forty million Americans are moderately or severely food insecure. Limited-English-Proficiency (LEP) students number 10 million in spite of teacher shortages and strained local school budgets. National worker productivity has increased 300% but U.S. workers benefited by only 20%- 50%. While Americans without health insurance has decreased recently, 8% of Americans are still without health insurance and many more are inadequately covered. If mass immigration is ameliorating any of the above socio-economic pathologies, the American people need a detailed explanation of precisely how this has been achieved. Please, no hackneyed expressions: “This is a nation of immigrants” or vague, feckless offers of “comprehensive immigration reform.” Actually, in October 2023, the Census Bureau’s Current Population Survey shows that the foreign-born population reached 49.5 million, 15% of U.S. population, the highest in U.S. history. Yet, 85% of Americans are still native born.

Ultimately, both Democrats and most Republicans have neither the consciousness, nor the will to end mass immigration. Those significant minorities of Republicans who do vigorously oppose mass immigration rarely invoke the strongest reason to oppose it - it is the environment, stupid. That is not so surprising. The League of Conservation Voters, year after year, point to the failure of most Republicans to support environmental legislation. Republican laissez faire, supply-side economics is consistent with opposition to perceived environmental legislative interference with what environmentalists call “the hegemony of growth.” Democrats have grown to believe literally and/or philosophically that all eight billion people on this planet have a God-given right to settle in America (U.S. population 1950, 150 million, 2023, 336 million). Current

immigration policy is now an integral part of our culture but even if mass immigration has any genuine economic advantage, it is an environmentally/economically unsustainable addiction. Concern about the difference between legal and illegal is clearly valid but immigration is far more about numbers than documentation and a balance between our limited productive environment and our rapidly expanding population (25 million/decade or the equivalent of three New York Cities). One New York City alone built six reservoirs in the Catskill region, three more New York Cities in the next decade alone will need 18 more reservoirs in someone else’s agricultural/forested backyard. Moreover, according to the United Nation Global Footprint Network, the globally available hectares per person (gha/person) for sustainable development are 1.6 gha of biologically productive surface area. A hectare = 2.49 acres. The U.S. has a per capita bio-capacity of 3.76 gha but an actual footprint of 8.2 gha. Therefore, the U.S. is excessively bio-capacity-dependent and economically and environmentally unsustainable and “the hegemony of growth” is tantamount to an environmental Ponzi scheme. In 1960, the U.S. could boast almost 2.5 acres of arable land per capita, today that figure has declined by 50% (1.25 acres). The U.S. currently consumes 25% of global goods and services, owns 30% of the world’s accumulated wealth, receives 25% of global income and 13% of all global imports. Yet, we are only 4.6% of the world’s population. Our current environmental footprint exceeds more than 200% of our own land area. For these reasons, please consider in some detail why America needs more citizens from a world growing by one billion every twelve years (95% in the third world), in an already grossly unsustainable national and global environment.

Can the U.S. humanely close its borders if it wished? Yes, if it wished. It could start raising its foreign aid from, shamefully, the lowest (percent of GDP) among the next 27 more generous but less wealthy countries to reduce the “push” factor of desperately poor people to leave their economically declining native land. Two billion people have no access to clean, potable water (diarrhea, dysentery, cholera, typhoid and polio); almost one billion are desperately food insecure, two billion do not have even rudimentary sanitary facilities, three billion people earn less than \$5/day. The U.S. could simply vigorously enforce current immigration law and reintroduce “remain in Mexico” style policies. We could revise outdated 14th amendment articles provided to

ensure U.S. citizenship to newly emancipated slaves which currently allow foreigners to establish residency by giving birth to “anchor babies” in the U.S. These measures alone would more economically ameliorate life-threatening immigrant journeys across inhospitable territories, by-pass catch-and-release, detention/imprisonment, family separation and enhance national security. We may need a “wall”; but we definitely need a WILL.

Mark Twain knew very well that no one can “do anything about the weather.” Nevertheless, he knew that we could do much about many other things. He cleverly wrote his humorous remark, “Everyone talks about the weather..” to mask his ridicule for those who do little or nothing about everything. Until we understand the primary reasons for an end to mass immigration everyone will “complain about the weather but no one will do anything about it.”

The mantra, “a nation of immigrants” is currently an integral part of the American Zeitgeist (spirit of the times). Many would say that I am on the wrong side of history and social science. In some globalist, moralist, self-sacrificing sense, perhaps I am, yet I prefer to stand on the side of common sense, the “whole truth” and the quality of American life.



Art Siegel resides and works on his tree farm in Walton. Sustainable and productive stewardship are his primary goals. He earned a bachelor of science in biology, a master of science in education at Wagner College and a master of science in school administration at the City University of New York. Art is a retired English teacher and dean of students, certified tree farmer with the National Tree Farm System, Master Forest Owner and filmmaker (EmArt Productions Ltd). He is producer of the films, “Parcelizing the Catskills and the Boiled Frog Syndrome”, “Once Upon a Time on Staten Island”, “Staten Island, Then and Now”, “No Requiem for Mt. Manresa” and “Escape from the Holocaust.” Art produced two more documentary film titles about pilots of the Eighth and Ninth United States Army Air Force (USAAF) in the European Theatre of War during WWII.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Facts on our border

The Democrats seem to be of the political opinion that the Republicans don’t care about the struggle in the Ukraine. The Republicans are in support of a negotiated peace between Russia and Ukraine. We are not committed to an open ended proxy war. We Americans are willing to give another \$60 billion to protect the borders of Ukraine, but only if we defend and protect our own southern border at the same time. CLOSE THE BORDER. That is what the American voters want from the Republican House.

Biden rescinded over 90 of Trump’s border policies when he took office, thereby opening the boarder. Now he says the border is broken and he needs the Republicans to pass the senate Border Bill. The truth is he does not need a bill or congress to close the border. He has the authority invested in him by the Constitution. Article 4 section 4 “The Federal Government shall protect each state against invasion.” This is about invasion and against domestic violence, some 10 million have crossed the border in the last three years. (Customs and Border Protection website)

The truth is Biden does not want to close the border. The Democrats are trying to convince you, the independent voters, that we Republicans do not want to pass the Senate Bill. Is that true?

Reasons WHY:

1. The bill would only be good for three years. It gives the authority to Customs and Border Protection to expel illegal aliens back across the border only during extraordinary migration emergency.

2. The emergency is at the discretion of Customs and Border Protection. (Biden, Moyorkas)

3. If the Customs and Border Protection encounters 5,000 illegal aliens per day for seven days the boarder will be closed temporarily, until 35,000 are processed.

4. If catch and release is passed into law, families will have to be released without supervision.

5. Children cannot be kept in detention for more than 20 days. This would encourage more children going through the system to get lost. (85,000 migrant kids are missing, not accounted for under the Biden Administration.)

6. Requiring the taxpayer to fund deportation defense attorney.

These are just some of the fundamentals of this bill, there are more.

Biden opened the border without the consent of the American people. Thereby creating the only country in the world with an open border. So why does he want to keep the border open at such a great loss of lives, robbery, rape, drugs, child slavery, and more...

The Democratic strategy is that these illegals are cheap labor and will become citizens on the Democratic fast track and vote for Democratic candidates to keep them in power.

If we don’t VOTE Biden’s woke administration out of office, we could be looking at 15 to 20 million more “illegals” by Jan. 20, 2029.

So don’t be fooled again - we can’t afford it. Vote with us if only this one time.

KURT HOLCHERR
FLEISCHMANN

The Reporter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must include the writer’s name, address and phone number for verification, but only the writer’s name and town of residence will be printed. Letters to the editor are not to be used as a community calendar. The Reporter reserves the right to edit letters for length and / or content. Letters deemed inappropriate will be rejected. Opinions expressed in this section do not necessarily reflect those of The Reporter. Endorsement letters for political candidates are not accepted and are considered paid advertisements. A paid endorsement notice can be purchased in three sizes: 50 words or less for \$15; 51-175 word endorsement - \$50 or 176-300 words for \$75. Submit letters by email to editor@The-Reporter.net or by U.S. mail to 39 Elm St., Delhi, NY 13753

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Weather Words with Frank Ward

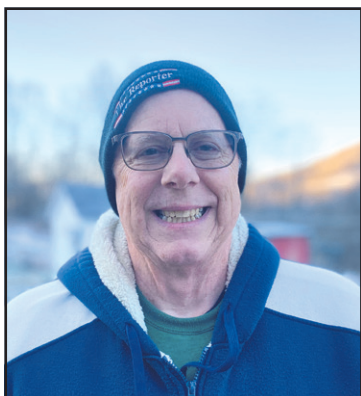
Strange weather

“Last Thursday, March 21, it started out at 19 degrees and rose to 28. We had flurries and lake-affect snow. When Friday, March 22 arrived, it started at 16 degrees, but by 10 o'clock the sky was all cloudy, and we were put under a winter storm advisory overnight and into the next day.

We woke up on Saturday morning, March 23 and we had two inches of snow on the ground. It was 30 degrees and we had freezing rain, which then changed to sleet.

We then changed to rain which melted all the snow. But by 1 o'clock in the afternoon the rain changed back to snow and gave us two more inches.

And then the temperature fell, and everything that was wet and soggy froze. Sunday, March 24 started at 13 degrees, rose to 34 and it was sunny. All the snow melted. And then we had Monday, March 25 which was 17 degrees, but by afternoon it was 54. Tuesday, March 26, wasn't to be believed. It started at 25 degrees and went all the way to 61 degrees in the afternoon. We were running around in T-shirts feeling sweaty out there. Wednesday it started at 40 degrees and we got rain. We can add that rain to our total of 5.51 inches for the month, but once that all clears out, we'll



file photo
Walton Weather Observer
Frank Ward

have a couple of cool days in the low 40s but the holiday weekend will be back up in the upper 40s and low 50s, and it should be sunny. So, all in all, I wish this would straighten itself out because you don't even know what to dress in anymore because you dress up for cold weather in the morning and by afternoon it's like 'Oh I can't believe it's this warm out there!' Spring does that occasionally. It'll probably straighten itself out.

So enjoy your holiday.” ~ Frank Ward

Weather Words with Frank Ward FREE video forecast and summary reports can be found at the-reporter.net on Mondays and Thursdays, and on The Reporter's Facebook page.

Catskills Commerce

3 copywriting tips That AI doesn't use

By Ray Pucci

AI is masterful at sentence construction and grammar, but can it convince your audience to buy from you? Not like these three copywriting tactics can.

Think about how your audience speaks

When writing copy, you want to match your language use to how your target audience speaks and how they would search for you. For instance, are there slang references for your business or product that they would use? Incorporate that in your headings and blog posts. When reading (or skimming) the content of your site, you want them to think — they are just like me.

Use a conversational tone

Building on the suggestion above, think about writing the way your audience would speak about your product or service. For instance, you may choose to write “We have many delicious options in our bakery including cookies, cakes, and pies.” That's a lot of words that don't do anything. People just want to know what you have at your bakery. So,

make it punchy and don't think about your elementary school teacher reading it. Consider, instead, “Cakes, cookies, and pies worth blowing your diet over.” This works because it places what your audience may be wondering — what do they sell? — at the beginning and ends with an endorsement. **Address what's in it for them**

If you do nothing else on your website, follow this one tip. Write from the point of what's in it for your target audience —as they would perceive it, not what you think is the reason they should care.

What do you read in your reviews? What do customers tell you? When someone raves about you, what are they saying? Use that language to derive what they see as the benefit to what you're selling.

Get creative. Don't just write what you do. That's not the true benefit. Instead, ask “How does what you do make them feel better?”

If you clean carpets, for instance, and your company has a sense of humor that your audience enjoys, you might write:

“Carpets so clean your mother-in-law will have to find something else to complain about.” It's memorable, it's identifiable, and it will resonate with your target market when they think, yeah, I'm tired of her judging me. I'm going to call this company. I need this.

AI is amazing for gathering your thoughts, outlining, and writing simple pieces. It's also a great place to start for blogs and website content. However, AI is not yet capable of understanding the subtle nuances and creative approaches that will get your audience talking about you. Until the machines take over, business needs good copywriting, and these tips will help get you there.

Ray Pucci is the president of the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce. The Delaware County Chamber of Commerce believes that healthy communities begin with prosperous businesses. By taking action in key areas - ADVOCATE, CONNECT, and GROW - we are the unified voice of business for the improvement of our communities. Visit delawarecounty.org for more information.

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<p>2022 Ram 2500 Gray, 38,500 mi., 8, Diesel, 4x4, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, Sat Radio, Prev. Rental \$47,975 \$803/72 mos.</p>	<p>2021 Ford F-250 XLT Black, 46,100 mi., 8, Auto, Loaded, 4x4, Back up Cam, Sat Radio, 1 Owner, Prev. Rental \$44,200 \$740/72 mos.</p>	<p>2021 Ram 1500 Warlock Blue, 17,200 mi., 6, Auto, Loaded, 4x4, Aux, Back up cam, Tow, Sat Radio \$33,975 \$581/72 mos.</p>	<p>2020 Chevrolet Silverado Blue, 43,600 mi., 8, Auto, Loaded, Back up, BT, Lifted \$38,975 \$667/72 mos.</p>	<p>2019 Ram 1500 Black, 43,800 mi., 8, auto, 4x4, Loaded, Back up cam, Bed liner, Sat Radio \$29,975 \$513/72 mos.</p>	<p>2017 Chevrolet Silverado LT Red, 32,700 mi., 8, Auto, 4x4, Loaded, Back up Cam, HS, Rem. Start, Sat. Radio, Tow Pkg \$28,975 \$555/66 mos.</p>
<p>2023 Hyundai Santa Cruz Grey, 8,200 mi., 4, auto, Load, AWD, Back up Cam, HS, Sun roof \$34,975 \$585/72 mos.</p>	<p>2023 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross SE Silver, 5,300 mi., 4, Auto, AWD, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, HS, NAV, 1 Owner \$26,975 \$451/72 mos.</p>	<p>2017 Acura RDX White, 59,500 mi., 6, Auto, AWD, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, HS, Lthr, Sun Rf, Sat Radio \$22,475 \$430/66 mos.</p>	<p>2021 Jeep Grand Cherokee Blue, 19,200 mi., 6, Auto, 4x4, Loaded, Lthr, Back up Cam, HS, HSW, Sat Radio, 1 owner \$36,975 \$632/72 mos.</p>	<p>2022 Buick Encore Silver, 32,200 mi., 4, Auto, AWD, Loaded, Back up Cam, Rem. Start, Sat. Radio, 1 Owner! \$22,675 \$379/72 mos.</p>	<p>2022 Subaru Outback Charcoal, 79,300 mi., 4, Auto, Loaded, AWD, HS, Back up Cam, Sat Radio \$24,975 \$417/72 mos.</p>
<p>2020 Mitsubishi Outlander SEL Silver, 60,800 mi., 4, Auto, AWD, Loaded, HS, BT, Back up Cam, Sat Radio, Prev. Rental \$20,475 \$349/72 mos.</p>	<p>2020 Jeep Wrangler JK Sport White, 69,300 mi., 6, Auto, 4x4, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, PW \$29,475 \$504/72 mos.</p>	<p>2020 Mitsubishi Outlander EV Hybrid White, 27,700 mi., 4, Auto, 4x4, Loaded, Back up Cam, HS, Lthr Seats, Sat Radio, 1 Owner \$24,475 \$418/72 mos.</p>	<p>2019 Chevrolet Trax LT Bronze, 46,400 mi., 4, Auto, AWD, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, Lthr Seats, Rem Start, Sat Radio \$19,975 \$341/72 mos.</p>	<p>2019 Subaru Outback Red, 86,800 mi., 4, Auto, AWD, Loaded, Back up Cam, PS, HS, Lthr, Sat. Radio, Snrf \$21,975 \$376/72 mos.</p>	<p>2021 Jeep Cherokee Orange, 32,000 mi., 6, Auto, 4x4, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, HS, HSW, Lthr Seats, Rem Start, Sat Radio, 1 owner \$29,975 \$512/72 mos.</p>
<p>2014 Nissan Sentra Grey, 120,616 mi., 4, Auto, Loaded \$9,975 \$241/48 mos.</p>	<p>2018 Dodge Durango GT White, 57,500 mi., 6, Auto, AWD, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, HS, HSW, NAV, Sat Radio, Lthr, Sun Roof \$25,975 \$452/72 mos.</p>	<p>2018 Chevrolet Malibu Gray, 47,100 mi., 4, Auto, Loaded, AW, Back up Cam \$18,200 \$316/72 mos.</p>	<p>2020 Hyundai Elantra Red, 62,700 mi., 4, Auto, Loaded, BT, Back up Cam, Sat Radio, Prev. Rental \$16,475 \$282/72 mos.</p>	<p>2023 Chrysler Pacifica Touring Black, 13,300 mi., 6, Auto, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, HS, HSW, Lthr Seats, Rem Start, Sat Radio, Prev. Rental \$37,975 \$635/72 mos.</p>	<p>2022 Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid Gray, 62,500 mi., 6, Auto, Loaded, Back up Cam, BT, HS, HSW, NAV, Lthr Seats, Rem Start, Sat Radio, Prev. Rental \$26,775 \$448/72 mos.</p>

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IT'S Academic

Margaretville students earn gold at leader conference

MCS advisor honored with state award

By J. Lawrence-Bauer

MARGARETVILLE - Fourteen Margaretville Central School Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Chapter students traveled to the New York State Leadership Conference at the Villa Roma Resort in Sullivan County. Before it was over, all nine presenting students earned medals, accumulating two gold medals, one silver medal and three bronze medals in individual or team competitions. Four of the chapter members were invited to travel to Seattle, Washington in June to participate in the FCCLA National Conference.

Dove Karn, the veteran home and careers teacher who serves as advisor to the group - and lead chaperone - was honored with "The Spirit of Advising" state award. The award recognizes a chapter advisor who "is consistently, faithfully and often quietly



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Amelia Marks shows off the gold after winning a medal at the NYS FCCLA Leadership Conference in Sullivan County last week. Marks was one of four MCS students invited to travel to the national conference in Seattle, Washington in June, based on the quality of her presentation at the state conference.

working behind the scenes to ensure the success of the students." Karn, whose chapter has grown in recent years, said that taking 14 students to the conference set a new school record for attendance. Of those, nine students actually competed for medals, which was also a school record. Karn was joined at the event by chaperones Tim Joedicke and Julia Marks.

chip cookies that made the cookies a healthier treat than traditional recipes.

Silver medals were awarded to Avery Fairbairn and Madison Rizzo who competed as a team in the repurpose and redesign category, in which they redesigned a piece of clothing. Based on their scores, Van Benschoten, Marks, Fairbairn and Rizzo earned invitations to compete at the nation-



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

LilliAnn Van Benschoten waited last week to make a formal presentation of her fashion construction project to judges at the NYS FCCLA Leadership Conference. Van Benschoten, who designed and constructed the ball gown she presented earned a gold medal and an invitation to the national conference for her efforts.

Gold medalists in judging included LilliAnn Van Benschoten in the fashion construction division and Amelia Marks who entered in the food innovation category. Van Benschoten designed and made a ball gown which she not only used as her contest entry but also then wore to the masquerade ball held for attendees on Thursday evening. Marks won her gold for the development of a unique new recipe for chocolate

al level conference this June.

First time attendee Addison Passarelli grabbed a bronze medal for a project in the focus on children category. Her presentation, titled "Walk a Mile in My Shoes" featured a major project she developed and deployed introducing second grade students to the topic of career exploration through a multi-media presentation. Gabriella Sines and MacKenzie Hubbell, also first time



contributed photo

Fourteen MCS students and their FCCLA Advisor Dove Karn spent three days at the Villa Roma Resort in Sullivan County last week to attend the leadership conference themed "Branching Out." Front row, from left are Madison Rizzo, Angel Garcia-Jimenez, LilliAnn Van Benschoten and Addison Passarelli. Second row from left are Avery Fairbairn, Grace Fairbairn, Amelia Marks, and Aurora Riley. Third row from left are Julia Salazar Balcom, Joey Brybag, River Williams and Gabriella Sines. Fourth row from left, Taylor Hubbell, MacKenzie Hubbell and chapter advisor Dove Karn.



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Avery Fairbairn and Madison Rizzo showed off their silver medal for the team competition they entered in the repurpose and redesign category at the NYS FCCLA Leadership Conference last week. The pair joined 12 schoolmates and three chaperons at the three day event.

competitors, competed as a team in the sports nutrition category having designed a nutritional plan for a skier and a basketball player to improve their nutrition for better performance. Like Passarelli, they earned a bronze medal. Aurora Riley and River Williams also earned bronze medals competing as a team in the culinary arts category as they prepared food dishes before a panel of judges.

In addition to the medalists, MCS students attending the state conference included Angel Garcia-Jimenez, Taylor Hubbell, Julia Salazar Balcom, Joey Bry-

bag, and Grace Fairbarin who did not enter the STAR competitions. Van Benschoten and Marks, both junior leaders in the state organization, completed their terms as leaders and are now eligible to become officer-elects at the national level.

More than 178 students from around the state attended the annual conference with 120 of them actually competing in the STAR events. In order to compete at the national conference in June, students will now have to create a variety of fundraising projects to raise money for their air fare and hotels.

Musical performer visits Delaware Academy



contributed photo

Students enjoyed interacting with performer Jordan Taylor Hill, who was teaching them to play traditional African drums.

Delaware Academy elementary students got a musical start to their day Friday, March 22, when performer Jordan Taylor Hill visited the school, introducing them to traditional African drumming and dance. Over the course of the morning, students from pre-kindergarten through grade 5 joined Hill for a musical experience that included song, dance and lots of

drumming. Hill brought a number of different African drums with him, and demonstrated the way each can be played to make different sounds. But it wasn't all drumming - Hill also sang, performing some original songs, and demonstrated traditional African dance movements. Students got to learn how to play the drums as

well, taking turns playing along with Hill, and all joined in some simple traditional dancing and singing.

The visit was arranged by elementary music teacher Nicole Buel, funded by grants from W.I.D.E. (Womxm for Inclusion, Diversity & Equity) and the West Kortright Centre.

College and career fair at SUNY Delhi April 10

The Delaware County Counselor's Association will host the annual Delaware County College and Career Fair from 9-11 a.m. Thursday, April 10 at SUNY Delhi in the Clark Field House.

The College and Career Fair

will feature representatives from more than 50 colleges, technical schools, local employers, and the military - all under the same roof. This is a great opportunity to meet and connect with admissions and career representatives.

For more information about the Delaware County Counselors Association College and Career Fair and to receive the complete list of colleges that will participate contact Jefferson Central School at 607-652-7821, ext 119.

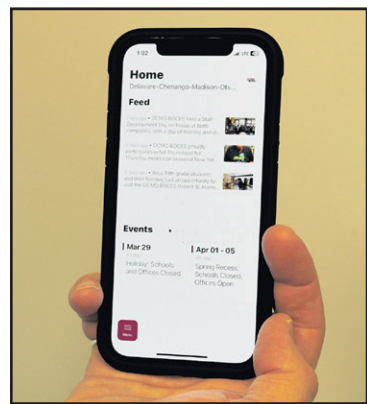
DCMO BOCES launches mobile app

DCMO BOCES is launching a new mobile app to help students, parents, and community members know what is happening on campus from their phones.

According to DCMO BOCES Director of Services Bob Avery most families use their phones as a primary means of communication, so this app will bring many of the features of our website right to their phone, in a convenient and efficient form optimized for smartphones and other mobile devices.

On the app, students, parents, and community can read the latest announcements, learn about programs and services that DCMO offers, review upcoming events, and find important documents.

The DCMO BOCES app is available to download free



contributed

The new DCMO BOCES mobile app allows users to stay up-to-date with school announcements, learn about upcoming events and access information quickly.

from the Apple App Store or the Google Play store.

For more information visit www.dcmoboces.com

IT'S Academic

Golden moment: WCS presents Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory

WALTON - The Walton Central School Music Department presented its 2024 performance, a dazzling rendition of "Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory." With a burst of musical and acting talent, students transformed the stage into a whimsical world

where the magic of Roald Dahl's classic tale came to life.

Audiences of all ages enjoyed the performance Friday, March 22 and Saturday, March 23, with a special senior citizen-only performance Thursday, March 21.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter

Willy Wonka played by Eli Williams reacts after Mike Teevee was shrunk during Walton Central School's performance of Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Saturday, March 23.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter

Charlie Bucket, played by David Gatchalian, and Grandpa Joe, played by Derek Basile float away during Willy Wonka Saturday, March 23.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter

The Oompa-Loompas perform during Willy Wonka Saturday, March 23.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter

From left, Augustus Gloop played by Jacob Morse, Mrs. Gloop played by Kahrin Vesterfelt, and Penelope Trout played by Leila Pedro, perform Saturday, March 23.

REPORTER CROSSWORD

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Database management system
- 5. Medical procedures
- 11. ___ Clapton, musician
- 12. Defender
- 16. Exert oneself
- 17. Indicates position
- 18. Quay
- 19. Atrocities
- 24. A way to address an adult man
- 25. Ends
- 26. Unable
- 27. Taxi
- 28. Gratuities
- 29. A famous train station
- 30. Japanese persimmon
- 31. Sours
- 33. Beneficiary
- 34. Baseball official
- 38. Confused situation
- 39. Unworldly
- 40. Yemen capital
- 43. Type of soil
- 44. Beloved beverage ___-Cola
- 45. Lying down
- 49. ___ Angeles
- 50. Fail to amuse
- 51. Collapsible shelter
- 53. Commercial
- 54. Taste property
- 56. Lordship's jurisdictions
- 58. It cools your home
- 59. Dismounted
- 60. Charge in a court of law
- 63. One less than one
- 64. Spoke
- 65. Famed garden

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Show a picture of
- 2. Small sultanate
- 3. Unfortunate incident
- 4. A way to ski
- 5. Abba __, Israeli politician
- 6. Observed
- 7. "Westworld" actor Harris
- 8. Belonging to me
- 9. Shoelace tube
- 10. Takes to civil court
- 13. Early multimedia
- 14. Produces anew
- 15. Horse races
- 20. Of I
- 21. Equally
- 22. Changes color
- 23. A place to stay
- 27. Town in Galilee
- 29. Mathematical figure
- 30. Klingon character
- 31. They ___
- 32. Atomic #58
- 33. Showed up extinct
- 34. Loosen grip
- 35. Unpleasant smell
- 36. Innermost membranes enveloping the brain
- 37. Esteemed college "league"
- 38. Partner to Pa
- 40. Small American rail
- 41. A salt or ester of acetic acid
- 42. Sodium
- 44. Military figure (abbr.)
- 45. Lighted
- 46. Paid to get out of jail
- 47. All of something
- 48. Ohio city
- 50. More abject
- 51. A radio band
- 52. Scientific development (abbr.)
- 54. Monetary unit
- 55. Scored perfectly
- 57. A punch to end a fight
- 61. The Golden State (abbr.)
- 62. The Beehive State (abbr.)

Solution to last week's puzzle on page 15

WCS honor rolls

The Walton Central School guidance department has announced its fifth marking period honor rolls for the 2023-2024 school year.

Students on the **superintendent's list** have achieved averages between 95% and 100% and include:

Grade 12: Mackenzie Backus, Kylee Carlson, Kyndra Church, Isabelle Driscoll, Joseph Fay, Eve Foster, David Gatchalian, Caroline Gorence, Jonica Green, Devin Gregory

Seth Hunter, Makenna MacGibbon, Colby Phraner, Ella Rhinehart, Christopher Swiatek, Allene Vesterfelt, Monica Wright, Isabella Yetto.

Grade 11: Jordan Covey, Maxwell Dutcher, Olivia Hulse, Elijah Jones, Evan Koji, William Neske, Arianna Rosario Encarnacion, Aurora Siniscalchi, Daniel Sullivan, Addyson Trimbell, Reese Underwood, Addison Yetto.

Grade 10: Olivia Bartlett, Aiden Branigan, Chasidy Constable, Abigail Doig, Matthew Eisele, Katelynn Gregory, Gavin Harrington, James Koji, Maddox Little, Killian McGowan, Carter McNamara, Leila Pedro, Lucas Rice, Caden Scofield, Addalyn Strub, Arwen Tracey, Layne VanValkenburg, Kahrin Vesterfelt, Elijah Williams, Delana Wood.

Grade 9: Lucas Carr, Olivia Conklin, Raegan Foster, Kath-

erine Gorence, Aubrie Green, Ethan Hall, Natalie Hoffman, Marcus Marano, Maisey Rhinehart, Samuel Smith, Ryder Stone, Kai Storrer, Grace Walley, Tyler Yakalis.

Students on the **principal's list** have achieved averages between 90% and 94% and include:

Grade 12: Dominick Armstrong, Lacey Bailey, Keagan Barnes, Arianna Bohle, Kaiden Kirkland, Colton Lum, Kylie McLachlan, Meka Merwin, Trent Sparling.

Grade 11: J.R. Allen Jr., Paige Barriger, Ella Beardslee, Aiden Chambers, Cadence Clark, Jayden Hoffmeister, Brody Moore, Jacob Morse, Caragh O'Connor, Coralee Schwartz, Anthony Soto, Emma Thomson, Timothy Tweedie Jr.

Grade 10: Gianna Armstrong, Olivia Barnes, Christopher Cafery Jr., Nathaniel Harrington, Reid Jackson, Delaney Kilmurray, Lilyanna Klinegardner, Nia LeRouge, Angelas Mills, Alaina Muller, John Napoleone, Grayson Palmer, Angel Roach, Hayden Robinson, Lo Robinson, Maddisen Scofield, Alyson Star, Kylie Wood.

Grade 9: Izabella Armstrong, Johnny Ball, Samantha Barnes, Elias Bayne, Sapphira Boycott, Evelyn Brooker, Aidan Bush, Parker Crough, Michael Hunter, Payton Landry, Anderson McEn-

tee, Jaedyn Roloson, Joshua Smith, Justin Somers, Dylan Stanton, Tripp Taylor.

Students on the **honor roll** have achieved averages between 85% and 89% and include:

Grade 12: Troy Angevine, Akyra Barriger, Aireonna Beardlee, Emilie Bregenborg, Jayden Burns, Larissa Hulse, Nicholas Sarrantonio, James Seward, Noah Tompkins-Covell.

Grade 11: Camden Endress, Ulani Ford, Raleigh Gardepe, Peyton Pettit, Christopher Schamber, Jaden Serra, Amelia Somers, Madison VanFossen, Damien Watson, Emma Wood.

Grade 10: Chayce Albanese, Maddison Barnes, Riley Bouldanger, Blair Brown, Ella Campbell, London Gardner, Joshua Gladstone, Michael Johnson, Caleb Kingsbury, Phade Lindsay, Gwynavere Northrup, Gianna Pagan, Kyle Schamber, Carson Scofield, Darrin Walley, Hayleigh Weil, Kyle Wickham, Ethan Wilber, Tenlei Wood.

Grade 9: Lorelai Angevine, Jayden Campbell, Lillian Conrow, Kraygin Constable, Shayden Covell, Karley Davidson, Lucas Furgeson, Ryan Gardepe, Dawson Gregory, Corey Hannold, Cale MacNeill, Karlee McClean, Nicole McLachlan, Kaya Stanton.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

MURAL annual student exhibit opens April 6



MURAL on Main Art Gallery in Hobart will host an opening reception for its annual student exhibit Saturday, April 6 from 2-4 p.m. The exhibit will run through May 5 at the gallery space in the

heart of the book village, 631 Main Street, Hobart.

A variety of works by local students will explore the 2024 theme - Perspectives: Exploration and the Creative Experience through

Line, Color, Shape and Composition.

Participating students attend Stamford Central School, South Kortright Central School and Gilboa-Conesville Central School.

Catskill Public Theater to host stage warming in Roscoe

Catskill Public Theater will host a stage warming party Saturday, May 18, from 12 to 4 p.m. at Roscoe Fireman's Field. The event will mark the grand opening of the theater's brand-new, state-of-the-art mobile stage. The event ensures an enjoyable afternoon with live music, delicious food, and various craft vendors. Attendees can look forward to a memorable experience as they witness the unveiling of the Catskill Public Theater's newest contribution to arts scene.

Catskill Public Theater is dedicated to providing free, accessible, live theater experiences. In its inaugural year, the theater is proud to present "Terror," an

audience-interactive play set to captivate audiences during July. Delving into themes of justice and morality, "Terror" challenges viewers to determine the second half of the play by answering the question: Hero or Murderer? You decide! With a pay-what-you-can model, Catskill Public Theater ensures that quality entertainment remains within reach for members of the community.

For more information about Catskill Public Theater and its upcoming productions, visit www.catskillpublictheater.com or follow CPT on Facebook. catskillpublictheater@gmail.com or 844-PLAYS4U or 844-752-9748.

Genealogy program at Unadilla Library April 10

There will be a genealogy drop-in help program Wednesday, April 10, at the Unadilla Public Library, 193 Main Street, from 6 - 8 p.m.

Kathy Ouiment, with 40 years of genealogy research experience, will be available at the library to help with genealogy

questions, help research your ancestors, start your family tree and answer computer questions.

If more information is needed call or email Unadilla Public Library Director Irene Murphy; unadillalibrary@gmail.com; 607-369-3131.

2024 Delaware County Arts Grants awardees announced

The Roxbury Arts Group and the New York State Council on the Arts announced the 2024 grantees of the Delaware County Arts Grants. This regrant program, which supports individual artists, creative learning, and community arts grants, is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

The 2024 awardees are:

- The Hancock Community Education Foundation will offer a three-day workshop for 60 after-school program students in grades K-9 on Glass Mosaic Creation, taught by artist Emily Jablon.

- Arts Inn Collective presents the third annual H&R Vaudeville Variety Show featuring world music, local bands, theater, spoken word and more, Sunday, May 26, from 2:30-10:30 p.m. in Fleischmanns.

- Mountain Madness will present a free immersive theatrical event at Kirkside Park in Roxbury on Saturday, Aug. 3 at 6 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 4 at 2 p.m.

- The Colchester Historical Society will offer a Fun Family Event featuring the creation of historical games and crafts Saturday, Sept. 21 from 1-4 p.m. at the Shinhopple Memorial Center, Shinhopple.

- Pillow Fort Arts Center will offer a free series of meditative movement improvisations with NYC-based dance/performance collective Birdhouse Sunday, June 30 from 12-2 p.m. at Bushel Collective, followed by daily open rehearsals throughout the week from 9-11 a.m. at and a work-in-progress showing Saturday, July 6 at 1 p.m. at Pillow Fort Arts Center.

- Tritown Theatres will show a live musical performance of "Beauty and the Beast" featuring local, non-professional adult and child actors with a full, professional orchestra.

- Isabella Amstrup will lead a community Weaving Club at Bushel Collective from 2 to 5 p.m. June 15, June 29, July 13, July 27, Aug. 10, Aug. 24, Sept. 14, and Sept. 28 (this Saturday will be 10 a.m.-1 p.m.). There will be a culminating final exhibition on display from Sept. 27 through 30 at Bushel Collective that will engage the community in the exploration of weaving as practice.

- Ethan Fox will offer a series of free world drumming classes for the students of Roxbury Central Schools.

- Anna Sea will be showing a large, hand-built, hand-painted ceramics tile mural at the Stagecoach Run Art Festival July 6 and 7, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. both days, at her studio in the Franklin Guest House.

- Gloaming Project presents The Ballad Tree at Kirkside Park Pavilion in Roxbury Aug. 16 and 17 at 6:30 p.m. and Aug. 18 at 4

p.m. Inspired by Appalachian ballads - old English, Scottish, and Irish folk songs carried over to early North America - the ballads are presented through live music, song, dance, and puppetry.

- Catskills Old-time Music in the Mountains will host a series of monthly open jams at Wayside Cider taproom in Andes, starting Sunday, May 26 from 3-4:30 p.m. They are open to any stringed instrument players of any level wanting to play with others in a fun, inclusive atmosphere. The jam will start with a 30 minute workshop followed by a one-hour facilitated jam session.

- Rianna Pauline Starheim and her grandmother, Ruth Rose Many, will co-create artwork centered on intergenerational healing and their caregiving of each other. On Dec. 23, they will have an open house at their home to showcase the photos and essays created, along with other pieces of art created by their family.

- Peter Kleeman's Space Age Museum project will present a free exhibition in the Galli Curci Theater on Main Street, Margaretville. The exhibit will run May 31-July 9, open five weekends (noon to 4 p.m.) and by appointment weekdays. See 30+ human-size robot sculptures built between the 1930s and 1990s, showcasing the cultural history of the Space Age.

- The Hobart Rotary Club will present an afternoon and evening of free jazz, rock, and blues at the 2024 Sausage and Brew Festival.

- The annual Open Studios Tour, hosted by AMR Artists, July 26-28 opens the door for visitors to explore the personal spaces and processes of established and emerging artists through a self-driving tour of Delaware County.

- Emma Apicelli, in partnership with Land of Strangers, will offer three low-cost workshops on zine history and creation. A workshop for ages 10-17 will be held Saturday, June 29 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., and one for ages 18+ on will be held June 30 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. An exhibition of the finished works will be held July 6 from 3-5 p.m. Workshops and the exhibition will be held at the Carriage House in Stamford.

- In two workshops, Tabitha Gilmore-Barnes will guide 24 attendees through the excitement of dyeing locally sourced wools, using toxic-free jacquard acid dyes and indigo dye kit, at Birdsong Community Garden. The workshops will be held Sept. 13 and 20 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rain dates: Sept. 15 and 22.

- The Book of Awe Project by Kathleen Sweeney will entail a limited edition photo book, book launch and interdisciplinary arts exhibition at Diamond Hollow Books, Andes, in Spring 2024.

- ArtUp will collaborate with artist Gary Mayer to create a mural of various locales and points

of interest in Margaretville for Zada's on Main Street (and publication online), including hosting a community input session on the design at the ArtUp Gallery Saturday, May 4 from 12-4 p.m. and an unveiling celebration at Zada's Memorial Day, May 27 at 3 p.m.

- GG Stankiewicz will present Ecoscape, new paintings and works on artist-made paper inspired by the native plants and fungi living in the Delaware County landscape. It will be on view Oct. 5-Nov. 30 at the Sidney Memorial Public Library, with an opening reception Saturday, Oct. 5, from 1-3 p.m. and closing reception with an artist talk Saturday, Nov. 30, 1-3 p.m.

- "Folk Art in Fiber," Catskills Folk Connection's biennial traditional arts exhibit, with demonstrations and a workshop series, offers a display of works by traditional Delaware County quilters, weavers, spinners, and needle workers, from Oct. 18 through Nov. 24 at the Delaware County Historical Association in Delhi.

- Maintenance of the Species (MotS) is a publication/zine that will explore life in Delaware County through the lens of caretaking (broadly and creatively defined). The publication will be edited by Iris Cushing and Alexandra Egan and feature the work of Delaware County-based artists and writer. It will be available at Delhi's Bushel Collective and other local retailers in the summer and late fall.

- Marguerite Uhlmann-Bower, sole proprietor of Plant Pioneers will be expediting four types of art methods that pick-up plant frequencies as relatable impressions. She will follow both farmer and plant over a period of five months photographing, recording and documenting these four techniques and Lady Cannabis' response to the farmers' decision-making activities. Delaware County farmers will be able to experience this work Aug. 3 as there will be a special opening. A one-week exhibit will be screened at The Bushel Collective in Delhi Nov. 9 to Nov. 17, with a three-hour workshop to learn the process opening night, Nov. 9, 6-9 p.m.

- Amy Masters will be developing and creating a new body of painting work based on the concepts of House, Home, Shelter And Community shown in 1053 Gallery, Fleischmann's, accompanied by an artist talk during the exhibit.

- Amy Randall will present 'Knot Hollow - Good choices make lousy stories,' a one-hour monologue about farming, friendship, and finding common ground, on Aug. 10 at Birdsong Farms, Hamden.

Visit www.arts.ny.gov follow NYSCA's Facebook page @NYSCArts and Instagram @NYSCouncilontheArts and www.roxburyartsgroup.org



Mary Fahl

contributed photo

Card of Thanks

Thank you to my friends and family for helping me celebrate my 98th birthday. I am grateful for my cards and gifts. Dorothy Brizzee

Answers From Preceding Week

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WALTON THEATRE
MAR. 29, 30, 31 & APR. 3
GHOSTBUSTERS: FROZEN EMPIRE
 - PG-13 -
FRIDAY - 7 PM
SATURDAY - 7 PM
SUNDAY - 1 PM
 ADULTS - \$8; 12 & UNDER - \$7
 (MATINEE PRICE IS \$1.00 LESS)
 Wednesday Matinee 1 PM \$6
Gardiner Place 607-865-6688
www.waltontheatre.org

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Sidney Public Library April happenings

Monday, April 1: 3 – 4:30 p.m. - Minecraft Club
 Tuesday, April 2: 10-11 a.m. - Story Time; 10:45 a.m. - Music For Munchkins
 2:30 – 3:15 p.m. - zoom Lego club
 3:15 – 4:30 p.m. - Lego Club-in person
 Wednesday, April 3: 3-4 p.m. - Tag – Teen Advisory Group
 3:30-4:40 p.m. - Tales With A Tail - pre-registration required.

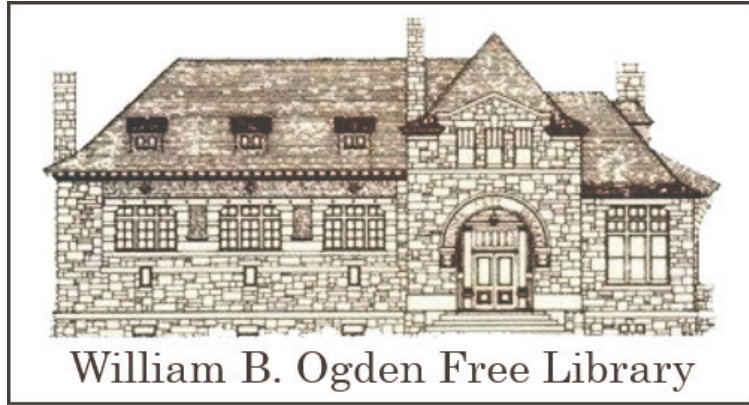
15-minute sessions. Read to Cadbury, a certified therapy dog.
 Thursday, April 4: 3 – 4:30 p.m. - crafts and creations
 3 – 4:30 p.m. - Minecraft Club
 Friday, April 5: Tweens and Teens Club - 3 – 4:30 p.m.
 Saturday, April 6: 1 – 3 p.m. - artist exhibit opening reception - Marti Genaro
 Saturday, April 13: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Civil War in Sidney - presented by the Sidney Historical

Association with special guest - Jonathan “Jed” Labounty. Explore the history and impact of the civil war on the community of Sidney and surrounding towns.
 Thursday, April 18: 6 – 7:30 p.m. - enjoy an evening of classical guitar with Peter Fletcher. Fletcher offers an audience-friendly solo recital including repertoire that runs the gamut from the renaissance period through the 20th century.

Thursday - Saturday, April 25-27: Thursday 5 – 8 p.m., Friday 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Friends of the Library grand book sale.
 Open tech hours: Sidney Memorial Public Library - bring your device for one-on-one technology help. Call 607-563-1200 to register.
Masonville
 Masonville: The Masonville library staff is happy to help with

your computer and device questions whenever they are open and not assisting other patrons.
 Raggedy Reader - first Saturdays of each month - 11 a.m. - noon.
 Yarn club - second and fourth Saturdays of each month from 10 a.m. - noon.
 Check www.sidneylibrary.org to see more upcoming programming.

April at Walton's Ogden Library



William B. Ogden Free Library

“In April, the library was a sanctuary where the scent of old books mingled with the fresh breeze of spring, and every page turned was a step closer to the blossoming of the mind.” - Anonymous

As spring blooms around us, so does our enthusiasm for events and activities at the library. Staff is thrilled to present a lineup of diverse, engaging events designed to inspire, educate, and entertain.

The seed exchange program at the library is a fun way to swap and share seeds. Whether a seasoned gardener or just starting out, everyone is welcome to bring their extra seeds and pick up something new. Discover unique varieties and connect with fellow garden enthusiasts. Expect everything from colorful flowers to tasty vegetables.

Knit and Crochet group meets Tuesdays at 3 p.m. on the main floor for yarn crafts and conversation. Bring the project you are working on and knit, crochet and enjoy friendly conversation.

Mahjong on the main floor, Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m. for everyone who loves to play or wants to learn. All skill levels are welcome.

Storytime: Fridays, 10:30 a.m. on the lower level. Songs, rhymes, stories, and crafts to entertain your littles.

Chess/Game Club: Wednesday, April 3, 3 – 4:30 p.m. This week the game club will highlight Blokus. Unleash your imagination and creativity and craft your own colorful masterpieces on the game board, strategically placing each Tetris-like pieces to block

the competition. Prepare for the mind-bending puzzle that will put your problem-solving skills to the test. All ages welcome.

Reading and book signing: Who Sees Who at the Zoo: Saturday, April 6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Come for a magical morning when local author Patricia Lacey reads her enchanting children's book “Who Sees Who at the Zoo,” accompanied by illustrator Trish Drumm. Bring the family and dive into the colorful pages of this delightful story and meet the minds behind the book. Copies will be available for purchase - get yours signed. Perfect for young readers and the young at heart.

Teen Makers Club: Feminine Footprints Series: Wednesday, April 10, 3:30-5 p.m. Embark on a journey of artistic discovery with our series of classes designed for teens. Join us at the library for an exploration of art inspired by remarkable female artists. Featured artist: Amy Sherald

Mocktails & Masterpieces: Thursday, April 11, 6 p.m. Teens ages 16+ and adults are invited to enjoy a mocktail and create a work of art on canvas with guidance from instructor Linda Karpovich. The selected painting is called “Country Bouquet” and features wild flowers in a mason jar. Materials provided and no experience is necessary to walk away with a masterpiece. Space is limited and registration is required by calling the library at 607-865-5929.

Chess/Game Club: Wednesday, April 17, 3 – 4:30 p.m. This week's game club focus is on the mind-sharpening game of

chess. Members of the Downs-ville Chess Club will be there to teach and play. Whether a seasoned player or just starting, come learn from players who will help you elevate your game to new heights. Enhance your critical thinking skills, and boost your cognitive abilities with every move you make on the chessboard. All ages welcome.

NYS Defensive Driver's Course: Thursdays, April 18 and 25, 5 – 8 p.m. Certified instructor Linda Karpovich will present a six-hour defensive driving course on the lower level over two separate days of three hours each session. Upon completion, participants will receive a certificate to submit to their insurance company for a 10% savings on basic liability and collision insurance for three years. The cost to participate is \$35. Space is limited. Stop by the library with payment to secure your spot.

Lego Club: Friday, April 19, 3 – 4 p.m. Free build and play - allow your imagination to run wild. Creations are displayed in the youth section. Books are available to spark ideas and building.

Medicare 101: Saturday, April

20, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Those currently enrolled in Medicare or those turning 65 over the next year or two - learn about eligibility, how and when to enroll, when you can make changes, and insurance options available. Review and compare what services are covered or not covered under Medicare Parts A, B, C and D. Detail the costs associated with medical and drug insurance. Explore and evaluate Original Medicare, Medicare Supplement Insurance, Prescription Drug Plans and Medicare Advantage Plans. This program will simplify your choices, help you make more well-informed decisions and explain what Medicare means for you. This is a virtual educational event. Self-register with your first name only at bit.ly/46pyDF9

Teen Book Club: Saturday, April 20, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. A monthly book club for young readers to share their love for reading and discuss relevant themes with peers. April's book in honor of poetry month is “Punching the Air” by Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam, a story written in verse about a wrongful arrest of the 16-year-old poet and artist and his journey through the criminal justice system.

Teen Makers Club: Feminine Footprints Series: Wednesday, April 24, 3:30-5 p.m. Embark on a journey of artistic discovery with our series of classes designed for teens. Join us at the library for an exploration of art inspired by remarkable female artists. Featured Artist: Frida Kahlo

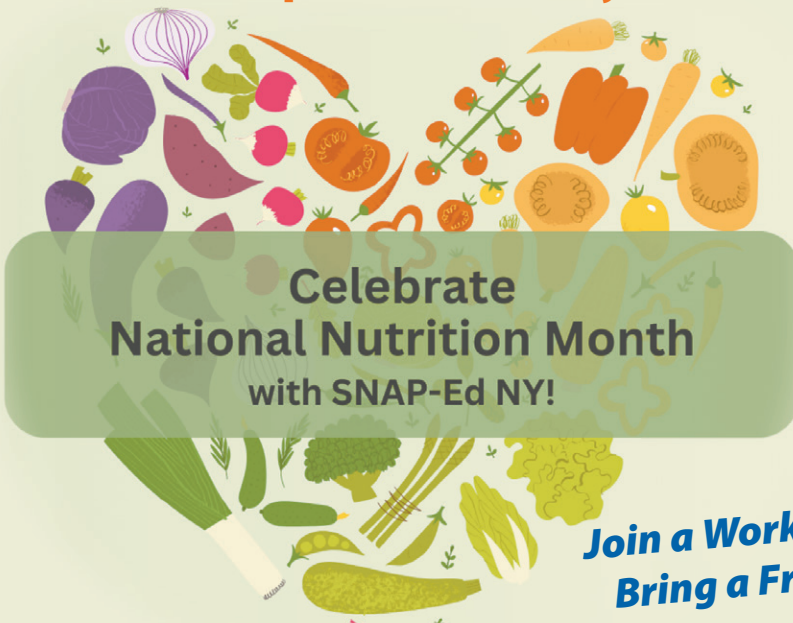
Book club discussion: Wednesday, April 24, 7 – 8 p.m. on the lower level. This month we are

reading “The Personal Librarian” by Marie Benedict ©2021. *In her twenties, Belle da Costa Greene is hired by J. P. Morgan to curate a collection of rare manuscripts, books, and artwork for his newly built Pierpont Morgan Library. Belle becomes a fixture on the New York society scene and one of the most powerful people in the art and book world, known for her impeccable taste and shrewd negotiating for critical works as she helps build a world-class collection. But Belle has a secret - one she must protect at all costs. She was born not Belle da Costa Greene but Belle Marion Greener. She is the daughter of Richard Greener, the first Black graduate of Harvard and a well-known advocate for equality. Belle's complexion isn't dark because of her alleged Portuguese heritage that lets her pass as white — her complexion is dark because she is African American.* Copies can be reserved by calling the library at 607-865-5929, or by visiting www.4cls.org

Origami Extravaganza: Toy & Modular Puzzle Making Class Friday, April 26, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Get ready to unleash your creativity with our four-part class. Call all your adventurers and paper-folding enthusiasts ages 12 and up. Prepare to embark on an exhilarating journey into the fascinating world of origami, where imagination knows no bounds and every fold unlocks a world of possibilities.

Earth Day - Make Your Own Paper Craft: Saturday, April 27, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Come to a thrilling Earth Day celebration event. Get ready to transform old paper into beautiful new paper embedded with seeds while having a blast with family and friends. This eco-friendly extravaganza welcomes all ages with a special activity designed to engage children and teens. Adults are invited to join in on crafting fun but only if accompanied by a child. Witness the magic as your paper creation sprouts to new life when it meets soil, water, and sunshine. Let's spark excitement and reduce paper waste together.

Nutritional Workshops Available in your Community



Celebrate
National Nutrition Month
with SNAP-Ed NY!

Join a Workshop,
Bring a Friend!

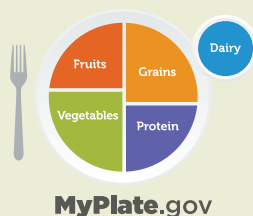
NEW! Ten Tips for Adults Workshops include:

Activity	Budgeting	My Plate
Add physical activity To your daily routine	Plan meals ahead Shop for best prices	Eat foods from every food group

UPCOMING WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:

Grand Gorge, 60933, NY-30 Civic Center Sr. Meal Site
10:30AM-11:30AM; Fridays: April 5 & 12

Call to Plan a Workshop Near You!
Delaware County Office for the Aging
Call the SNAP-Ed Coordinator at 607-832-5750 • DelCoEatHealthy@gmail.com



SNAP-Ed is funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Bring The Family To Our House For Easter!

Sunday Brunch Serving 10am-2pm
Brunch Buffet Includes A Large Selection Of Both Breakfast & Dinner Items

- A Bottomless Bowl of Shrimp • Hand carved Ham, Roast Beef & Turkey
- Omelets made-to-order • Eggs Benedict • Scrambled Eggs
- Cheese Blintzes • Bacon, Sausage & French Toast Sticks
- Homemade Waffles • Hash Browns • Assorted Baked Goods • Fresh Fruit
- Seafood Alfredo • Haddock Rockefeller • Swedish Meatballs
- Garlic Mashed Potatoes • Wide Assortment of Salads
- A Large Selection of Homemade Desserts
- Unlimited Coffee, Tea, Milk & Juice

\$26.95 per person, Children 10 & under \$13.95, 3 & under FREE

Dinner Available from 1-7 pm along with the following specials:

- Prime Rib • Baked Ham
- Rack of Lamb
- Stuffed Salmon
- SHRIMP SALAD BAR INCLUDED WITH ALL DINNERS.



Make Your Reservations Early!
Main St., Downs-ville
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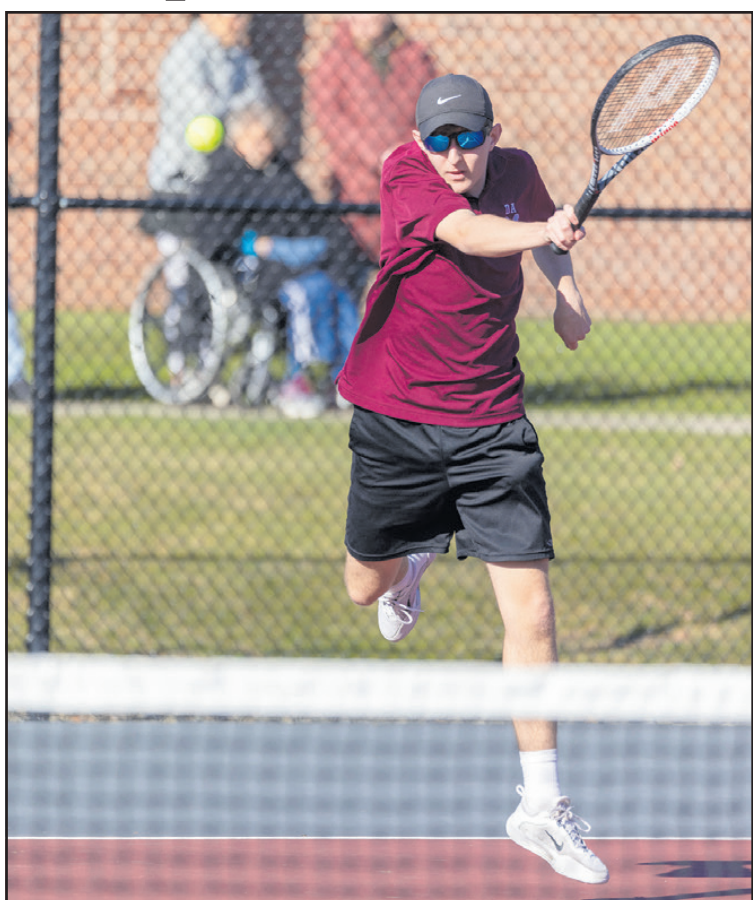
SPORTS REPORTER

Bulldogs top Eagles in season opener



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter

Delhi's Tabor Reed serves during his 6-0, 6-0 win over Deposit/Hancock's Sophia Aqouaouch during Delhi's win Monday, March 25.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter

Bryce Burrows returns a serve during his win over Deposit/Hancock's Alexis Mead Monday, March 25.

DELHI - The Delaware Academy tennis team defeated the Deposit/Hancock Eagles 5-04 March 25.

In first singles, Tabor Reed defeated Sophia Aqouaouch 6-0, 6-0; in the second set Risdon Reed defeated Chase Pullen 6-0, 6-0; and Bryce Burrows defeated

Alexis Mead 6-0, 6-0 in third singles.

In first doubles, Tyler Abts and Ryan Burrows defeated Aurora Emrehe and Albrecht Ellis 6-0, 6-0; Cooper Cohen and Rose Benson-McPheely defeated Amadalee Rodriguez and Alyssa Ryder 6-0, 6-0 in the second set.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter

Delhi's Risdon Reed plays the ball during his team's win over Deposit/Hancock Monday, March 25.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter

Ryan Burrows reacts during his doubles win with teammate Tyler Abts Monday, March 25.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter

Deposit/Hancock's Sophia Aqouaouch plays the ball during her game with Delhi's Tabor Reed Monday, March 25.

Schenevus softball shuts out Walton/Downsville

WALTON - The Schenevus Dragons girls softball team shut-out Walton/Downsville, 26-0 in an opening match-up, Tuesday, March 26.

The game ended in the middle of the fourth inning, with Walton/Downsville connecting just once in nine at bats. W/D's Lo Robinson had the sole hit.

W/D pitcher Hailey Card gave up five hits and struck out six of 18 batters faced; Abigail Bojo struck out two of the 11 batters she faced.

Delhi boys named Sidney Futsal champs



contributed photo

Delaware Academy All Stars won the inaugural Sidney Futsal Boys high school division championship on March 23. Pictured from left: Coach Scott Burrows, Bryce Burrows, Ryan Burrows, Tabor Reed, Risdon Reed, Cole Vredenburg, and Eli Ransford. The DA All Stars won the championship game 1-0 over the Olympians. The winning goal was scored by Eli Ransford assisted by Ryan Burrows.

Sports Slates

Schedules current as of press time. Subject to change.

To view the latest listings, visit The-Reporter.net and click on Calendar.

Thursday, Mar. 28

Baseball: WAJ at Charlotte Valley 4:15 PM, Harpursville at Afton 4:30 PM.

Softball: DA vs Walton/Downsville at Downsville 4:30 PM.

Monday, Apr. 1

Baseball: Unatego/Frank-

lin at Greene 4:30 PM, BG at Susquehanna Valley 4:30PM.

Tuesday, Apr. 2

Baseball: Sidney at Harpursville 4:30 PM.

Softball: Harpursville at BG 4:30 PM.

Wednesday, Apr. 3

Baseball: Walton/Downsville

at Afton 4:30 PM, Susquehanna Valley at Unatego/Franklin 4:30 PM, BG and South Kortright at Cortland tournament.

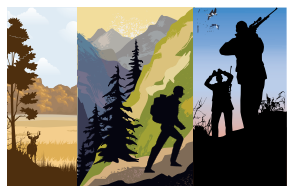
Softball: DA at Cortland tournament 2:15 PM.

Thursday, Apr. 4

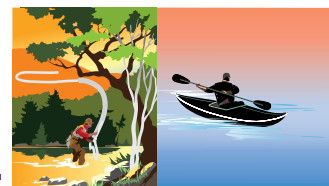
Baseball: Unatego/Franklin and Deposit/Hancock at Cortland tournament.

Having a community event?
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OUTDOOR LIFE



A Florida birding photo journey



contributed photo

Audubon hosts fan-favorite Rick Bunting at Foothills April 19

Join Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society (DOAS) for a special live presentation at the Foothills Performing Arts Center, 24 Market Street, Oneonta, Friday, April 19, at 7 p.m. (Note location and time change from regular Friday evening programming)

Presenting the evening's program is a DOAS member favorite - area photographer and naturalist, Rick Bunting. Bunting spent time in Florida recently and came home with photos of natural wonders both common and uncommon, all of which will amaze and at times amuse us. There will be stories as well, delivered in his unique style. Experience his enthusiasm, respect and ever-present creativity as he shares his photographs of Florida's avian life.

Florida's avian life.

This program is free and open to the public and will begin promptly at 7 p.m. - arrive early. The Foothills Performing Arts Center venue at is 100% ADA accessible. Enter at the Market Street (bricked) entrance and use the elevators to the indicated location. Signage will be available.

Limited refreshments will be available.

This in-person program will be available on zoom as well. Register for the zoom program at tinyurl.com/4557csfv

For more information contact Publicity Chairperson Susan O'Handley, Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society, Oneonta; 607-643-5680; info@doas.us

Montezuma field trip rescheduled to April 6

The field trip to Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge scheduled for March 23 was rescheduled to Saturday, April 6.

Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society Board Director Chris DeCesare will lead the birding field trip to view migratory waterfowl and shorebirds on their annual journey to their breeding grounds.

Participants can plan to meet

at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters at 10 a.m. Those wishing to carpool can meet at the Dietz Street parking lot, across from the YMCA in Oneonta at 7:30 a.m.

Participants should bring a bag lunch, snacks, water, etc. For more details, contact Chris DeCesare at 607-244-5496 or email chris.decesare444@gmail.com

DEC reminds New Yorkers: April 1 starts spring trout fishing season

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos reminds New Yorkers of the Monday, April 1 start of the trout fishing season, a spring tradition bolstered by DEC's extensive stocking program and New York's world-renowned wild trout fisheries. DEC's spring trout stocking, which began in March and runs through early June, will include more than 1.9 million trout being stocked in waters statewide, enhancing the diversity of excellent fishing opportunities available to anglers in New York state.

Seggos said the mild winter afforded New Yorkers some trout fishing opportunities during the catch-and-release season. However, April 1, the traditional opening day of inland trout fishing season, brings the excitement to another level as spring arrives and the state's streams and ponds are stocked to provide additional opportunities for anglers.

April 1 marks the opening of the harvest season after year-round fishing was greenlit on most streams in 2021, with the implementation of an Oct.16 to March 31 "artificial lures only, catch-and-release" season.

DEC trout stocking began in March and will include the placement of 1,909,450 catchable size brook, brown, and rainbow trout in streams and ponds across the state by early June. "Stocked-Extended" streams, listed in the Inland Trout Streams Regulations section of the freshwater fishing regulations guide, will receive fish every other week for two months to enhance season-long opportunities for angler success. Most streams will also receive a seeding of larger stocked trout. Spring trout stocking lists, including the week of stocking for trout streams, can be found at DEC's website.

Stocking information, along with fishing regulations, maps, and access information is avail-

able in "The Tackle Box" feature of the DEC "HuntFishNY" smartphone app. Other features include driving directions to state boat launch sites and an offline feature that allows a user to access information when cell coverage isn't available.

Visit the DEC website for more information on the HuntFishNY app and Tackle Box feature. Anglers can view trout stream reaches, color-coded by management category, and fishing access associated with those reaches on the DECinfo Locator.

Links to the Trout Stream Fishing Map and a User Guide as well as fishing regulations and planned stockings listed by county are available on the DEC website.

A digital version of the 2024 guide is available to download on the DEC website. Hard copies are available wherever sporting licenses are sold.

CWC provides stream cleaning supplies

Earth Day is April 22 - time to shower a little love on your favorite stream or community.

The Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC) provides supplies to groups and individuals who clean litter and other debris from streambanks in the Catskill-Delaware Watershed and dispose of it properly.

Heavy duty trash bags, gloves

and tokens of appreciation are available to individuals, youth and school groups, church organizations, civic and business associations, neighborhood groups and teams of friends who volunteer to scour streambanks and riversides for trash.

Contact Samantha Costa at 845-586-1400, scosta@cwconline.org to schedule a date and

time to pick up the supplies.

The CWC is a locally based and locally staffed non-profit Local Development Corporation responsible for several environmental protection, economic development, and education programs in the New York City Watershed West of the Hudson River; www.cwconline.org

2023 Bear Harvest Summary

Harvest increased slightly from 2022; harvest density greatest in Catskills

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announced bear hunters harvested an estimated 1,356 black bears (*Ursus americanus*) during the 2023 hunting seasons. Though rarely seen by most New Yorkers, black bears are valued by hunters, photographers, and wildlife watchers alike, and are well established in many areas across the state.

Black bear populations continue to expand into areas occupied historically, said DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos. The expansion is a conservation success story and robust populations afford great hunting opportunities. DEC encourages New Yorkers to learn the BearWise basics bearwise.org/six-bearwise-basics to

help live more responsibly with bears and reduce the likelihood of human-bear conflicts in their backyards.

Hunters harvested an estimated 485 bears in the Northern Zone and an estimated 871 bears in the Southern Zone. This represents roughly 6% more bears harvested in the north and 1% more in the south than in 2022. The total bear harvest in 2023 was approximately 7% lower than the five-year average.

The Catskill region continued to produce the greatest bear harvest densities, and in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) 3A, 3C, 3K, 4R, and 4W hunters took more than 10 bears per 100 square miles, with hunters taking more than 15 bears per 100

square miles in WMU 3K.

Notable Numbers

- 16.1: The number of bears harvested per 100 square miles in WMU 3K, the greatest bear harvest density of any WMU.

- 550 pounds: The heaviest dressed-weight bear reported to DEC in 2023, taken in the town of Windsor, Broome County, WMU 7S. Scaled weights of dressed bears were submitted for 21% of bears taken in 2023.

- 648: The number of hunter-harvested bears from which DEC collected teeth to determine the bear's age in 2023.

- 25: The age of the oldest bear harvested in 2022. The bear was harvested in the town of West Union, Steuben County, WMU 8X. Bear teeth from the 2023 season are still being analyzed.

- 1: The number of bears harvested in WMU 7A in 2023. This was the first bear ever reported as harvested in the unit since DEC first began tracking bear harvest information in 1970.

Black bear harvest data is gathered from two main sources: harvest reports required of all successful bear hunters and the physical examination of bears by DEC staff and cooperating taxidermists. Harvest estimates are made by cross-referencing these two data sources and determining the rate at which hunters report bear harvests in each zone. In fall 2023, DEC will send a commemorative 2023 Black Bear Management Coordinator Patch and a letter confirming each bear's age to all hunters who reported their bear harvest and submitted a tooth for age analysis.

DEC's 2023 Bear Harvest Summary report provides tables, figures, and maps detailing the bear harvest around the state. Past harvest summaries are also available on DEC's website. DEC's Black Bear Management Plan provides information on how DEC determines black bear population objectives throughout the state.

For more information visit dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/hunting/deer-bear

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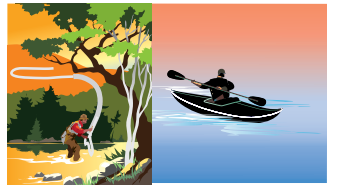
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OUTDOOR LIFE



Trout Stocking: Delaware County, DEC Region 4

Water	Town	Number	Date	Species	Size (inches)	Water	Town	Number	Date	Species	Size (inches)
Beaver Kill	Colchester	2150	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	1330	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	250	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	1330	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	2150	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	150	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	250	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	1330	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	250	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	150	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	2150	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	640	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	2150	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	70	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	250	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	640	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Big Pond	Andes	230	Spring	Brown Trout	8 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	70	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Big Pond	Andes	260	Spring	Rainbow Trout	8 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	640	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Cannonsville Reservoir	Deposit and Tompkins	6820	May	Brown Trout	8 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	70	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Charlotte Creek	Davenport	440	April - 2nd week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	640	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Charlotte Creek	Davenport	3760	April - 2nd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	70	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Delaware River East Branch	Middletown	170	April - 4th week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	20	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Delaware River East Branch	Middletown	1420	April - 4th week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	210	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River East Branch	Middletown, Roxbury	90	April - 4th week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	210	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River East Branch	Middletown, Roxbury	800	April - 4th week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	20	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Delaware River East Branch	Roxbury	60	April - 4th week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	20	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Delaware River East Branch	Roxbury	550	April - 4th week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	210	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	190	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	210	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	1620	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	20	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	1620	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	20	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	190	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Little Delaware River	Delhi	220	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	190	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Little Delaware River	Delhi	30	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	1620	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Little Pond	Andes	210	Spring	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	190	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Little Pond	Andes	90	Spring	Brown Trout	8 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	1620	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Little Pond	Andes	210	Spring	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	1330	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches	Mud Pond	Colchester	90	Spring	Brown Trout	8 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	150	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Mud Pond	Colchester	320	Spring	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	150	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 - 15 inches	Pepacton Reservoir	Colchester	4550	Spring	Brown Trout	8 inches

MASONVILLE

By Anne Scott ahscott@frontier.com 607-265-3368

Steph Curry, NBA Great, on how he deals with criticism: "My mom has been telling me since I was a kid: 'It's not about proving others wrong; it's about proving yourself right.' There's power in that."

Friday March 29th is Good Friday. No school and the district offices, closed. Friday also begins spring recess - no school until Monday, April 8, when spring modified sports begin. Easter is Sunday March 31 - have a great break from school and a good Easter with family and friends. If you have travel plans, be careful driving and we hope flights are all in order if you plan to fly with good weather and no cancellations at the airports.

Here on the Farm the fellas are waiting to do the cows' feet since the weather is supposed to be good this week. The foot trimming got postponed last fall so they could get the corn chopped and in the bunk for winter feeding in good time with the weather we had. It has been very busy keeping up with the cows' freshening and getting the daily chores done. The trimmer is supposed to come Monday and Tuesday - they are in need of a good trim since they don't get outdoors to get them trimmed in the pasture with the rocks to keep

the toes from growing too much. It is reported that New York is fifth on the top 10 milk producing states update. The top 10 milk producing states provided 74.1% of the total U.S. milk volume in February. In order they are California, Wisconsin, Texas, Idaho, New York, Michigan, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, New Mexico, and Washington. Together these states provided 13.4 billion pounds of milk, increasing 282 million pounds from the prior year, down 1.4% leap-year adjusted. Of the top 10 milk producing states, New Mexico and Idaho experienced the most significant year-over-year volume decreases, driven by decreasing cow numbers. Milk production in Wisconsin increased from the prior year, supported by an increase in milk production per cow, up 0.5%,

leap-year adjusted - interesting milk news today. Keep purchasing dairy products to keep these numbers in good shape in New York and for our farmers.

Masonville Library with clerk Michelle Maggio is excited about the programs for April. Saturday, April 6, at 11 a.m. is story time with Raggedy Reader. Get Ready for the eclipse, enjoy stories about the moon, Sun and Earth with some songs and a craft too. Saturdays, April 13 and 27 - second and fourth Saturdays, 10 a.m. until noon - a new yarn club. Bring your current project whether it's crocheting, knitting, latch hook, all levels welcome. Library hours: Tuesdays 3:30 to 7 p.m., Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 3:30 to 7 p.m., Thursdays 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., Fridays 1 to 5 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m.

until 2 p.m.

There will be a presidential primary election Tuesday, April 2 from 6 a.m. until 9 p.m. at the town hall in Masonville and you are encouraged to vote at that time. Mrs. Betty Scott is out there getting signatures for the petitions for candidates for the general election Tuesday, Nov. 4 also to keep in mind. Primary Election is Tuesday June 25 from 6 a.m. until 9 p.m.

Birthday greetings this week starting April: Jason Seeley and Colleen McGovern April 1, Jessica Wormsley April 2, Jeanna Schalk and Scott Schalk April 3, Tiffany Mott April 4, Young Sam Cutting and Paige Jump April 5, Ben Tiska, Ondrea Mott, Michael Burpoe and Pat Entrup April 6. Glenn Heyer Sr. April 7 and Vincent Warner April 8.

Masonville Federated Church services with Rev. Dr. John Helgeson, 11 a.m. Sundays. Bible study Tuesdays in the church dining hall at 3:15 p.m. Girl Scouts meet at 5:30 p.m. Food Bank is open each third Wednesday of the month from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. The last Thursday of the month - Share the Bounty at Sacred Heart Church in Sidney 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Easter week services are Maundy Thursday the 28, 6 p.m. Communion and Tenebrae (turning out the lights) March 29 12 p.m. Seven Last Words service at Sidney Methodist Church and Stations of the Cross at Bainbridge Episcopal Church (walking outside) and Sunday, March 31, Easter,

7 a.m. sunrise service followed by a light breakfast and service at 11 a.m.

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SIDNEY/UNADILLA

By Anna Ritchey 755ritchey@frontiernet.net 607-563-1104

Sidney

Good Friday services March 29 will be held at The First Baptist Church, 30 River Street and the United Methodist Church, 12 Liberty Street. All are welcome to attend - both services are at 6 p.m.

Community Cultural Center, 1 Bridge Street will host an open mic night Friday, March 29. Sign-ups at 7:45 p.m. Entertainment starts at 8 for musicians, poets, comedians, etc. Come out to perform on the stage. Bring your friends. Free admission.

Sidney Chamber of Commerce will have a Business After Hours with friends at the Community Cultural Center, 1 Bridge Street, Thursday, April 11 from 5 to 7 p.m. Enjoy the evening of networking and delicious refreshments from Gavin's and The Beez Kneez. All are welcome to attend. Come and see what's new and find out more about The Center while visiting with Chamber directors and members.

Pasta with a purpose for Nathan Artis' Eagle Scout Project will be held Friday, April 12, serving from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Parish Center, 15 Liberty Street. The all-you-can-eat spaghetti with homemade meatballs and sauce will also include salad, bread and homemade dessert. Eat-in or takeout available. Artis' Eagle project is to build a lean-to at the Sidney Youth Reservation near Copes Corners witch is available for any area youth groups to use.

The Sidney Memorial Library

will be closed Sunday, March 31 for Easter.

Sidney Memorial Public Library, 8 River Street; during March the art and photo exhibit in the Smart Community Room will be Marissa Orizzole and son Gavin. For one on one tech help with your laptop, phone or other device, call 607-563-1200. Help available Mondays 1 to 3 p.m., and Friday, March 29 from 9 to 11 a.m.

School age kid's programs: Mine Craft Mondays 3 to 4:30 p.m. for ages 8 and up; In-person Lego Club Tuesdays 3:15 to 4:30 p.m. in the PCC; Crafts and Creations for K through sixth graders Thursday, March 28; Eclipse Glasses and Rockets from 3 to 4 p.m. in the PCC. For pre-school kids, every Tuesday Story Time at 10 a.m. in the children's area.

Tri County Senior Center open Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All are welcome. First Wednesday - seated stretching exercises; Second Wednesday features a movie; Third Wednesday - exercise or Xbox bowling; Fourth Wednesday will be a monthly meeting and social hour. Every Thursday - pitch and hand and foot (cards) and Fridays - Mahjong. The Center is located at 43 Pearl Street, right side of A.O. Fox TriTown Campus (use right side driveway to back parking lot.) For more information or questions contact Carol Allen 607-563-8065.

Food Bank is open Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30 at the Sidney United Methodist

Church, 12 Liberty Street.

Catholic Charities Emergency Food Pantry is open by appointment Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Thursdays from 8:30 to 6:30 p.m. 21 Liberty Street.

Birthing of Sidney NY serves Chenango, Delaware and Otsego Counties, 21 Liberty Street, Suite 10. Open Monday 1 to 4 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Information is confidential; 607-563-4321; counseling, pregnancy tests, agency referrals, baby food and diapers.

The second Southern Tier Music Festival will be held Saturday, July 6 at the Sidney Municipal Airport with Nashville artist Nate Smith, headliner. The opener for him - Nashville artist Lauren Watkins with five regional bands performing. There will be camping available at the general Clinton Park this year with shuttle buses bringing people to the concert. The 2-day minimum on camping will allow campers to shop, eat, get gas and tour our beautiful communities. We will utilize 100 volunteers from our area and hire a large security company. This is 4 Towns Forward event therefore we are collaborating with Afton, Bainbridge, Sidney and Unadilla towns and villages.

The 4 Towns Forward Community Yard Sale Day will be held Saturday, April 27 in Sidney, Unadilla, Bainbridge and Afton rain or shine. To have your sale listed on the map email 4townsforward@gmail.com no later than April 15.

Unadilla

Breakfast in the Basement at the Unadilla First Methodist Church, 170 Main Street, Saturdays, April 6 and 20. Takeout only from 9 to 11 a.m. Call 607-369-2052 for reservations.

The First United Methodist Church, 170 Main Street will have a rummage sale April 12 and 13 from 9 to 1 p.m. Donations are being accepted and may be brought April 11 from 9 to 11 to the church basement. No books or electronics.

The Teen Center (Youth for Christ Central New York) 16 Watson Street is open every Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m. for youth 11 to 18 years old. Enjoy arcade, air hockey, ping pong, video games and more. A youth-friendly meal will be available. For more information call the YFC office 607-432-0594 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Unadilla Public Library, 193 Main Street will host a spring '24 creative writing workshop the third Wednesdays during April, May and June from 6 to 7 p.m. presented by Clara Mae Barnhardt.

The Unadilla Food Pantry, 172 Main Street, is open Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more info call 607-563-7713.

Unadilla Public Library is open Mondays and Wednesdays 6 to 8 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m., Saturdays 10 to 2; 607-369-3131; unadillalibrary.org Federal tax forms are available at the library.

Tai Chi for Arthritis class is coming to Unadilla Mondays and Thursdays 11 a.m. on April 8 at the First Presbyterian Church, 156 Main Street. Classes meet twice a week for eight weeks. Participants must commit to a minimum of 11 classes to join. Classes are free and open to individuals age 60 +. Call 607-547-4232 to pre-register. Sponsored by Otsego County Office for the Aging.

A genealogy drop-in help program will be held Wednesday,

April 10 at the Unadilla Public Library, 193 Main Street from 6 to 8 p.m. Kathy Quiment will be available to help with genealogy questions, including help researching your ancestors, starting your family tree and computer questions. Kathy has a lot of genealogy knowledge and has been doing it for over 40 years.

On Saturday, April 23 at 10 am Unadilla Fire Department will dedicate its 100% donated new 2023 Ram 5500. The purchase was made possible by the extremely supportive family of past member Adam Friedman.

The Unadilla Central School and Academy Alumni Association will have banquet and annual meeting Saturday, June 8 at The Pines at Covered Bridge Gardens, 1532 Covered Bridge Road. Social hour at 3:30 p.m.; buffet dinner at 5 catered by Sloan's Restaurant. A brief business meeting and roll call of classes attending will be held. Reservations are due by May 5. For more information contact pbarnhart@stny.rr.com

The 46th annual Unadilla Carnival of Sales will be held Saturday, July 13. Vendor application and rules at bit.ly/49G1pms

Mark your calendar:

- Unadilla Community Chest Campaign Feb-Aug 2024.
- American Red Cross Blood Drives, Tuesday, April 23 and Monday, June 24 at Unadilla Fire Department.

- Thursday evenings, July through August, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., Unadilla Concert Series on the Community Lawn.

- Monday, May 27 Memorial Day parade and ceremonies.

- Friday, June 14, 72nd Flag Day Parade

- Sunday, Sept. 29, annual fall festival at Covered Bridge Market.

- October will have a Halloween Parade, trick or treat and events sponsored by the Green Giraffe. Date to be decided.

- Santa with Parade Friday, Dec. 13.

DELHI

By Christina Viafore 607-746-3550 • cviafore@gmail.com

The Delaware County Senior Council is seeking nominations for the 2024 Senior Citizen of the Year Award. The award honors a Delaware County resident aged 60 or older who stands out in the community for ongoing devotion of time and talent in a variety of areas. The Delaware County Senior Council Senior Citizen of the Year committee selects the winner from the nominations. The winner will be announced at this year's Delaware County Senior Council annual meeting scheduled for October. Nominations must be received on or before July 8, and must be mailed to Delaware County Senior Council, 97 Main Street Suite #2; Delhi, NY 13753. For more information or an application, call Delaware County Office for the Aging at 607-832-5750.

Countywide seed swap at Delaware County Public Libraries through June 1. In Delhi, bring your extra seeds to the Cannon Free Library and pick up something else to grow in your garden.

Last week's trivia question: What architect designed the Delaware County Courthouse? Isaac Perry was the architect. He died March 17, 1904.

This week's trivia question: What noted American designer was born in Delhi March 24, 1827?

Community volunteers of the week are the community members that marched in the Saint Patrick's Day parade despite the rain and cold. Thanks for helping make the parade fun for everyone watching. A special shout-out to Heather Hilson who marched with her pony, Flea. He was a big hit. Hopefully we'll get

to see more of him in future parades.

This week you can watch the SUNY Delhi Broncos Friday, March 29 as the women's softball team plays SUNY Poly on the field next to McDonald's. Then Tuesday, April 2, the team will play Skidmore at 3 and 5 p.m. Also Tuesday, the men's lacrosse team plays SUNY Morrisville at 1 p.m. on the turf field. Visit delhibroncos.com to find links for live coverage. You can watch games that have already been played at www.team1sports.com/college.

There will be an event, Dance Delhi! at Bushel, 106 Main Street, Thursday, March 28, from 8 until 11 p.m. Enjoy Mills & Scotia spinning. Hosted by Meena (meenamade). Suggested donation - \$10 at the door.

The Turning Point of Delaware County has hidden eggs on Delaware Avenue, Main Street, and Second Street from Bridge Street to Elm Street and anywhere in between. Eggs will not be on anybody's lawn, so respect private property. When you find an egg, follow the instructions inside.

The Cannon Free Library, 40 Elm Street, will host a collage workshop Saturday, March 30 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. It's free and intended for adults and young adults. Come and express your creativity, work out your stresses and make a collage. Materials will be supplied.

There will be an Easter egg hunt Saturday, March 30 at 1 p.m. at the DeLancey United Presbyterian Church, 444 County Highway 2, Delancey. All are welcome to attend.

Let the Hamden Hill Ridge Riders cook you a homemade

spaghetti with meatballs dinner, homemade rolls and a side salad Saturday, March 30 from 4 until 7 p.m. at 1021 Covert Hollow Road, Hamden. Meals can be eaten in or taken out for a freewill offering. There will also be a basket raffle.

A special event at Bushel, 106 Main Street, to celebrate Michael Peters' sound-imaging installation, O Kind Vel'd Sparrow Sunday, March 31, from 2 until 5 p.m. Artist and guest musician Al Margolis will construct a live performance using words and sounds as material in correlation with the installation. Margolis is a composer/performer, improviser, and painter. Since 1984, often under his project name If, Bwana, he has worked in the field of non-commercial, non-popular music and sound.

There is a public meeting Wednesday, April 3, at 6 p.m. at Bush Hall, SUNY Delhi. This informational session, organized by Transitions Catskill and Meadow Energy, aims to address queries and provide insights on reducing electric bills for residents, akin to the prior agreement the village had with Mega (Constellation). Discover how NYSEG customers can save on their electric bills by subscribing to a Community Solar Farm. All are invited, as the information shared is expected to be beneficial to everyone attending.

Mark your calendar for Delhi's second Annual Delhi Kite Flying Day Saturday, April 6, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Delhi American Legion Field. Rain date: April 13.

FRANKLIN

By Carla Nordstrom franklinreporter13775@gmail.com

Our wholehearted congratulations to Janice Smith of Dairy-smith Holsteins in Bartlett Hollow for receiving the 2024 Golden Cow Award at the New York State Dairy Ambassador dinner in Syracuse.

Congratulations are also in order to Hanna VanDeusen, the village of Franklin's new mayor and Connie Martin, the new trustee. Best of luck to you both and thanks to Tom Briggs for his years of service as Franklin Mayor.

This is a busy week in Franklin. Check out the March and April calendars for the Franklin Central School District sports program.

School will not be in session for spring break Friday, March 29 to Friday, April 5 and April 8 for an emergency giveback day.

Open Doors Holy Week services will be held at 7 p.m. March 28 for Holy Thursday, 7 p.m. March 29 and Easter service of celebration will be held at 10:30 a.m. March 31. The services are at the Methodist Church on Main Street. Entrance through the Water Street side of the building or through the front door to the fellowship hall for handicapped accessibility. All are welcome.

Greater Franklin Food Pantry, 574 Main Street, will be open Friday, March 29 from 2-4 p.m. or by appointment. The Greater Franklin Food Pantry is looking for volunteers. You can contact them here: greaterfranklinfoodpantry.org/volunteer. Pickup of spring dinner boxes for Greater Franklin Food Pantry is during regular open hours Friday, March 29 2-4 p.m. for those who preordered a box.

St Paul's Episcopal Church, Good Friday - Stations of the Cross service Friday, March 29 at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to a free soup supper in the meeting hall after the service. Easter Sunday service will be at 10 a.m. March 31 with breakfast following the service. All are welcome every

Sunday.

Franklin Fire Department, 351 Main Street, will host a pancake breakfast, Saturday, March 30 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m.; price by donation. Special appearance by the Easter Bunny and basket raffles. This breakfast is sponsored by Animal Adventure Park. Hop on over to the village park at 12 p.m. for the community Easter egg hunt.

Franklin Free Library Film Forum, Saturday, March 30 at 7 p.m. 334 Main Street. This month's movie is Where the Boys Are.

Easter Sunday, March 31, services at St. Paul's at 10 a.m. and at Open Doors at 10:30 a.m.

Franklin Treadwell Senior Club meeting, Monday, April 1 at 12 noon. Bingo at 1 p.m., Franklin Railroad Museum, 572 Main Street.

Presidential Primary Tuesday April 2, 6 a.m.-9 p.m., Franklin Town Garage, 12480 co. Hwy 21.

Early voting takes through March 30 at the Delaware County Board of Elections, 97 Main St. Suite 5, Delhi.

Franklin Town Board meeting, Wednesday, April 3 at 6 p.m. at Franklin Town Garage, 12480 county Hwy 21.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 307 Main Street, Franklin, will host its community dinner featuring casseroles and desserts buffet Thursday, April 4 from 5 to 7 p.m. The monthly dinners are in support of the ongoing interior renovation project - progress is being made. A freewill offering is accepted for this "all you want to eat" dinner. This monthly dinner is in its 14th year where all are invited and welcome to join friends and neighbors for dinner and social time together on the first Thursday of each month. Dine-in, or take out is available.

Franklin Planning Board, Thursday April 4th at 7:30 p.m., Franklin Town Garage, 12480 County Hwy. 21.



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CEMETERY LOVERS

By Tina and Dale Utter stonecroft@citlink.net

Southern Adventures

By Dale and Tina Utter

Last year at this time, we were suffering from the cold, snow, wind and lack of sunshine that winter brings and were eagerly awaiting spring. We thought, how lucky those snowbirds are that go off to Florida for at least part of winter and escape the harsh weather in the north. Then a thought - Why don't we go on vacation and head south and soak up some of that southern warmth!? The next thing we knew we were making plans for a trip.

On our way south, we got off the interstate in Pennsylvania and decided to visit a cemetery. To our surprise, we found the work of a carver that once lived near Oxford. His name was Roswell Hubbard and his stone was nearly 150 miles from his home. His range is remarkable, considering the traveling conditions of the 1820s-1830s. He is also found 20 miles north of Utica and all points in between.

Our first stop was Hooded Grave Cemetery. There were two of the most unusual gravesites that we have ever visited. These hooded graves, or mortsafes, were common in England and Scotland during the 18th and 19th centuries and may be the only two in the United States. Both graves were for young women from 1852 and their graves were totally covered with iron cages standing over four feet tall. The reason for this was most likely to prevent grave robbers from stealing the corpses.

Our next stop was Greenfield, S.C., where we were going to visit a friend who had recently moved there from New York. It was going to be a surprise. Once there, we couldn't find the address and the neighborhood did not look like one we thought our friend would live in. A call to her daughter cleared things up immediately. Much to our surprise, we discovered that North Carolina had a Greenfield as well. Next destination!

The snake-handling religion has always fascinated Tina, and can be found in southern rural Appalachia. We stopped by the gravesite of one minister who apparently handled one too many serpents. The porcelain photo above his name showed him holding rattlesnakes over his head.

I was excited to hear of the American Indian mounds that can be found in the southeast. These earthen mounds are found throughout the eastern United States, even into New York state and are remnants of native cultures that existed from 3500 BC to AD 1500, which include the Adena, Hopewell and Mississippian cultures. The mounds were typically found along rivers and were used for burial or religious purposes with the largest ones having flat tops and over 60 feet tall.

The Etowah Indian Mound Museum was at the top of our list of destinations. We were looking forward to seeing the Native American artifacts on display. However, when we entered the museum, all the display cases were empty. Disappointed, we discovered that due to the 1990 Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act, all items had been removed. The law provides that any federal agency or museum that receives federal funding is required to return Native American human remains and burial items to their respective descendants. All items that had been on display were being reviewed to determine what should become of them.

The New Echota State Historic Site in northern Georgia is a fascinating place and was once the site of the capital of the Cherokee Nation. By the 1800s, many Cherokees were living a lifestyle of farming like their non-native neighbors. They had developed their own system of government as well as a written language and newspaper. All that changed with the discovery of gold on their land in 1828. In 1830, Congress

passed the Indian Removal Act which authorized the removal of all remaining natives east of the Mississippi River to Indian Territory now known as Oklahoma. In 1838, those that had not voluntarily moved west were now forced from their traditional lands. This resulted in the infamous 800-mile Trail of Tears where thousands of Cherokee Indians died. This is a sad page in American history.

The Dahlonega Gold Museum Historic Site is a wonderful place to learn about this country's first gold rush and see coins minted by the government from 1838-1861. The museum, a beautiful brick structure built in 1836, is one of the oldest courthouses in Georgia.

The Confederate prisoner of war camp at Andersonville, where 45,000 captured Union soldiers were imprisoned during the final 14 months of the Civil War and nearly 13,000 died, is a sobering aspect of our history. As you walk the grounds and see and read the displays your heart goes out to those unfortunate souls that were trapped there, their misery and suffering unimaginable.

Of course, no trip to Georgia would be complete without a visit to the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site at Plains. We had a delightful time in this quiet little town visiting President Carter's boyhood farm and high school where he and his wife Rosalyn attended. And let's not forget the picture I took of Tina next to the 13-foot smiling peanut from President Carter's 1976 presidential rally.

Our first stop in Florida was the oldest city in the United States, St. Augustine, which was founded by the Spanish in 1565. It is also home to the nation's oldest masonry fort, Fort Marion, with construction lasting from 1672-1695. Florida was a British possession from 1763-1783. After that, the Spanish regained control over the area. In 1821, Florida was ceded to the United States. The



contributed photo

Hooded grave in Pennsylvania.

fort had many interesting historical displays.

We did not care for the crowded coast of Florida so we headed inland hoping to catch a glimpse of "Old Florida." We were not disappointed as we saw orchards and nurseries, a far more laid-back lifestyle and fewer people and traffic. Of course, we just loved Florida's palm trees, subtropical vegetation and sunshine.

We worked our way south and stopped to visit a cousin that I had not seen in 50 years. For some reason he did not remember me but we had a wonderful visit as he showed us a few of his 300 pet alligators. By the way, his name was Bob Freer, formerly of Bainbridge many years ago.

We had a memorable airboat tour of the Everglades and took many pictures. It was unfortunate that our camera did not work that day and we did not discover it until we checked into our motel room that night. Oh well, we still have the memories.

We visited many cemeteries during our travels. We especially liked the Spanish moss that we saw hanging from the trees over the gravestones. It gave the scene an eerie, otherworldly feeling. The totem poles in a Seminole Indian Reservation cemetery were special. It will be hard to forget the iguanas that were scampering about in a Key West cemetery. One was nearly six feet long. We heard stories of them falling out of the trees when it gets too cold.

For our trip home we saved the best for last. We stopped in north central Tennessee and scoured the area for grave hous-

es. These structures were built in the southern states from the late 1800s into the early 1900s and were built over the graves to protect them from the elements and animals. They resemble little houses and the gravestones can be contained within them or just outside its walls. They can be made from any kind of building material: wood, brick, stone, metal, block, etc. Often the walls are just picket fences so you can see inside. Other times they had doors for access or windows so you could see inside. Each structure is unique. Unfortunately, many have deteriorated over the years and have disappeared. It is a shame to lose such a unique cultural heritage.

Another unusual tradition of this area are tent or comb graves. Again, these are only found in the southern states. These graves are constructed, most typically of two stone slabs but it could be metal, in an inverted-v shape over the length of the grave. Headstones are often placed in front of these graves with a footstone in back although there may be neither. Usually, a triangular stone is placed underneath in each end to help support the length of stone. The earliest ones appear in the 1820s. It is believed they may have originated to deter grave robbers and may have evolved into a popular choice for the area that lasted until the 1960s.

We love our travels as we never know what is waiting to be discovered. Wherever one goes, there are always interesting things to find. What will your next adventure be?

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Customer Service Logistics Coordinator

Sportsfield Specialties, Inc. is seeking a **Customer Service Logistics Coordinator**, for its Delhi, NY location, to support the Customer Service department as the customer point of contact for all outgoing New Construction Division shipments.

Responsibilities include but not limited to:

- Collaborate with New Construction Division Sales team to review backlog and shipping and delivery requirements for outstanding orders.
- Collaborate with Production Scheduling to verify ship dates.
- Update orders as necessary with correct address and site contact information.
- Gather details for product returns and obtain order approval from Finance when necessary.
- Collaborate with Customer Service if customer contact is required due to a Finance Hold.
- Prior to shipment, verify and follow up with customer for written order approval and tax exemption status if not already received.
- Collaborate with Sales and Shipping to determine best shipment method of orders scheduled to ship.
- Release orders to ship to the Shipping Department.
- Produce and file RMA's with Shipping and Finance.
- Gather relevant documentation and information from customers for freight claims, submit to Finance for claim filing and set up re-shipment of goods.
- Other duties as assigned.

Required Qualifications:

Skills:

- Strong communication, organizational, attention to detail and problem-solving skills.
- Ability to interact and communicate effectively/respectfully at all levels.
- Ability to multi-task in a fast-paced environment.
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Applications (Word, Excel, etc.).
- Flexible schedule when required.
- Ability to accept feedback and/or constructive criticism.

Experience/Education:

- Bachelor's Degree preferred. Associate Degree with 4 years' experience in Customer Service/Logistics environment will be considered in lieu of.
- Experience with ERP database.

Salary Range \$50k -60k per year DOE, great benefit package includes but not limited to: health, dental, vision, 401(k) with company match, life insurance, flexible spending and paid time off.

To apply, submit application online, apply in person at 41155 St. Hwy 10, fax your resume to (607) 746-3107 or send resume to: Human Resources, P.O. Box 231, Delhi, NY 13753.

Sportsfield Specialties, Inc. is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer.

continued from previous page

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Public Notices

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DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

DUSTMITE ENTERPRISES, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/27/24. Office: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 727 Bramley Mountain Road, Delhi, NY 13753. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

MI CASA BELLA LLC. Filed: 2/6/24. Office: Delaware Co. Org. in NC: 05/16/2018. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to : 212 Fairfield Ln, Hillsborough, NJ 08844. Foreign add: 6135 S Park Dr., Ste 510, Charlotte, NC 28210. Arts. of Org. filed with Nc Secy Of State, 2 S Salisbury St, Raleigh, NC 27601. Purpose: General.

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Secondamendmentlife LLC. Filed 3/5/24. Office: Delaware Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: 1020 Gregory Hollow Rd, Hamden, NY 13782. Purpose: General.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN NOTICE OF MEETING

The April Franklin Town Board meeting will be held April 3, 2024 at 6:00 PM at the Franklin Town Garage instead of April 2, 2024 because of the primary.

Sonja Johns
Franklin Town Clerk

TOWN OF FRANKLIN INVITATION FOR BIDS

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
The Town of Franklin solicits bids for the following:
(1) Purchase of Liquid Calcium Chloride for dust control and gravel stabilization.
(2) Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel # 2(ULSD 15 ppm) for on road use: Winter & Summer.
(3) Dyed Heating Oil for the purpose of heating Town Garages & Office Building.
(4) Hauling of various sizes of crushed limestone from: Cobleskill Stone Products – Hanson Aggregates – Carver Sand & Stone.
Specifications can be picked up at the office of The Town Highway Superintendent. All materials must meet inspection and approval of the Superintendent. All bidders shall certify that their bid is submitted without collusion with other sellers of the same merchandise. Bids may be mailed or delivered to the Superintendent and must be received by 12:00 p.m. April 3, 2024. All bids will be publicly opened at the Town Office Building on April 3, 2024@ 6:00 p.m. The Town Board reserves the right to reject any/or all bids. **Jamie Archibald** – Superintendent of Highways – T/O Franklin P.O. Box 124 Franklin, N.Y. 13775

TOWN OF DELHI LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE TO BIDDERS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town of Delhi will be accepting bids for:
Item #1: Hauling fees for approximately 4000 yards of grit and 4000 yards of #1 washed crushed stone from Seward Sand and Gravel (Rider Pit); any remaining grit or stone that is needed if Rider Pit cannot make enough will have to be hauled from Seward Sand and Gravel Main Pit to Delhi Highway Department stockpile Sherwood Road. Bid will be awarded to one bidder with the lowest combined bids for both pits. Hauling of material must be complete by October 11, 2024.

Item #2: #1 Diesel Fuel – Price delivered to Town of Delhi Highway Garage. Bid will be a fixed price per gallon; any/all fees must be included. Fuel must be cut 60/40 Kero by October 11, 2024.

Item #3: #2 Heating Oil – Price delivered to Delhi Town Hall and Highway Garage. Bid will be a fixed price; any/all fees must be included.

All items must meet New York State specifications and must be in a sealed envelope clearly marked "Bill for Item #____." All bidders shall conform to Section 1030 by including non-collusion Bidding Certificate as stated in General Municipal Law. All bids must be submitted on a bidding form using one form for each item bid. Forms may be picked up at the office of the Delhi Town Clerk or Highway Superintendent.

Sealed bids must be received at the office of Town Clerk, 5 Elm Street, Delhi New York no later than Monday, April 8, 2024 by 3:00pm. Bids will be publicly opened and read at 6:00pm, on Monday, April 8, 2024 at the regular monthly board meeting of the Town of Delhi.

The Town of Delhi reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to accept only those most advantageous of the Town of Delhi.

Dated: March 11, 2024
Daren Evans
Highway Superintendent
Town of Delhi
5 Elm Street
Delhi, NY 13753

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Belle Terre Ventures LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/12/2024. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Anthony Salerno: PO Box 67 Delhi NY 13753. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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TOWN OF DELHI LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held by the Town of Delhi on the 8th day of April 2024 at 5:55pm, at 5 Elm Street in the Town of Delhi, Delaware County, New York, for a new local law regarding dog control/licensing. Copies of the proposed law shall be available at the time of the hearing and shall be available at times prior to and after the hearing at the Town Clerk's Office during normal business hours for the purpose of inspection or procurement by interested persons. The regularly scheduled monthly Town Board meeting will be held following the Public Hearing. Dated: March 11, 2024 Delhi, N.Y. For: April 8, 2024

By Order of Town Board
Town of Delhi

Elsa Schmitz
Town Clerk, Town of Delhi

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

BESPOKE LUXURY TRAVEL LLC Arts of Org. filed SSNY 2/26/2024 Delaware Co. SSNY design agent for process & shall mail to ZENBUSINESS INC, 41 STATE ST #112 ALBANY, NY 12207 General Purpose

NEW YORK STATE NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of RITZ FARMS LLC. Certificate of Conversion filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/12/2024. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to C/O LLC: 11320 STATE HIGHWAY 357, FRANKLIN, NY 13775. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

DELAWARE COUNTY INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Delaware County Soil & Water Conservation District (DCSWCD) in partnership with the Watershed Agricultural Council (WAC), 44 West Street, Suite 1, Walton, NY 13856, is seeking bids on behalf of The Uplands Center Foundation, from qualified contractors for the CREP/CSBI Buffer Planting Program. The **Uplands Center Foundation is located at 2410 Dunk Hill Rd, Walton, NY, 13856.** The planting area is approximately 30 acres in size and includes installation of native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants. The expected performance dates are between **April 15th and May 15th of 2024.**

Bid packages may be obtained electronically or by mail upon request by contacting Catherine Skalda. Interested contractors may request to review the site by contacting Catherine Skalda at 607-865-5223 or by email at least 3 days prior to the bid deadline. Prospective bidders shall receive a bid package which contains a bid sheet with instructions to bidders, sample contract, plans and specifications. Minority- and Women-owned businesses are encouraged to apply.

Sealed Bids must be clearly marked "Uplands Center Foundation CREP/CSBI Riparian Planting" and must be received by the Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District's office at 44 West Street, Suite #1, Walton, NY 13856, before **Friday, April 12, 2024, at 1:00 PM** prevailing time, at which time they will be opened and read. Bidders are responsible for the timely delivery of their Bid Proposal.

Addenda, if any, will be issued only to those companies whose name and address are on record as having obtained Bidding and Contract Documents. The Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District reserves the right to reject any and all bids or waive informalities in the Bidding.

Technical questions should be directed to Catherine Skalda and administrative questions directed to Graydon Dutcher.

- Phone: 607-865-5223
- Fax: 607-865-5535
- E-mail: catherine-skalda@dcswwcd.org, graydon-dutcher@dcswwcd.org.

Delaware County SWCD
44 West Street, Suite 1
Walton, NY 13856

TOWN OF SIDNEY NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Town of Sidney Public Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERS - TOWN OF SIDNEY MOWING BID

Please note that the Town of Sidney hereby invites bids for the mowing and trimming of the grounds at the Sidney Center playground located in the Hamlet of Sidney Center. Also, at the 3 properties the Town owns at 10488 Delaware County Road 23, 10491 Delaware County Road 23, and 10496 Delaware County Road 23. The bid package can be picked up at the Town Clerk's office at 44 Grand Street, Sidney, NY 13838. All bids shall be received by 10:00 a.m. on April 5th, 2024. Bids may be mailed or delivered to the Town of Sidney Clerk at the Town Clerk's Office, 44 Grand Street Sidney, NY 13838. Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes showing the name and address of the bidder with the words "Sealed Bid" on the front. A Non-Collusion Statement must be attached.

Codey Lambrecht
Superintendent of Highways
Town of Sidney

TOWN OF SIDNEY NOTICE TO BIDDERS

TOWN OF SIDNEY HIGHWAY SUPPLIES

Please take notice that the Town of Sidney hereby invites bids for the purchase of highway supplies as listed: diesel fuel, fuel oil, kerosene, and regular gasoline for the Town. All items to be bid shall comply with the specifications prepared by the Highway Superintendent, which are available at the Town Clerk's office at 44 Grand Street, Sidney, NY.

All bids shall be received by 10:00 a.m. on April 5th, 2024. Bids may be mailed or delivered to the Town of Sidney Clerk's office, 44 Grand Street, Sidney, NY 13838. Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope showing the name and address of the bidder with the words "Sealed Bid" on the front. A Non-Collusion Statement must be attached.

Bids will be opened Monday, April 8th, 2024 at 10:00 am at the Clerk's office and read aloud. Bids will be awarded at the Town of Sidney Board meeting on Thursday, April 11th, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

The contract for the above items will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. In the case of identical bids, the Town may award to either of such bidders and the Town further reserves the right to reject any and all bids at their discretion.

Codey Lambrecht.
Superintendent of Highways
Town of Sidney

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Deadline: Tuesday by Noon

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FAMILY COURT COUNTY OF DELAWARE SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

File#: 11966 (B-00603-23, B-00604-23, B-00605-23) GF-30 (12/1997) F.C.A. 617; CPLR 315, 316 File #: 11966 Docket No.# B-00603-23, B-00604-23, B-00605-23 FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF DELAWARE

In the Matter of an Article 6 Termination of Parental Rights Proceeding

Delaware County Department of Social Services (Petitioner)

David L. Sioux (Respondent)

Adrianna B. Back (DOB: 03/18/2010)
Brianna B. Back (DOB: 03/18/2010)
Summer Vetsch (DOB: 04/07/2006)

To: David L. Sioux, 123 Scotch Hill Road, Bloomville, NY 13739

A Petition under Article 6 of the Family Court Act has been filed with this Court requesting the following reliefs:

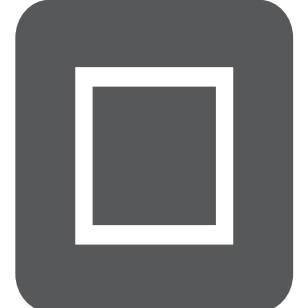
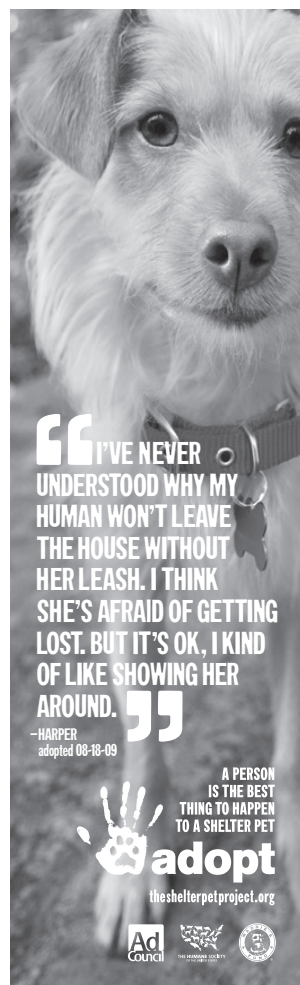
Termination of Parental Rights. YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear IN PERSON before this court on: Date/Time/Part: April 9, 2024 at 09:45 AM in Part GAR Purpose: Continuation of Initial Appearance Presiding: Hon. Gary A. Rosa Location: Courthouse, 3 Court St., Delhi, NY 13753 Floor: 1 Room: 1

to answer the attached petition and to be dealt with in accordance with the Family Court Act. Please bring this notice with you and check in with the Court Officer in the Part.

If you fail to appear as directed, a warrant may be issued for your arrest. Dated: February 28, 2024 Karen Nichols, Acting Chief Clerk

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Hon. Gary A. Rosa of the Family Court, Delaware County, dated and filed with the petition and other papers in the Office of the Clerk of the Family Court, Delaware County.



DELAWARE COUNTY FORECLOSURE NOTICE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF DELAWARE T-ZONE HEALTH, INC., Plaintiff, **AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE** Index No. EF2022-425 **Assigned Judge: Hon. Brian D. Burns Supreme Court Justice** -against- CATSKILL VENTURES, LLC, ALLAN E. WOLF, JR., INC. D/B/A WOLF COMMERCIAL BROKERAGE, ALLAN E. WOLF JR., INC., PROFIT SHARING PLAN, FRANCINE GREEN, JCI CAPITAL, LLC D/B/A JCAP GLOBAL CO., REBECCA ZILENZIGER, NYS DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION & FINANCE, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, CHRISTOPHER MOONEY, "JOHN DOES" and "JANE DOES", said names being fictitious parties intended being possible tenants or occupants of premises, corporations, other entities or persons who claim, or may claim, a lien against the premises, Defendants. In pursuance of an Order Confirming Referee's Report and Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered the 31st day of January, 2024, I, the undersigned, Referee in said Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale named, will sell at a public auction to the highest bidder at the Delaware County Courthouse, 3 Court Street, Delhi, New York 13753, on the 30th day of April, 2024 at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon of that day the premises known as 3845 Brush Ridge Road, Middletown, New York 12430. ALL THAT PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN THE TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN, COUNTY OF DELAWARE, STATE OF NEW YORK, (SBL #265.-1-17) BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS A METES AND BOUNDS PROPERTY, directed by said Judgment to be sold. APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF JUDGMENT \$502,800.83 PLUS INTEREST AND COSTS. The premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale and Terms of Sale. Marvin D. Parshall, Jr., Esq., Referee **HANDEL & CARLINI, LLP** 1984 New Hackensack Road Poughkeepsie, New York 12603 Tel. No. (845) 454-2221

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DELAWARE ACADEMY CSD AT DELHI LEGAL NOTICE

At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Delaware Academy Central School at Delhi, held on Monday, February 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Media Center, the Board of Education approved a resolution to hold a Special School District Meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 2024.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING AND ELECTION AND AVAILABILITY OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Delaware Academy Central School District at Delhi
Delaware County, New York

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Special School District Meeting and Election of the Delaware Academy Central School District at Delhi, Delaware County, New York, will be held on April 16, 2024 in the lobby of the middle school gymnasium, at which the polls will be kept open between the hours of 12:00 o'clock Noon and 8:00 o'clock P.M., Prevailing Time, for the purpose of voting by paper ballot or voting machine upon the following bond proposition:

BOND PROPOSITION – PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ATHLETIC FACILITIES AND FIELDS IMPROVEMENTS

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to-wit:
RESOLVED, shall the Board of Education of the Delaware Academy Central School District at Delhi, Delaware County, New York, be authorized to construct improvements to and to reconstruct physical education/athletic facilities and fields at the Middle School/High School, including original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, site improvements, and other incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost of \$3,100,000, and that \$3,100,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, may be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued. -

NOTE ON TAX LEVY: New York State building aid and district reserves will aid in funding this project resulting in no new or additional tax impact to taxable property.

NOTE ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ATHLETIC FACILITIES AND FIELDS: The cost of a proposed multipurpose synthetic turf field has been donated and accepted by the Board of Education. This does not constitute part of the proposed \$3,100,000 to be financed with the application of New York State building aid and District reserves.

SEQRA DETERMINATION: The capital project has been determined to be a "Type I Action" pursuant the regulations of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation promulgated pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"), which the School District has determined, will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact. SEQRA compliance materials are available at the Office of the School District Clerk where they may be examined during normal business hours upon appointment.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS: Absentee ballots may be applied for at the District Clerk's Office. The District Clerk must receive applications for absentee ballots at least seven days prior to the vote if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or on or prior to April 15, 2024, the day before the vote, if the ballot is to be issued to the voter in person. The District Clerk must receive absentee ballots at said office not later than 5:00 PM on April 16, 2024. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots shall have been issued will be available for public inspection in the District Clerk's Office not less than five days prior to the date of the vote during regular office hours (8:00 AM to 4:00 PM) until the day of the election, including each of the five days prior to April 16, 2024 (excluding Saturdays and Sundays) and will be posted conspicuously at the polling place on April 16, 2024 during the hours of the Special District Meeting. Any qualified voter may submit a written challenge to the qualifications of any person whose name appears on the list of absentee voters and provide reasons therefore known to the District Clerk for transmittal to the Inspectors of Election on the date of the vote. In addition, any qualified voter may challenge the acceptance of the absentee voter's ballot of any person on such list by making his/her reasons known to the election inspector before the close of the polls.

EARLY MAIL BALLOTS: Applications for early mail ballots for the Special District Election may also be applied for at the office of the District Clerk. A list of all persons to whom early mail ballots shall have been issued, will also be available in the office of the District Clerk on each of the five (5) days prior to the day of the vote except Sunday, and such list will also be posted at the polling place for the vote. Early mail ballots must be received at said office not later than 5:00 P.M. on March 4, 2024.

MILITARY VOTERS: Military voters who are qualified voters of the District may apply for a military ballot by requesting an application from the District Clerk at (607) 746-1306 or lkulaski@delhischools.org or in person at the District Clerk's office. For a military voter to be issued a military ballot, the District Clerk must have received a valid ballot application not later than 5:00 p.m. on the twenty-fifth day before the election. In a request for a military ballot application or ballot, the military voter may indicate their preference for receiving the application or ballot by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail.

QUALIFIED VOTER: All U.S. citizens who have lived in the School District at least 30 days prior to the date of the Special District Meeting are eligible to vote if they are at least 18 years old, and not otherwise prohibited from voting under the provisions of Section 5-106 of the Election Law.

The register prepared will be filed in the office of the District Clerk and will be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the District between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. on each of the five days prior to the election, as well as on the date set for the vote. The register will also be available for inspection on the day of the election at the polling place in the lobby of the middle school gymnasium.

CANCELLATION: FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in the event of a weather or other emergency which necessitates cancellation of the April 16, 2024 meeting, said Special District Meeting and Election shall be held on April 23, 2024 at the aforementioned time and place.

Dated: Delhi, New York,
February 26, 2024.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
DELAWARE ACADEMY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AT DELHI,
DELAWARE COUNTY, NEW YORK.
Lisa A. Kulaski
School District Clerk

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Kaufmann Mechanical L.L.C.. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/29/2024. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Henry Kaufmann: 21 Elk Creek Road Apt 3 Delhi NY 13753. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of 51 Walnut LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/29/2021. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to 51 Walnut LLC: PO Box 391 Binghamton NY 13902. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

ALLYSON HARES LLC Arts of Org. filed SSNY 2/9/2024 Delaware Co. SSNY design agent for process & shall mail to ZENBUSINESS INC. 41 STATE ST #112 ALBANY, NY 12207 General Purpose

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Erika Miller, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/21/2024. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Erika Miller: 74 Main St. Ste. G Delhi, NY 13753. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

DELAWARE ACADEMY CSD AT DELHI NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the Delaware Academy Central School District at Delhi will hold a Special Board of Education Meeting and Budget Workshop on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 5:00 pm in the High School Library Media Center. It is anticipated that the Board will begin with a Budget Workshop presentation to be followed by a presentation of the DCMO BOCES budget by Michael Rullo, DCMO BOCES District Superintendent.

Lisa A. Kulaski
District Clerk
Dated: 3/28/2024

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Finnes Services. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/21/2024. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Matthew Finne: 706 Taylor Rd, East Meredith, NY 13757. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

BMR HOLDING COMPANY OF DELAWARE, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/18/24. Office: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, P.O. Box 39, Halcottsville, NY 12438. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Los Campos De Esperanza, LLC. Filed with SSNY on 6/2/2021. Office: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 577 Madison Street 4b Brooklyn NY 11221. Purpose: any lawful

607-464-4009
The-Reporter.net

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF DELAWARE
WILMINGTON SAVINGS
FUND SOCIETY, FSB, NOT
INDIVIDUALLY BUT SOLELY
AS TRUSTEE FOR FINANCE
OF AMERICA STRUCTURED
SECURITIES ACQUISITION
TRUST 2018-HB1,

-against-
GREG BRAMPOS A/K/A
GREG MCCUBBIN, AS HEIR
AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE
ESTATE OF CONSTANTINE J.
BRAMPOS, ET AL.
NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Delaware on November 1, 2023, wherein WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, NOT INDIVIDUALLY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR FINANCE OF AMERICA STRUCTURED SECURITIES ACQUISITION TRUST 2018-HB1 is the Plaintiff and GREG BRAMPOS A/K/A GREG MCCUBBIN, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CONSTANTINE J. BRAMPOS, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the DELAWARE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 3 COURT STREET, DELHI, NY 13753, on April 24, 2024 at 11:00AM, premises known as 269 MAIN STREET, HOBART, NY 13788; and the following tax map identification, 68.20-2-4. ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, SITUATE IN THE VILLAGE OF HOBART, TOWN OF STAMFORD, DELAWARE COUNTY, STATE OF NEW YORK

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No.: EF2022-59. Scott Russell, Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. *LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES.

DELAWARE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF TREADWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NOTICE is hereby given by the Treadwell United Methodist Church, also known as Methodist Episcopal Church at Croton, NY, also known as Methodist Episcopal Church, formerly, known as East Franklin Methodist Episcopal Church, (collectively, the "Church") that the Church intends to dissolve, and the Church intends to petition the Supreme Court of Delaware County at Delaware Supreme Court, 3 Court Street, Delhi, New York 13753, on or about April 17, 2024 or as soon thereafter as such petition may be heard, upon the petition of the majority of the Trustees of the Church, for an order directing the dissolution of the Church pursuant to New York Religious Corporations Law Section 18. Any questions or comments regarding this petition may be sent to: The Treadwell United Methodist Church, c/o Maggs Law Offices, PLLC, 110 Baldwin Street, Elmira NY, 14901. Any such communications must be received by April 10, 2024. Dated at Elmira, New York, on the 18th day of March 2024.

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

CATSKILLS RELIABLE EQUIPMENT LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/14/24. Office: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 1011 Teed Road, Walton, NY 13856. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Lockwood Books LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/27/2023. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Jane Feeney: 679 John Lockwood Road, Walton NY 23856. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Legal Ad or Public Notice

Deadline: Tuesday by Noon
To Place Your Ad, Visit:
www.The-Reporter.net





LOOKING BACK

100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter - Saturday, March 29, 1924

THE WEEK IN WALTON

What We Are Talking About at the County Hub

SPRING PRIMARY APRIL 1

Hand in Buzz Saw—Hurt in Binghamton Runaway—Trout Season Opens April Fifth—Other Notes.

John D. Smith of Walton announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for sheriff this week. Mr. Smith is county director of the Dairymen's League and has a wide acquaintance throughout the county.

The Camp company of Walton have rented the feed mill back of the Miner-Edgar store at Rock Rift. This building was built for a feed mill but was never used as such. It stands close to the siding and is well suited for a feed mill. The mill will be opened April 1.

Delaware county maple sugar and syrup have a reputation as high as that of the Vermont product of which one hears so often. A. J. Courtney this week shipped to Charles E. Hughes, secretary of state, and Henry C. Wallace, secretary of agriculture, five pounds each of maple sugar made by J. A. Robinson of Walton. The shipments were made on orders from Congressman John D. Clarke, who also secured some of the Walton sweets for his personal use.

When the immediate need of a residence for a pastor at Rock Rift was foreseen the property belonging to Woodrow Wagner was much talked of but it was thought it could not be bought. When the building committee realized on investigation the high cost of a new building they decided to make an effort to buy this valuable property. It was successful. With some alterations the house will make a very pleasant manse. It is planned to go on with these immediately. Its proximity to the church makes it a desirable location for a manse. The lot, which contains about one-third of an acre, has a barn which has been used as a garage, also some fruit. It is a good substantial house with six rooms and a hall.—Rock Rift correspondent—

Michael Murphy, about 60 years old, a stone cutter of Walton, suffered a possible fracture of the skull and severe lacerations about his head and body when a horse attached to a light sulky he was driving on Front street, Binghamton, ran away and threw him to the pavement shortly before 3 o'clock last Thursday afternoon. The horse became frightened on Front street a short distance north of Main street and ran wildly along the street. The right-hand wheel of the sulky crashed into the rear mudguard of a parked automobile and Murphy was thrown with considerable force to the pavement, striking on his head. The horse broke loose from the sulky and continued north on Front street.—Binghamton Press.

Paul Finch, who lives on the Beerston road, had his left hand badly cut and mutilated on a buzz saw shortly before noon Monday. Mr. Finch with his hired man, W. Leigh, and Charles Neff, a neighbor, had been buzzing wood on the hill. A pole had been shoved through too far and in trying to pull it back Mr. Finch's hand slipped and came in contact with the saw. The index and middle fingers were badly mutilated, two bones being severed, and the cord to the thumb was also cut. Dr. C. S. Gould, the physician, found it necessary to place Mr. Finch under an anesthetic, which was done with the aid of Dr. W. R. Gladstone, and the injured hand was then dressed. It is hoped to save the two fingers most seriously in-

jured, although they may be crippled as a result of the accident.

Local fishermen are looking forward to the opening of the trout season on Saturday, April 5. The streams are unusually low for this season and should the ensuing week be warm most of the snow water will have passed off before the opening day, leaving the streams clear and in excellent condition. Owing to the dry weather of last summer many fishermen believe that the larger brooks will afford the best fishing this season. The Delaware Valley Fish and Game club stocked all the streams in this vicinity last summer. The approach of the fishing season has revived interest in the club and a meeting has been called for Monday evening, Mar. 31, at 8 o'clock in the court room of Walton hall. At this time officers will be elected and plans discussed for the ensuing year. All sportsmen are asked to attend.

The only contest in Delaware county for membership on the Republican county committee at the spring primary next Tuesday, April 1st, is in the first election district of Walton where there are four candidates for committee members to be voted on. The persons whose names have been placed on the ballot by petition, two of whom will be elected, are H. M. Robinson, Miss Marjorie L. Shaw, Paul F. Taylor and Mrs. Helen Biedekapp. Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Biedekapp are the present committee members. The polls at the primary will be open from noon until 9 o'clock in the evening. In both the Democratic and Republican parties there will be chosen delegates and alternates to the national conventions and to the state conventions to be held in April to select delegates at large to the national convention. The Republicans will also elect members of the county committee. The Democratic committee members chosen last fall hold office for two years.

HELD FOR GRAND JURY

Delaware County Men Accused of Bootlegging.

Lewis Steinhardt of Fleischmanns and Fred Sliter of Andes, charged with, illegal possession and transportation of liquor, were held under bail of \$1,000 each by Deputy United States Commissioner Arthur Seybolt of Oneonta last Thursday. They will be arraigned at the April term of federal court at Albany.

Bail of \$1,000 in each case was furnished by Steven Lokes of Fleischmanns. The case of Harold Sandell, the driver of the garage car which brought the men and the alleged liquor into Oneonta, was dismissed by Commissioner Seybolt, it appearing that the young man was innocent of any complicity in the alleged crime.

WALTON PEOPLE KEPT FROM DELHI SPECIAL

County Seaters Didn't Want Neighbors to See Ball Team's Defeat

The Delaware academy basketball team of Delhi went down to defeat at the hands of the Elmira free academy five on the Norwich court Friday evening by a score of 36 to 12.

"Beat Elmira" read a large streamer displayed last week across Delhi's Main street. But evidently the county seat team wanted an exclusive delegation to see Elmira's expected humiliation as Walton residents were given distinctly to understand that their presence or support was not desired.

Delhi rooters engaged a special train to take them to Norwich. This train stopped at Frasers, Delancey and Hamden, but telegraphic orders were sent from Delhi to the O. & W. officials that no tickets were to be sold at Walton and no one from Walton was to be permitted to take the train. A number of Delhi people had already invited friends or rela-

TO LICENSE AUTO OPERATORS UNDER PROPOSED STATE-LAW

The assembly committee on motor vehicles introduced in the Legislature last Thursday its measure designed to provide for the state-wide licensing of automobile operators and the creation in the state tax commission of a bureau of motor vehicles.

It is understood that Gov. Smith and the Democratic leaders of the Legislature are in agreement with the assembly Republicans for the passage of the bill, as this is one of the measures recommended by the governor.

The principal provisions of the measure are: State-wide licensing of all automobile operators; creation in the State Tax Commission of a Bureau of Motor Vehicles under a commissioner of motor vehicles, who is to appoint three deputies and as many inspectors as may be required; penalties for violations of the motor vehicle law may range from revocation of license to fine and imprisonment; elimination of village speed traps by providing that all fines in villages in excess of \$1 shall be paid to the state treasury; a uniform speed limit of twenty miles an hour in all villages, and designation of official headlight testing stations.

The operator's license fee is to be \$1, with annual renewal of 50 cents. License fees, on all passenger cars, are fixed at 50 cents per one hundred pounds up to 3,500 pounds, and 25 cents extra for every 100 pounds in excess of 3,500. Electric passenger cars are to pay

a flat rate of \$10, and all light delivery trucks weighing under 1,800 pounds, \$12.

Accidents must be reported to the commissioner of motor vehicles, who is to be the central authority. The commissioner shall keep records of all accidents where persons are killed or injured, and it shall be compulsory for these reports to be made by judges, police officials and parties to the accident. Failure to report an accident will constitute a misdemeanor.

Operators' and chauffeurs' licenses may be revoked or suspended by justices of the peace, city judges, supreme court judges, county judges or the commissioner of motor vehicles. Operators' license is not to be granted to any person less than eighteen years of age. License plates and operators' and chauffeurs' licenses are to be issued by county clerks in all counties where there is not a branch office of the motor vehicle bureau. A fee of 25 cents is allowed for each set of plates or transfer and ten cents for operator's or chauffeur's license. Examination of operators and chauffeurs shall be conducted by the inspectors of the bureau.

The operators' licensing provision is to become effective Oct. 1 next, and the adjusted fees will be operative Jan. 1, next. Application for operator's license received before Oct. 1, 1924, shall not be compelled to take an examination; after that examination shall be at the discretion of the commissioner.

tives in Walton to accompany them and other Walton people had expected to go to Norwich on the special and cheer for their county seat neighbors. All from Walton were obliged to stay at home.

The incident has occasioned considerable unfavorable comment locally but most people take the view that the occurrence was an unfortunate one for which only a small group in Delhi was responsible.

The order barring Walton people from the special was not learned until mid-afternoon Friday. The Kiwanis club of Walton at its weekly luncheon Friday noon adopted the following resolution relative to the refusal of the Delhi high school basketball team to play the Walton high school five:

"In view of the fact that the Kiwanis club of Walton has taken any and every method to promote and maintain a friendly feeling, a spirit of co-operation between the towns of Delhi and Walton, and feeling that all past animosities, social and sportsmanlike difficulties could and should be settled in a friendly and equitable manner and spirit and that it is the spirit of Kiwanis to promote mutual co-operation and good will in the communities and between the communities where clubs are located, and it being apparent that misunderstandings have arisen between the athletic organizations of Delaware academy of Delhi and Walton high school of Walton, which will tend to undo the spirit and work of co-operation manifested between the two Kiwanis clubs and which they have endeavored to foster.

"Now be it resolved, that it is the belief of the Walton Kiwanis club, laying aside all technicalities, that the spirit of true sportsmanship should be fostered and encouraged among the younger generation and we believe that the present misunderstanding tends to destroy the true spirit of sportsmanlike conduct, and we urge that the basketball teams representing the Delaware academy and Walton high school be permitted to meet in sportsmanlike competition without prejudice, bitterness and unsportsmanlike conduct either on the part of players or outsiders to the end that the best team may win.

"Resolved further that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Kiwanis club of Delhi and Daniel Chase, director of athletics of the state education department of the state of New York."

A defense of the action of Delaware academy in refusing to meet the Walton "hi" five, published in the Delhi Express last week, was a mass of misstatements and inconsistencies. Only one need be mentioned to show the trend of the

whole article. This statement was as follows: "It might be noted that in two or three of the games played the Walton coach, Mr. Mace, refereed the game. This procedure alone might have made it possible to exclude Walton from the sectional contests of last year." As a matter of fact Dr. Mace refereed only one game, that between Walton and Stamford at Stamford, when the Grand Gorge man secured to referee failed to appear and at the request of Stamford and over the protest of Dr. Mace he was urged to act as referee rather than hold up the game. This he finally consented to do.

ESCAPES THROUGH WINDOW

Beech Hill Farmer Loses House and Barn in Flames.

(From Shavertown correspondent.)

The house and barn on the place on the Beech Hill road, about two miles from Shavertown, owned by Benson Eighmey were burned last Wednesday about midnight.

Mr. Eighmey, who lived alone, was awakened by a choking sensation and; found the house on fire. He was unable to reach his clothes and had to get out through his bedroom window dressed only in his under clothes in which he had slept. He turned the stock out of the barn, which was separated from the house only by the width of the highway, but was unable to save the contents of either building. People at Shavertown saw the light and Roy Knapp and J. S. Gavett motored to locate the fire and found Mr. Eighmey sitting in an old cutter nearly frozen. There was an insurance of \$1,000 on buildings and contents.

MEREDITH PASTOR RESIGNS

III Health Leads to Action of Rev. Otis A. Dike.

At the morning and evening service at the Meredith Baptist church on Sunday, March 23rd, Wilfred W. Fry, a member of the board of trustees, read the resignation of the pastor, Rev. Otis A. Dike. Mr. Dike's resignation was accepted with deep regret by the church and congregation to take effect on April first. During the nearly three years of their residence at Meredith Mr. and Mrs. Dike have endeared themselves to many hearts and homes in the community, and the influence of their life and work there will long remain.

During Mr. Dike's pastorate this century-old church has shown a remarkable revival of interest and is a very active center of the, religious and social life of the community. Since Mr. Dike was taken ill in February, the pulpit and pastoral work have been cared for by the Rev. Charles A. Weed, who is taking post graduate work at Colgate university. Mr. Weed will continue to supply the pulpit.

GEORGE M. PALMER DIES

Prominent Cobleskill Man Passed Away at His Home Sunday.

Hon. George M. Palmer of Cobleskill, former assemblyman from Schoharie county, died at his home in that village Sunday following an apoplectic stroke. He was 66 years of age.

For many years Mr. Palmer was an influential figure in Democratic politics. He represented the Schoharie district in the assembly from 1897 to 1907, and from 1903 to the end of his service he was the minority leader. He was chairman of the state committee in 1915-16. In 1910 he was the Democratic candidate for congressman in the twenty-fourth congressional district comprising the counties of Otsego, Schoharie, Delaware and Ulster. Although the district was heavily Republican he was defeated by Hon. George W. Fairchild of Oneonta by only 1,200 plurality.

Mr. Palmer was the attorney for the Reporter company in the trial of the libel action brought by J. Duncan Lawrence, then Republican boss of Delaware county, which was held in Delhi in February, 1910, resulting in a verdict of no cause of action. Mr. Palmer was long considered the leading attorney of this section.

FORTUNE OF MILLION TO UNADILLA WOMAN

Mrs. So Mary McCracken Will Share in Division of Cousin's Estate

Mrs. Mary McCracken of Unadilla is first cousin of the late William P. Cowan, late of Chicago, who left an estate estimated at \$22,000,000 and who left no near relatives and whose fortune is to be divided among those who can establish relationship to him. It has been estimated that Mrs. McCracken's share will be about one million dollars.

Relative to the estate a recent dispatch from Corning says:

Mr. Cowan, head of a big oil company in Illinois, died in 1918 without a will and left this large estate which never has been disposed of. He is said to have been a resident of this section in the early 30s and left for the west in 1849. There are several relatives at Cortland who have letters they claim will prove their relationship and which tell the story of how William Cowan went to California with only \$5,000, started in the mining business and finally accumulated millions. It is expected all of these will lay claim to the estate. The trustees are B. O. Theim & Company, of Chicago.

Mrs. Ella Schonleber, Mrs. George B. Walsh and Benjamin Tupper of Corning, it is believed, are related distantly to Mr. Cowan, being third or fourth cousins, and whether they will share in the estate is yet to be determined. There are two first cousins, Bert Cowan, at Locke, and Mrs. Mary McCracken of Unadilla, who have been located.

The late William C. Cowan, who died at Corning about nine years ago, was an adopted son of Nelson Cowan, who was a relative of W. P. Cowan, and Mrs. G. T. Wolcott, might be entitled to a part of the estate.

The estate is the largest left by any one person in many years and because there is no will, matters of settlement have been complicated. As Quickly as lineage of those claiming to be heirs can be ascertained records of kinship will be sent to the trustees at Chicago and settlement fixed.

OBITUARIES



Jeanne E. Bush

Jeanne E. Bush 82, of Walton, passed away unexpectedly at her home Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

She ran 206 Redemption Center and worked in the quarries with her husband, the love of her life, for years. She was a hard-working soul and could work circles around anyone. She was very independent and asked no one for anything. God rest her soul.

She is survived by her son John (Laura) Bush, daughters Linda (Jacob) Alvarez, Donna

Bush, and Vicky Bush (Timothy Scofield), son Mark (Stephanie) Bush, all of Walton; grandchildren Heather, Misty, Chris, Jacob, Gary, Cassandra, Cody, Sarah, Leanne, Tiffany, Tausha, Nikki, Theodore, and Samantha, and several great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews; sisters Ellen Crosby, Rosemary Hanes, Sherri (Ted) Monroe, and Marge (Stuart) Combs, and brother James (Ginny) Davis.

She was predeceased by her husband Barney Bush Sr., brother Warren Havens, and sisters Doris Eighmey and Janet Stewart.

We would like to give a special thanks to her daughter Donna Bush, grandson Theodore Bush and granddaughter Samantha Wong, for being by her side for what care she needed when the family couldn't.

There will be no services at this time.

Arrangements are with Courtney Funeral Home, 25 Townsend Street, Walton.



James Hawkins

James Kenneth Hawkins died peacefully in his sleep Friday, March 8, 2024.

In recent years, when we asked him what we should put in the details of this composition, he said "I don't care. I'm not going to read it." So, without a clear thematic directive, we'll begin by saying he was a man of great faith and self-deprecating humor who blanketed his family and friends in love and spent almost every day enthusiastically serving others, never seeking recognition for the countless lives he enriched with his unending positivity.

Born June 10, 1945, he was the eldest son of Ivan and Celia "Sal" Hawkins and, alongside his brothers Robert and Patrick, formed a trio of lovable scoundrels who roamed the rolling hills between Bainbridge and Sidney.

He graduated from Sidney High School in 1963 and, after some alleged moving violations in an alleged Ford Fairlane, promptly enlisted in the United States Navy at the tender age of 19. Much like his namesake in "Treasure Island", young Jim Hawkins was off to sea. Over the next 21 years he would proudly serve his country and sail over the bounding main with stints on the USS Bushnell, Vesole, Conyngham, Nassau and Iowa. He rose to the rank of Master Chief Petty Electrician's Mate and eventually lieutenant. He circled the world. He lost more than a little hearing to the grinding of heavy metal. He told stories of his adventures that didn't stand up to even the mildest of fact checking.

His education on the high seas was supplemented by certificates and degrees from Broome Tech, Southern Illinois and George Washington universities, but he'd tell you himself that despite these forays into formal education, the smartest thing he ever did was attend a Fourth of July party on the Purdue University campus in 1969. That's where he met Sheryl Sandell and, through some magic that suggests an unlisted Hogwarts education, convinced the vastly more sophisticated and intelligent coed to give him a second look. They got hitched in August of 1971. They had two boys. They bounced from port to port until eventually settling in Hampton Roads, Virginia in 1979.

After retiring from the Navy in 1986, Jim spent his second act as a facilities engineer at various hospitals. After bravely surviving their adolescence and sending the boys to college, he and Sheryl took to the road as opportunities arose from afar. From Newport News, Virginia to Sparks, Nevada to Mission, Texas and eventually Scottsdale, Arizona, they would dance and laugh and live and love for 52 unpredictable, action-packed, magnificent years.

When a declining heart forced him to retire from engineering, Jim finally took some much-deserved time to take it easy. After enduring 18 excruciating hours of rest and relaxation, he took a job at the deli just down the street. That turkey wasn't going to slice itself. Eventually we convinced him to give up the 9 to 5, but he never downshifted in his quest to fill his days with joy and purpose. These are just a few things that made Jim...Jim:

He loved to dive into the details of scripture while leading Bible study fellowship.

He loved John Wayne and the Kingston Trio.

He loved to volunteer at HonorHealth Scottsdale, discharging patients and regaling them with yarns of his travels.

He loved to teach hunter safety and wade into the woods with other men dressed like trees.

He loved to golf, with little to no efficiency, in his weekly men's league.

He overplayed his hand at cards. Consistently.

He ate meat that seemed, even to the most daring, dangerously undercooked.

He almost fully memorized the names of his two sons, and only occasionally called them by the name of a family pet that had died 35 years previous.

He had a special relationship with gravity, which earned him a fair amount of customer loyalty points at the local emergency room.

But mostly, he gave. His time. His smile. His heart. Everyone was welcome at his table without judgment or hesitation. If you needed a ride or a dollar or a hand or a hug it was yours. In your darkest hour. In the middle of the night. On a regular Tuesday. He believed, very deeply, that Christ's teachings about love and charity and selflessness were not only a discipline to be studied but a path to be walked. If that path ever crossed yours, you saw him walk it. Every day. When the sun shone bright. When his body betrayed him. When it didn't come easy.

We got to walk that path alongside him many more years than the experts predicted, yet so many fewer than we had hoped. We weren't trying to be greedy. We just loved him to pieces. We're so grateful that he was ours, and that so many more were his.

Jim is survived by his most beloved wife Sheryl, his youngest brother Patrick (Lillian) Hawkins, and his two uncooperative sons Jeff and Chris, who should probably wrap this up.

To quote our hero, he's off like a herd of turtles.

The Pastor's Pen

'Three Days (Triduum)' at Walton

By Pastor Paul Huh

I am very excited to introduce the following Holy Week events sponsored by the Walton Ministerium. It is called Triduum, a period of three days' observance, specifically Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. The three days are the most important time of the Christian churches.

Maundy Thursday, March 28 - Maundy comes from the Latin root Mandatum or commandment, taken from Jesus' words in John 13:34: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another."

4 p.m. communion service at First Congregational Church, Walton

5 p.m. Christ Episcopal Church, Walton

6 p.m. Foot/Handwashing/Seder Meal at First United Methodist Church, Walton

7 p.m. Communion Service at United Presbyterian Church, Walton

7 p.m. Communion Service at New Hope Community Church, Walton

7 p.m. Tenebrae Service at First Baptist Church, Walton

7 p.m. Mass at St. John's Catho-

lic Church, Walton

Good Friday, March 29 - This is the day of the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary.

4 p.m. Tenebrae Service at First Congregational Church, Walton

5 p.m. Stations of the Cross at Christ Episcopal Church, Walton

7 p.m. Commemoration Service at St. John's Catholic Church, Walton

7 p.m. Joint Presbyterian/Riverside Alliance Service at United Presbyterian Church, Walton

Saturday, March 30 - This final day of Christ's death is associated with Jesus' triumphant descent into hell or "to the dead" according to Apostle's Creed. And Easter officially begins with the vigil, including first fire, baptism, and communion.

7 p.m. Easter Vigil at St. John's Catholic Church, Walton

Sunday, March 31 - All churches in Walton gather for Easter, the day of Lord's resurrection at an ecumenical service and celebration.

6:30 a.m. Easter "Sonrise" service at More Park, Walton

2-4 p.m. Community Easter Dinner - New Hope Community Church, Walton

Happy Pascha, Paul Huh, Pastor, Walton United Presbyterian Church.

pastorpaul@waltonup.org; 607-865-4390

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MIDDLETOWN
By J. Lawrence-Bauer
joanlb702022@gmail.com
845-324-2770

Perhaps my obsession with spring is annoying. But honestly, did we really need the freezing temperatures, snow, rain, sleet and ice storm that took us from Saturday into Sunday last week? March is supposed to be "in like a lion, out like a lamb," not the obverse, which doubles as perverse, stubbornly contradictory. Sure hope the sun, blue sky and chirping robins on Sunday were more than just a harbinger of spring.

There is so much to look forward to. At its monthly board of education meeting last week, the Margaretville Central School leaders approved "give backs" on snow days. Since there are still four unused snow days that were allocated, they announced that school will be closed Monday, April 8, on Friday, April 26, Friday, May 24 and Tuesday, May 28. April 8 is a great day to close because most everyone in the great northeast will be watching a unique solar eclipse that day. The moon will pass between the Earth and the Sun that day. The moon's apparent diameter will be larger than the sun's so all direct sunlight will be blocked. New Yorkers to the north and west of us will get the totality of the total eclipse, but our view should be pretty spectacular. Predictions say we'll see it here mid- to late afternoon and as always, people are warned not to look directly at the sun while it occurs.

People of my generation will remember making pinhole cameras to use when watching an eclipse. If you have little ones, it might be fun to take that route. Instructions are easy to find on the internet. Those not so inclined can get inexpensive special viewing glasses at the Happy Giraffe in Margaretville. After the fun of an extra vacation day and the excitement of the eclipse, kids in grades three through eight can look forward to several days of standardized state tests before they actually get back down to studies for the last part of the school year.

Speaking of school, for those of you who want to come back, former resident Mark Ladenheim is leading an effort to host a 50th reunion for his class of 1970 that will also feature an all-

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This is a very partial listing ~ Visit Website for Detailed Catalog and to Bid!
Preview: Monday April 1st 9am - 4:30pm at our Bainbridge Auction Facility
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school reunion for everyone who wants to return. If you're doing the math, you know 1970 was 54 years ago and that this year, the class of 1974 should be having a fiftieth reunion. But Mark notes that his class missed their chance for a fiftieth because of COVID in 2020, so they will circle back and celebrate this year. Perhaps someone from the Class of 1974 is planning a 50th reunion this year, but we haven't heard that at this time. The alumni weekend is scheduled for Aug. 9 - 11 and so far, graduates from the 1940s, 50s, 60s and 70s have gotten involved. It's shaping up to be a great event and if any readers wants to help, just contact me (info is at top of the column) and I'll put you in touch with Mark and his team.

Delaware County Office for the Aging announced that the Delaware County Senior Council is seeking nominations for the Senior Citizen of the Year Award. The award honors a Delaware County resident age 60 or more who stands out in the community for ongoing devotion of time and talent in a variety of areas. I plan to nominate Bob Barack for the award. Bob's service started in the military and seems to have never ended. He is a stalwart at Sacred Heart Parish in Margaretville where he is found not just on Sundays, but any day when help is needed. He is the foundation of

Margaretville's American Legion Hall. He not only works on every event to help and honor veterans, but he also makes the legion hall open and available for any worthy community organization that needs the space. He shows up at every activity there, no matter what or who the sponsor is and dives in to help make the place a success. He doesn't just play Santa Claus at Christmas, he is Santa Claus. With wife Ellie at his side he brings Christmas to life at numerous holiday events, never disappointing a child in the community. If you want to help with Bob's nomination, or suggest another name to be nominated for this much deserved honor, send me an email or call or text me using the info at the top of the column.

Girl Scout cookie season is just about over. I sure was happy to get my thin mint fix for the year. If you missed yours, there is one last chance Saturday, March 30 - there will be a Girl Scout Cookie booth on Main Street in Margaretville in front of the Binnekil Square complex. Scouts will sell cookies from 10 until 2 p.m. unless they sell out before 2. Grab your favorite flavor and support our local scouts.

The Delaware County Board of Elections is looking for election inspectors. They need two Republicans and two Democrats

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Weekly Sales Every Monday - Misc. items, Poultry & produce etc. will start approx. 1:00 before the Dairy follow with any sheep, lamb, goat & pigs. Calf sale evening after 5:30 then feeders followed by all other beef. **Let's keep the cattle in the marketplace to help the competition - sending direct gives you no competition. Beef prices have been strong time to cull the bottom end - feeders etc. Let us help you.**

Mon. Mar. 25th - Cull Dairy ave. \$.93 top cow \$1.44, Cull Beef \$1.09 - \$1.150, Organic cull dairy \$.60 - \$1.33, Bulls (over 1200#) \$1.11 - \$1.45, Dairy Feeders \$.61 - \$1.19, Feeder heifers - \$1.07- \$1.47, Feeder bulls \$1.09 - \$1.67, Feeder Steers \$1.60 - \$1.62, Bull calves top \$5.50 top beef calf \$9.00, Heifer calves top \$2.40 top beef calf \$8.90, Dairy Milking age \$1975, Bred heifers top \$2450, Organic Milking age top \$2550.

Mon. April 1st - Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Fat Cow & Feeder Sale.

Sat. April 6th - sale held on the farm Richfield Springs, NY. 11:00AM. Ovaltop Holsteins Herd Reduction Sale. Registered Holsteins, R&W Holsteins. Selling over 100 Lots - Cows in all stages of lactation, recently fresh heifers, bred heifers, Show-age calves & Embryo Lots. GPS address: 436 Chyle Road, Richfield Springs, NY. **MARK YOUR CALENDERS A DAY YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS!**

Mon. April 8th - Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Heifer Sale. A group of 60-70 Holstein freestall heifers from weaned up to breeding age all have been vaccinated. Several other groups of bred heifers.

Mon. April 15th - Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Sheep, Lamb, Goat & Pig Sale

Sat. April 20th - Our Spring Machinery Consignment Sale held at our facility. Always a full line of equipment. Call to advertise your line of machinery.

Mon. April 22nd - Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Organic Day. Special: Certified Organic Herd Dispersal- Home Acres Farm send their milking age cows consisting of 25 head of Holsteins and Holstein Crosses in all stages of lactation. Cattle will be boosted with Express Fp5-VL5HB.

Mon. April 29th - Normal Monday Sale

Sat. May 4th - sale held at the salebarn. Spring Production Sale. Accepting 120 head of all Registered Dairy Cattle (All Breeds). Let us know if you have anything for this sale - consignments are rolling in call before we fill up.

Sat. May 11th - NYS Jersey Sale - Batavia, NY

Sat. May 18th - 1:00 - sale held at our facility. Beef Turnout Sale - Featuring a beef herd. We will start taking cattle on Friday, May 17th. We have plenty of hay & water. If you need another arrival time call to make arrangements. **Call to advertise your group, it makes a difference.**

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for every voting district. Now is a great time for anyone who is concerned about free and fair elections in our country to step up and participate. Poll workers are the front line people who guarantee that elections are conducted fairly and the work they do is critical to our democracy and our way of life. Inspectors work from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Election Days and are paid \$250 for each election at which they work. For

more information you can call the board of elections at 607-832-5321.

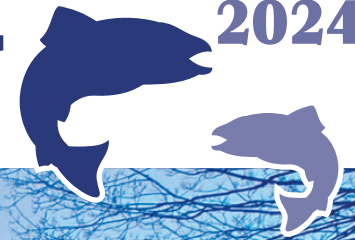
Sending good wishes to young Addisen Sass who had a birthday last week and to Amy Metnick as she recovers from hip replacement surgery. Remember, this column is your column. If you want to send thoughts or shout-outs in or about our community, just let me know.

Want more content? Visit our website *The-Reporter.net* for digital only content and daily reporting!

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Grantor	Location	Grantee	Transfer Tax	Grantor	Location	Grantee	Transfer Tax
March 19, 2024							
DILEO WILLIAM	DELHI	DILEO FAMILY TRUST DATED MARCH 12 2024 (BY TR)	0.00	CASTLEROCK 2023 LLC	MASONVILLE	EDORO EWRE DAVE	80.00
DILEO MARY A		DILEO JENNIFER (TR)		CATSKILL VENTURES LLC (BY REF)	MIDDLETOWN	YU DAMITA WAI TSONG	1,600.00
TRASK LEON JR (AK/A SEE INST)	TOMPKINS	TRASK LEON EMERSON	0.00	CRUICKSHANK IAN (SEE INST/BY REF)			
TRASK LEON M (SEE INST)		TRASK OWEN ALBERT		GAO XIBAI (REF)			
TRASK GERTRUDE		TRASK RYAN E		HAGER PENNY J	MASONVILLE	14232 STATE HWY 8 LLC	2,280.00
BAZZANI DEBORAH (AKA/IND & TR)	MIDDLETOWN	BIG RED KILL LLC	1,128.00	WALKER STEPHEN	ROXBURY	MCGUIRE ELIZABETH	940.00
BAZZANI DEBORAH S (IND&TR)				WALKER BONNIE			
SANDERS N LYNN (AKA/IND & TR)				WATTS MICHAEL	HANCOCK	WATTS LEON JR	0.00
SANDERS NANCY LYNN (IND&TR)						WATTS LORRI	
PHILLIP W DARMSTADT AND IVY J BOXER				FORHAN PATRICK (SEE INST)	DELHI	SHAW JONAH	508.00
JOINT FAMILY TRUST (BY TRS)				FORHAN ANNA			
SANZONE JOSEPH	DAVENPORT	SANZONE JOSEPH F	498.00	VITTO RICHARD	WALTON	BLOCK BENJAMIN D	1,280.00
SANZONE MONICA							
SAIN JANA C	KORTRIGHT	ROSENTHAL CHRISTINA	0.00	March 22, 2024			
SAIN ROBERT DALE		TANNEY JOSEPH DAVID JR		VITTO RICHARD	WALTON	LYNCH JAMES	960.00
WELLS FARGO BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (TR/BY ATTY)	WALTON	ARDA ALPER	280.00	FAMILY TRUST FOR SEBASTIAN DIAZ U/A DATED FEBRUARY 19 2020 (BY TR)	DAVENPORT	KE JENNY	300.00
OPTION ONE MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2007-1 ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-1 (BY TR/BY ATTY)		ARDA OZLEM		DIAZ ABEL BRYAN JR (TR)			
PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION (ATTY)		ARDA ALMILA		SICKLER BRIAN S	FRANKLIN	SICKLER BRIAN S	0.00
WEISS RON	DAVENPORT	GONCH CHRISTOPHER	200.00	SICKLER EDWARD J (LIFE USE)		SICKLER EDWARD J (LIFE USE)	
HIEMSTRA MARIAN		GONCH VERA		SICKLER ELDORA J (LIFE USE)		SICKLER ELDORA J (LIFE USE)	
KIEL MELISSA (FKA)	HARPERSFIELD	STAROBA CASSIDY	424.00	SPEIDELL WILLIAM P	HAMDEN	SPEIDELL WILLIAM P	0.00
MATTICE MELISSA		HENDRICK ERIK		SPEIDELL KAREN C	HAMDEN	FOSTER BRIAN P	0.00
KIEL MICHAEL				FOSTER MARTIN S		FOSTER MARTIN S (LIFE USE)	
MAYO GARY N	MASONVILLE	SEARLES ANDREW	0.00	FOSTER LORETTA L		FOSTER LORETTA L (LIFE USE)	
MERCADANTE KENNETH J	DELHI	LOWE MICHELE LEE	632.00	CLEAR CHANNEL OUTDOOR LLC	MIDDLETOWN	VERDE OUTDOOR HV LLC	46.00
MERCADANTE LORI J							
March 20, 2024				March 25, 2024			
PERONE JOSEPH	COLCHESTER	RICOTTONI CHARLES	2,500.00	SCARDUZIO CARL R SR	SIDNEY	LABRACHE AMY (TR)	0.00
FINCH MILLARD Z (TR)	SIDNEY	NICHOLS WILBER R	2.00	SCARDUZIO MARIANNE		SUNSET IRREVOCABLE TRUST DATED FEBRUARY 22 2024 (BY TR)	
FINCH JACK (TR)				GOODSPEED RICHARD L	DAVENPORT	ODONNELL WILLIAM J	0.00
MILLARD Z FINCH REVOCABLE TRUST U/A/D JULY 18 2014 (BY TRS)				WILSEY SHARON A (NKA)		ODONNELL SHARON A	
VILLAGE OF WALTON	WALTON	DON-LYNN ESTATE HOLDINGS LLC	186.00	ODONNELL SHARON A			
WALTON VILLAGE OF				BABY BUDDHA LLC (SEE INST)	ROXBURY	PANAYOTOV KATHERINE	1,160.00
GOODLAND MARILYN C	COLCHESTER	MAGARDINO JOSEPH	88.00	DEYSENROTH PAUL A III	STAMFORD	DEYSENROTH PAUL A III	0.00
ANGUS DONNA LEE (EXR)				DEYSENROTH GWEN A (AKA)		DEYSENROTH GWEN A	
GENOVESE AUGUSTA JOSEPHINE (EXR OF)				DEYSENROTH GWEN			
BATSON CONCHITA MENA	MEREDITH	SALKA LESLIE	778.00	DEYSENROTH PAUL A III	STAMFORD	DEYSENROTH PAUL A III	0.00
WALLACE RALPH A (SEE INST)	HARPERSFIELD	BOYLE WILLIAM	60.00	DEYSENROTH GWEN		DEYSENROTH GWEN A	
WALLACE HELENA C		BOYLE JENNIFER		PELLEGRINO DIANE JUDE (CO EXR)	MEREDITH	PELLEGRINO DIANE J	0.00
HOLDREGE LU ANN E	SIDNEY	BECKER FREDERICK M	440.00	PREBLICK DIANE J (FKA/CO EXR)			
HOLDREGE THOMAS R		BECKER HEATHER D		PELLEGRINO CONCETTA D (CO EXRS OF/EST OF)			
LEIDNER TERESA	WALTON	SLATTERY GEORGE	180.00	PELLEGRINO DIANE J (FKA/CO EXR)			
		SLATTERY MARY		PELLEGRINO GERALD R III(CO EXR)			
TIASE VALERIE	WALTON	TIASE ANDREW	0.00	PELLEGRINO GENNARO R (SEE INST)			
FORD MICHELLE	HAMDEN	LAWTON JOANNE E	8.00	PREBLICK DIANE J (FKA/IND/CO EXR)	DELHI	70 MAIN LLC	0.00
DOIG MACK E	COLCHESTER	DOIG CHELSEA NICOLE	0.00	PELLEGRINO GERALD R III(IND/CO EXR)			
		DOIG ZACHARY FRANCIS		PELLEGRINO DIANE J (FKA/IND/CO EXR)			
				PELLEGRINO DIANE JUDE (IND/CO EXR)			
				PELLEGRINO CONCETTA D (CO EXRS OF/EST OF)			
				PELLEGRINO GENNARO R (SEE INST/AKA)			
March 21, 2024				PELLEGRINO GENNARO R JR			
ADDEO JOSEPH	MIDDLETOWN	ADDEO DANIELA	0.00	KOENIG LEO	ANDES	KOENIG LEO	0.00
ADDEO DANIELA							

FISHING GUIDE 2024



Schools of Trout

Walton students participate in spring trout stocking

Reelin' 'em in

Time-tested spincasting gear and tips

Catch vs. Release

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Bryce Bracchy of Delhi fishes the west branch of the Delaware River using a Phoebe lure.

Lillian Browne/The Reporter



Schools of Trout

Walton students participate in spring trout stocking



Alyshia Korba/The Reporter

Seventh grade students Madilyn Russell and Kendall McDonald help advisor David Bursnworth feed the juvenile fish.

By Alyshia Korba

WALTON - Walton Central School's (WCS) seventh grade class has been caring for unique classroom pets this school year — a few hundred trout eggs. The activity is part of the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program, an international effort to connect students in the U.S. and United Kingdom to their local watersheds.

In New York, the program is administered through the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) which provides brown trout and/or brook trout eggs to participating classrooms.

Students care for the eggs until they grow into fingerlings at which point they are released into rivers and streams throughout the watershed. Eggs are generally given to the teachers around October and released in the spring.

David Burnsworth, social studies teacher and seventh grade advisor, took over the WCS trout tank from the agriculture class when he started at the school five years ago. He started doing the program while working at Unadilla Valley Central School after learning about it at a Trout Unlimited meeting.

"I just thought that that was an awe-

some idea to bring something that I like in," Burnsworth said. "I can share my knowledge and passion with the kids about fishing and conservation."

Students help with tank setup and maintenance, monitoring the health of the fish and feeding the fish. The WCS tank received 200 brook trout eggs and 100 brown trout eggs, and approximately 150 made it to the fingerling stage.

Throughout the year, students learn about and practice water testing to monitor pH, nitrates, nitrites and ammonia in the tank. They are also taught about the life cycle of a trout and get to observe the first few stages of development.

Seventh-graders Kendall McDonald and Madilyn Russell said witnessing the development of the trout has been their favorite part of the project so far.

"They go from that little orange egg to laying in a jail cell, not moving, doing nothing, to like now they're out and swimming around," McDonald said, referring to the protective mesh "jail cell," or egg basket, that the trout are kept in during the egg and alevin stages.

The students said one exciting moment in this activity was when they returned from the holiday break to find the trout had grown enough to swim out

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contributed photo

Seventh grade student Westin Torres observes the trout as they prepare to leave their egg basket.



Alyshia Korbal/The Reporter

Social studies teacher, seventh grade advisor and fisherman David Burnsworth encourages students like Kendall McDonald to be involved in the trout care and tank maintenance.

of their “jail cells”.

“It was just weird how they were like in a ball and now they’re like real,” Russell said.

The program is especially targeted to schools in cities where students otherwise would not have the opportunity to engage with their watersheds, but Burnsworth said it is just as important for students in the watershed.

“It’s an easy thing that kids can grasp to understand the importance of protecting their local waters,” Burnsworth said. “It’s a fun way to kind of sneak in some learning without them even really knowing it.”

The tank was previously sponsored by the Oneonta chapter of Trout Unlimited, but was dropped from the chapter for “unknown reasons,” Burnsworth said. The school did not have a tank last year as a result, but it has been reestab-

lished with the help of a grant from the O’Connor Foundation.

Students were slightly delayed in getting their eggs because of the funding issue, Burnsworth said, and received them in December rather than October, but the trout will be ready for release in April nevertheless. The class is partnering with the Catskill Fly Fishing Museum and the DEC Catskill Fish Hatchery to coordinate the release with their stocking schedule. Burnsworth said he expects that they will be releasing the fish into the Beaver Kill.

Trout in the Classroom at WCS may be expanding in the future, Burnsworth said, as several teachers in the Townsend Elementary School have expressed interest in starting their own tank. He said he is planning to apply for another grant to get a tank for the elementary school.

Trout season opens April 1

1.9 million trout stocked statewide

The spring trout fishing season begins April 1. There are excellent angling opportunities thanks to DEC’s extensive stocking program and wild trout fisheries. DEC stocks nearly 1.9 million trout in waters statewide, beginning in March and lasting until early June.

Trout Regulations

For decades, April 1 was the traditional “opening day” of inland trout fishing season. Now the date marks the opening of the harvest season after year-round fishing was greenlit on most streams in 2021, with the implementation of an Oct. 16 to March 31 “artificial lures only, catch-and-release” season.

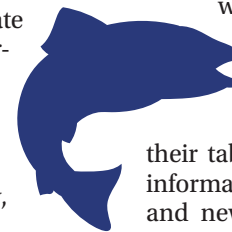
Trout Stocking

Beginning in March, DEC trout stocking is in full swing with 1,884,756 catchable brook, brown, and rainbow trout stocked in ponds and streams across the state. “Stocked-Extended” streams, listed in the Inland Trout Streams Regulations section of the freshwater fishing regulations guide, will receive fish every other week for two months to enhance season-long opportunities for angler success. Most streams will also receive a seeding of larger stocked trout. Spring trout stocking lists, including the week of stocking for trout streams, can be found at www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/30465.html

Trout Stream Fishing Opportunities

Last year, DEC added a new feature to

its official HuntFishNY app called The Tackle Box. Fishing regulations, boating access, and stocking information are all available in a map-based interface from the convenience of a smart phone. Other features include driving directions to state boat launch sites and an offline feature that allows users to access information when cell coverage isn’t available. The HuntFishNY app,



which includes the Tackle Box, is free of charge and available through the App store (iOS) and Google Play (Android) for anyone to download on

their tablet or smart phone. For more information on the HuntFishNY app and new Tackle Box feature visit the DEC website at www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/96470.html

The popular Trout Stream Fishing Map on DECinfo Locator is also available. Anglers can view trout stream reaches, color-coded by management category, and fishing access associated with those reaches. Links to the Trout Stream Fishing Map and a User Guide are available at www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/122444.html Anglers are encouraged to check these valuable resources when planning their next fishing trip.

2023 Freshwater Fishing Regulations Guide

A digital version of the new guide is available to download on the DEC website at www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7917.html Hard copies of the guide are available wherever sporting licenses are sold.



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UDC seeks river and shoreline cleanup proposals

NARROWSBURG – The Upper Delaware Council, Inc. (UDC) is accepting applications through April 19 for its 2024 River & Shoreline Cleanup Grants Program.

Since 2014, the UDC has disbursed a total of \$48,403.13 in support of its member municipalities to organize cleanups in the river and along the banks of their localities to help maintain the pristine quality of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

The UDC's 13 bi-state members - the New York state towns of Hancock, Fremont, Delaware, Cocheton, Tusten, Highland, Lumberland, and Deepark; and the Pennsylvania townships of Berlin, Damascus, Lackawaxen, Shohola, and Westfall - are eligible to submit proposals.

Priority is given to projects that get adult and youth volunteers involved, show local investment, and reflect a commitment to become self-sustaining. Respect for private property rights is paramount during cleanups.

Interested towns must submit a letter to the UDC describing their project, an estimated budget with a breakdown for materials and services, the funding amount requested, and contact information for a project leader.

The UDC's Operations Committee will review applications at its April 23 meeting and the full council is expected to vote on the awards May 2.

Successful applicants will have until Sept. 10 to complete their projects and submit a request for reimbursement.

The UDC non-profit organization opts to share with its membership a portion of its federal operational funding that the National Park Service (NPS) allocates in the form of mini-grants for river sweeps and technical assistance projects.

The River & Shoreline Cleanup Grants Program began in 2014 after the NPS discontinued its direct contributions to municipalities for trash removal.

For more information, contact UDC Executive Director Laurie Ramie at 845-252-3022 or laurie@upperdelawarecouncil.org



Lillian Browne/The Reporter
Emelia McGraw, at age 2, tries her hand at fishing Wakeman Brook in Walton.

63rd annual Two-Headed Trout dinner

ROSCOE - The 63rd annual Two-Headed Trout dinner, sponsored by the Roscoe Chamber of Commerce, will take place at the Rockland House April 6 from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Guest speakers include Carolyn Summers, founder of The Flying Trillium, nationally renowned pollinator advocate essential to the health of fly fishing trout and a vibrant outdoor sporting environment; 2024 Joan Wulff Excellence in Fly Fishing Award recipient Nancy Zakon; and inaugural 2024 Golden Trout Com-

munity Service Award recipient Harris Funeral Home, Roscoe.

There will be raffles, a silent auction and \$1,000 in prizes.

Socialize, eat, drink and dance the night away. Acclaimed local musicians "Shades" will perform before and after dinner.

Tickets are \$80 per individual; \$640 per table for eight.

For more info and to purchase tickets visit: roscoeny.com

2024 Free Fishing Days

New York has designated Free Fishing Days for 2024. On the following days, the state's fishing license requirement is waived for freshwater fishing:

- June 29-30
- Sept. 28
- Nov. 11

The Free Fishing Days program began in 1991 to give people the opportunity

to fish at no cost. It encourages people to try a new hobby and potentially buy a New York State fishing license which supports conservation.

To purchase a fishing license visit: dec.ny.gov/regulatory/permits-licenses/sporting-and-use/sporting/fishing-license

5th annual service couples fly-fishing experience contest

Sponsored by Friends of the Upper Delaware River and Trout Unlimited

When: Sunday, June 2 through Saturday, June 8

Complementary six-nights lodging at the beautiful West Branch Angler Resort in Deposit. Four days of fly-fishing instruction, guided wade fishing, and float fishing on the Upper Delaware River, one of the finest wild trout habitats in North America.

Free day Wednesday, June 6, for exploring, hiking, birding, kayaking.

All fishing gear is provided. Fly-fishing experience is helpful, but not required

Open to couples representing the military, fire, emergency medical service and law enforcement (first responder) and frontline medical communities.

The event is FUDR's and TU's way of saying thank you for the service you have given to the community, and for the support your partner has given to

you in your service.

For an application visit mcusercontent.com/4aac2335f264c89d0c019eec1/files/f8c154d2-e8f2-bfbf-2fe0-adf99644a926/Application.01.pdf

For a schedule of events visit mcusercontent.com/4aac2335f264c89d0c019eec1/files/10b3ba4d-bfc3-90cb-0b6b-a1c89cdb0dc5/Schedule_of_events_for_guests_2024.pdf

For questions, email Peter@pmskovitz@gmail.com or call 202-841-8122.



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Government investment boosts efforts to protect the Upper Delaware River trout fishery

By Jeff Skelding

The Upper Delaware River watershed is an important part of the long and storied history of trout fishing heritage in the Catskills and includes great angling waters like the East Branch, West Branch, Beaverkill, and Willowemoc. Along with its Catskills counterparts like the Esopus and the Schoharie that drain to the Hudson River, it's the area renowned as the birthplace of American fly fishing.

The construction of the New York City Delaware River basin reservoirs in the 1950s and 1960s created a world-class wild trout fishery below those dams ("the tailwaters") on the East Branch, West Branch, and mainstem of the Upper Delaware River. Further down the watershed, the Neversink River, fed by the Neversink Reservoir, also offers world-class trout fishing.

At the local level, there have been many efforts over the decades to protect our trout streams and preserve and promote our angling history. These include approaches like the development of trout management plans, special regulations for "catch and release," angling and conservation education efforts, and a growing reliance on stream protection and restoration efforts that improve trout habitat and water quality.

These efforts got a shot in the arm in 2017 when the federal government finally recognized the need to institute a program - the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program - that could provide the Delaware River watershed with a reliable source of funding to implement measures to protect water quality, habitat, and trout streams. Since the inception of the program, more than \$5 million has come into the watershed for on-the-ground stream protection and restoration projects.

After the adoption of the federal program, New York state began to turn its attention to the Upper Delaware River trout fishery like never before. In 2018, the New York State Department Of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) partnered with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission on a three-year fisheries investigation study that lays the foundation for a first-ever wild

trout management plan for the tailwater fishery below the Cannonsville and Pepacton dams. In 2020, the state of New York included a line item in the state budget to fund a comprehensive watershed-wide action agenda that will boost efforts to protect trout streams throughout the New York portion of the Upper Delaware River watershed. And in 2021, NYSDEC categorized the Upper Delaware River tailwaters as a "wild premier" trout stream affording it the highest levels of protection in the first-ever New York State Trout Stream Management Plan.

All of this progress couldn't be timelier. We've reached a crossroads as increasing pressures in the watershed present ecological challenges that threaten native and wild trout throughout the Catskills. Trout need cold, clean water, and healthy aquatic habitat in the river to thrive. Climate change impacts can lead to rising water temperatures and more frequent and severe storms that cause habitat impacts that are unfavorable to trout survival. Forest fragmentation, sediment disturbance, increasing sewage, and stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces are all outcomes of growth that need to be planned for and managed properly.

There have been numerous watershed protection plans developed over the decades in the upper Delaware watershed both above and below the New York City dams often targeted at a sub-watershed level. Many of these plans have led to measurable improvements in flood mitigation, water quality, habitat improvement, and recreational enhancements. But the upper Delaware River in New York has never had a comprehensive plan that lays out a vision for water resource management for the entire watershed. New York state's investment has created an opportunity to put in place a watershed-wide action agenda that recognizes existing plans, helps advance their goals and objectives where needed, and fills in gaps where

no plans exist.

Over the past two years, Friends of the Upper Delaware River have worked with dozens of partners representing a wide variety of watershed stakeholders to launch a first-ever watershed stakeholder engagement process that will inventory the entire watershed, identify its most pressing challenges, and make recommendations for how we can adapt and adjust to these changing times. The fish will appreciate it. The action agenda focuses on water quality, habitat protection, climate change, and recreational opportunities.

To ensure the action agenda is top notch, we need everybody to participate. One of the key constituencies that need to engage with us are anglers. An-

glers know the river and understand the importance of keeping it clean. Anglers tend to be on the front of lines of conservation stewardship. Their love of fishing and fish enhances their understanding of the sensitive balance of the natural world.

The action agenda is a living document subject to regular modifications as environmental conditions change. We need anglers to tell us what you want in the plan and make suggestions that will improve the angling experience in the Upper Delaware River watershed.

For more information and to become involved in the implementation of the Upper Delaware River Action Agenda, contact Friends of the Upper Delaware River at info@fudr.org or visit fudr.org

Jeff Skelding is the executive director of Friends of the Upper Delaware River (FUDR) based in Hancock. Since 2017, FUDR has spearheaded a grassroots effort to generate more than \$6 million in federal and state investments in Upper Delaware River watershed protection.



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Fishing For Stream Trout

With thousands of miles of streams across the state, there are ample trout fishing opportunities in New York. Each year the DEC stocks around 2.3 million catchable-size brook, brown and rainbow trout in almost 300 lakes, ponds and roughly 3,100 miles of streams across the state. Many of these streams support wild populations of trout as well.

Brook or Speckled Trout

Brook trout are native to the state and are New York's official state fish. Brook trout generally live in small-to-moderate-sized streams, lakes, and ponds, wherever cool (below 72 degrees Fahrenheit) water is available. They tend to prefer colder water than rainbow and brown trout, and they are often found in the headwaters of streams. The DEC stocks around 151,000 brook trout each spring.

Brown Trout

Brown trout were brought over from Europe in the 1880s and can now be found in waters all across New York. Browns can be found in streams, rivers, ponds and lakes and can tolerate higher water temperatures than brook trout. Many anglers feel that brown trout tend to be more wary and challenging to catch than brook or rainbow trout. Spring stocking include 1.8 million brown trout, 89,000 of which are two year old fish that average thirteen inches.

Rainbow Trout

Rainbows are native to the Pacific coast and were introduced into New York waters in the 1870s. Rainbows are found in streams, rivers, lakes and ponds. Like brown trout, they can tolerate higher water temperatures than brook trout. Around 392,000 rainbow trout are stocked each spring into

streams and lakes.

Spin Fishing Equipment

Though any fishing rod and reel will work for stream trout, choosing equipment appropriate to the size fish you are after will improve your success. Light and ultra-light spinning rods from 4 1/2 to 8 1/2 feet in length work well. Shorter rods are easier to handle when dealing with overhanging trees and branches found along many trout streams, but are usually more difficult to hook fish with. Longer rods, however, are usually better for hooking and playing fish and for increased casting distance. Match the rod with a small to medium sized spinning reel spooled with four to eight pound monofilament line.

Lures and Baits

Good artificial lures to try are small spinners, spoons, jigs, stickbaits, and plastics (like 1-2" tube jigs and twister tails.) If using spinners and spoons, a small ball bearing snap swivel will help avoid line twist.

Natural baits that work for trout are worms, fish eggs, grasshoppers, salted or live minnows, corn, maggots and small marshmallows. Check current fishing regulations as some areas restrict the use of natural or live bait. Worms should be hooked once or twice, leaving a trailing tail that undulates in the water and helps attract fish. However, if fish are just nipping off this tail section, try a smaller piece of worm. Good hook sizes range from size 6 to 10, depending on the size of the bait being used. Use as little weight as possible; you want your bait to drift along naturally and just tick the bottom. Carry a few different sizes of small, removable split shot so you can adjust your weight. When fishing deep pools or long runs, try suspending your bait under a float (or bobber).



A third bait option is the artificial baits that are made of natural ingredients. They are biodegradable and available in a variety of shapes and styles such as worms, nuggets, maggots and twister tails. A nice thing about these baits is that they need no special care like natural baits do, and they stay on the hook well when casting.

Fly Fishing Equipment

Fly Rod

A good fly rod for stream fishing would be a 7½ to 9 foot 4 to 6 weight rod. Match this with a disc drag or single action fly reel spooled with 50 yards of Dacron backing; along with a weight forward floating line (matched to rod) with a 9 to 12 foot tapered leader with a 4X tippet.

Flies

A good all-around starter fly assortment for much of New York would be:

Dry Flies: Adams, Elk-Hair Caddis

Wet Flies: Royal Coachman, Black Gnat

Nymphs: Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear, Prince Nymph

Streamers: Muddler Minnow, Woolly Bugger

Fishing Methods

When fishing for trout in streams, it's best to work your way upstream (against the current) whenever possible. This is especially important when fishing for wild or spooky fish. Trout usually face into the current and will be less likely to see you approaching from behind. Wear camouflage clothing or "natural colors," and try to avoid brightly colored clothing and hats. Move slowly and disturb the water as little as possible. Polarized

glasses will aid you when wading and for seeing fish and fish-holding areas. A good option is to fish your way upstream with a fast moving bait like a spinner and then fish back downstream with a slower presentation like a worm or small jig. The faster bait allows you to cover water quickly and to catch aggressive fish. The slower bait works well for fish you may have spooked on your first pass or fish that are less aggressive.

When fishing for trout you will usually be fishing stream pockets, pools and runs.

Stream Etiquette

At times, the fishing pressures can be heavy and stream etiquette can go a long way in making everyone's day pleasurable. Elbow room to fish is a common courtesy. The stationary or slow moving angler should be given room by overtaking them noiselessly out of the water and reentering as far away as practical. Wading right up to another angler could disturb a pod of feeding fish, and no one appreciates this type of conduct. Pleasant conversations are OK, so long as you don't disturb other anglers. Remember, elbow room to fish is a common courtesy.

Catch and Release

There's nothing wrong with keeping some fish for the frying pan. Fish are delicious and eating a few fresh fish is a great way of capping off a fun day of fishing. If you plan on releasing fish though, there are some steps you can take to help improve their survival.

Methods for Releasing Fish

- Use barbless hooks; they cause less damage to the fish.

- Playing a fish for just a short time increases its chance of survival. Do not play a fish longer than necessary.

- Wet your hands before touching a fish that is to be released. Dry skin will remove the mucous coating on trout. Avoid touching the gills.

- Use of a landing net also increases the survival rate of a trout.

- Gently push the hook out and cradle the fish in your hand, underwater and facing upstream. After a moment, allow the fish to swim free. If the fish turns upside down, catch it and revive it as stated above.

* courtesy of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation



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Reelin' 'em in

Time-tested spincasting gear and tips

By Lillian Browne

Trout fishing in Delaware County is not just a pastime - it's a tradition steeped in history and lore. Flyfishing was birthed in the Catskills and the famed Beaver Kill, Willowemoc and east and west branches of the Delaware River draw thousands of fly fishers to the area each year seeking a day on the water. But that is not how most people fish in Delaware County.

It's here that fly fishers share the water and stream banks with spincasters of all ages - using bait and lures.

Dick Gifford, owner of Gifford's Sports Supply in Walton, someone who has



Krocodile lure.

been in the business for decades, shares tips to help reel in fish.

Lures

Most lures for freshwater fishing imitate bait fish in a river lake or stream.

Gifford said, "So it's best to choose one that comes close to imitating a bait native of the waters you are fishing," he said. Among his best selling lures is the Phoebe. The lure was invented by Blaine Wright after fishing, studying and experimenting with luring fish on the west branch of the Delaware River.

"It's a VERY effective trout lure for the river (west branch of the Delaware River)," Gifford said.

Other top selling casting lures include the Rapala - great for trout and bass, and Kastmaters and Krocodiles - which are great for early-season use in lakes or the Cannonsville and Pepacton reservoirs.

Another choice in lures is a "spinner" which gets its name from the action of the metallic blades, that passively revolve like a spinning propeller when the lure is in motion. The lure mimics a small fish or other prey for large predatory fish. Top selling spinners include the Yamika rooster tail, "It's the number one seller in the store," Gifford said; the Panther Martin and Mepps lures are also very popular.

Another lure that is gaining popularity is the Thomas Rough Rider spoon, for trout. Whether it's the glint of sunlight off a Phoebe or the subtle wobble of a silver spoon, these timeless lures have a knack for enticing even the wariest trout.

But the overall best seller for bait, Gifford said, is the nightcrawler and trout worm. "They lead the pack, especially in April and May."

Fishing Line

There are three basic types of fishing line for freshwater fishing: monofilament, fluorocarbon and braided, Gifford said. He uses the mono-line, partly because it costs less and because it works just fine for most types of fishing. For line that has a little less stretch and sinks better, use fluorocarbon, he said. Braided lines, like Berkeley Fire Line and Spiderwire, give lots of strength with a smaller diameter line. His best selling lines are 6- or 8-pound monofilament.

Fishing for those big browns in the reservoirs sometimes requires lead core lines, he said from experience.

Poles

For stream fishing, you need a decent spinning rod and reel, Gifford said. He recommends a Shakespeare Ugly Stick, "Although there are several excellent



6-pound monofilament fishing line.

spinning combos out there."

Whether a seasoned angler or a wide-eyed novice, Delaware County offers some of the finest fishing around, and with the right gear - a mix of old-school classics and modern innovations - you'll be well-equipped to reel in the catch of a lifetime.

Gifford's Sports Supply is located at 133 Stockton Ave., Walton. For more information call 607-865-4427 or find them on Facebook.

License Requirements

You need a fishing license if you are 16 years and older and fishing for:

- Freshwater fish species by angling, spearing, hooking, longbow, and tip-ups.
- Frog species by spearing, catching with the hands or by use of a club or hook.
- Freshwater baitfish for personal use.

You do not need a fishing license if you are:

- Fishing on a licensed fishing preserve
- Fishing during designated Free Fish-

ing Days

- Fishing at a free learn to fish clinic
- A resident landowner primarily engaged in farming (including lessees and members of their immediate families) when fishing on farmlands they are occupying and cultivating.
- A farm fish pond license holder (including members of their immediate families) fishing on waters covered by the license.
- A Native American living and fishing on reservation land.
- A patient residing at a qualifying U.S. Veterans Administration hospital or facility in New York.

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Catch vs. Release

Fishing Delaware County

By Lillian Browne

DOWNSVILLE - April 1 marks the opening of the harvest season after year-round fishing was greenlit on most New York streams in 2021, with the implementation of an Oct. 16 to March 31 "artificial lures only, catch-and-release" season.

Though some people keep what they catch, there is continued advocacy for more releasing than keeping, including by Al Carpenter, owner of Al's Sports Store in Downsville.

Year-round catch-and-release applies to trout streams only. Fishing for trout in lakes and ponds is prohibited after Oct. 15, unless they are managed under a special regulation that allows for angling.

"If you really want to have good fishing, year round, why don't you let more of them go?"

Carpenter asks; though he is not opposed to keeping a fish now and then.

In order for the fishing to be really good, there has to be a fair amount of fish out there to catch, he said.

"So if you take everything all the time, then you have nobody to blame but yourself when the fish are not biting," he opines.

Carpenter also objects to regulations which allow anglers to fish while trout are spawning.

"Back in 1984, DEC harvested scale samples from trout caught in the reservoir," Carpenter recalled. "Eighty percent were proven to be wild fish. Back then they stocked twice as many fish as they do now so it would be safe to assume that the percentage of wild fish in there now would have to be greater than 80%. That's a good reason to not harvest them when they are spawning."

The state (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) does not stock enough fish to allow for repopulation, compounding a foreseen decrease in the fish population, he said; however, they have reduced the daily



Lillian Browne/The Reporter

Al Carpenter, owner of Al's Sports Store in Downsville, makes a case for catch-and-release fishing.

harvest limit to compensate for the decrease.

There are not nearly as many fish as there used to be, he continued, and they are not as big as they once were, either. The fishery has changed over the years.

From his observation, he said, there is an increasing number of anglers who fish streams and rivers who are releasing what they catch because they realize the alternative is having to wait to fish after a stocking truck arrives. Those

who fish the reservoirs are more likely to keep what they catch, he said.

Staying within the confines of regulations and simply taking a daily limit can also fuel depopulation of the fishery, he said.

"I'm trying to educate people about how to help the fishery," he said in advocacy of catch-and-release.

For hours and information about Al's Sport Store, visit allsportstore.com or call 607-363-7740.

2024 trout stocking in Delaware County

Spring trout stocking begins in April and runs through early June. These listings reflect the anticipated distribution of yearling and older trout for the spring fishing season. Actual numbers and stocking times may vary depending on fish availability and weather conditions.

The fish are stocked with help from County Federated Sportsmen.

For a more detailed breakdown of stocking dates, see page 19, visit the-reporter.net or www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/23327.html

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Seven-day license: Resident \$12, non-resident \$28

One-day license: Resident \$5, non-resident \$10

For residency qualifications visit www.dec.ny.gov