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Step Back in Time
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Week at MCS
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Deck the Blades: Colchester Eyes Student Snowplow Designs



Patti Cantamessa/The Reporter

Downsville resident Stacey Mattson displays examples of decorated snowplows during the Oct. 21 Colchester town council meeting, proposing a student art project for the community's Christmas parade.

By Patti Cantamessa

COLCHESTER - Downsville students may have an opportunity to turn highway snowplows into works of art as part of this year's Christmas parade festivities.

Downsville resident Stacey Mattson presented an idea to Colchester council members at a monthly meeting Oct. 21. The idea involves students painting holiday-themed designs on snowplow blades.

Mattson shared photographs of decorated snowplows she saw in Kansas where children's

See Deck the Blades... page 5



High Fuel Costs and Freezing Temps Put Focus on HEAP, Emergency Shelter Plans

By J. Lawrence-Bauer

DELHI - With freezing temperatures setting in across the region, Delaware County officials are preparing for an influx of residents seeking winter heating assistance and emergency shelter.

During a meeting of the Delaware County Social Services (DSS) Committee Monday, Oct. 19, officials confirmed that the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) is scheduled to open Nov. 2, with early applications already arriving.

Addressing the committee, DSS Commissioner Keith Weaver noted that heating fuel prices remain a primary concern for local families this season.

Recalling challenges from previous winters, Hancock Supervisor Jerry Vernold questioned the level of funding available.

"Is the program going to last the winter?" Vernold asked, adding, "HEAP always seems to be funding challenged."

Weaver acknowledged the problem saying: "When you're paying somewhere in the neighborhood of \$5 or \$6 a gallon... you're gonna run through your benefit really quickly."

An official added that filling a fuel tank can cost around \$1,200. Weaver also highlighted les-



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Hancock Supervisor Jerry Vernold, left, questioned the level of funding available for HEAP during a Delaware County Social Services Committee meeting Monday, Oct. 19. Also pictured is committee chairperson and Hamden Supervisor Wayne Marshfield.

sons learned from administrative hurdles.

"If we remember last year, HEAP was kind of a mess. We didn't even know if HEAP was going to exist last year," Weaver said.

While those uncertainties were anxiety-inducing, the experience helped the department establish contingency plans.

"If nothing else, our experience last year helped us with figuring out what we would do if we didn't have HEAP funding, right? So if people run out I can guarantee that we'll try. We'll find what they're eligible for, and, you know, do whatever we can to assist people who are in need."

See High Fuel Costs... page 4

Margaretville Cool to Acquiring EV Chargers as Transition Catskills to Cease Operation

By J. Lawrence-Bauer

MARGARETVILLE - The future of the public electric vehicle charging station in the village parking lot hangs in the balance following a discussion at an Oct. 20 Margaretville trustees meeting, where trustees expressed strong reservations about taking over operations from a folding local non-profit.

Kristina Zill, representing Transition Catskills - the organization that facilitated the installation of the charging station - requested that the village assume ownership of two "Level 2" charging stations in the municipal parking lot on Walnut Street. Transition Catskills is preparing to close down operations, Zill announced.

"We are going to probably close by the end of the year," Zill said, explaining that the organization's founder intends to direct funds toward other projects. The non-profit, which has operated under the umbrella of the MARK Project since its inception, works to build local self-reliance and prepare for environmental and economic challenges, such as climate change, unstable energy supplies (peak oil), and economic uncertainty.

Zill proposed replacing the existing ChargePoint models with a different system to reduce administrative expenses. She explained that while ChargePoint charges \$180 per port annually



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

The electric vehicle charging station behind the Gottfried Building in the municipal parking lot in Margaretville.

for software networking, an alternative vendor, Plug-In Stations Online (PISO), based in Albany, offers networking at nearly half that cost.

Under the proposed plan, the village would convert the stations from a free public amenity into a pay-for-use system.

"We're going to set it up so that people have to pay for the charge. It's not going to be free anymore," Zill said, noting that Level 2 chargers typically break even rather than generate revenue. "The reason that we put those Level 2 chargers in to begin with is because the idea was that people would come, they'd put their car to charge, and then

they would go to Main Street and spend money."

According to financial figures Zill presented, total electricity costs for the station were approximately \$4,000 from July 2025 through August 2026. A significant portion of that bill stems from utility "demand charges," an add-on by NYSEG running between \$119 and \$133 per month. Zill expressed confidence that PISO could help apply for state relief or rebates to eliminate those charges, cutting annual expenses by roughly \$1,200. Insurance for the equipment currently runs \$285 annually through the MARK Project, though liability

See Margaretville Cool... page 8

BY THE NUMBERS



WALTON

By Patty Wood pwood2@frontier.com

The Townsend School Halloween Parade is at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 30 and back to its normal route: down Mead Street, turn left onto Townsend Street, left onto Delaware Street, left onto Gardiner Place and back onto North Street to get back into the school. Line the route, see all the costumes and feel the excitement.

Trick or Treating is Saturday, Oct. 31 with no set hours. Little guys can go earlier. The Walton Vet’s Club is having a kid’s Halloween party Saturday, Oct. 31 from 4 – 6 p.m. Fun games include fishing cauldrons, donut on a string, punch a pumpkin, and a mummy race - plus there’s lots of candy to give out. Make sure to make a stop there while you’re out trick or treating.

Clocks fall back Nov. 1. Congress hasn’t passed the elimination of Daylight Savings Time, so we still will do it. I personally don’t love the clock changes, but I don’t like kids going to school in the dark either. I hope they leave it alone, but for this year, its still “fall back” and we gain an hour.

Walton Veterans Day Parade is Wednesday, Nov. 11 - always “11/11 at 11.” Line up at Gardiner Place at 10:30 a.m. and march to the Old Armory (Castle) for a brief ceremony at 11 a.m. The public is welcome to join in with bikes, flags, respect. Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, 4H, others are welcome to march.

The parade will return to Gardiner Place to disband. There will be a luncheon at the Walton Veterans Club - free for those who march and a freewill donation will be taken for others. Come out and participate by watching or marching and honor our local veterans - in this - our 250th year.

On Oct. 21 New York State Police ran an underage drinking

detail in Delaware County and reported no one sold alcohol to anyone under 21. The compliant locations include these stores in Walton: Speedway, Sunoco Country Stores, Liquor & Wine Emporium, and Breakey’s Liquor Store. For these checks, a plain-clothes Trooper and underage operatives are used who are not allowed to lie about their age or give fake birthdates. Thank you, businesses who remain diligent and uphold the law. Proud of you Walton!

The First United Methodist Church, 101 North Street, is holding its 20th annual basket auction Saturday, Nov. 14 from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Stop in for cake and a beverage with your entry fee and you will be able to bid on many wonderful gift baskets and gift cards donated by generous local merchants. Proceeds from the auction help local church missions.

In September local Korean War veteran John Poulin took an Honor Flight. The Honor Flight Network flies veterans free of charge to Washington, DC to visit the war memorials. Originally started to honor World War II veterans the program now includes Korean and Vietnam War eras. The mission is to show gratitude to veterans for their service with appreciation and community support. On Thursday, Nov. 5, we can hear about John’s whirlwind, one-day tour of Washington DC and learn more about the Honor Flight Network at the Ogden Library from 6-7 p.m. Those attending can also find out how you or someone you know might also take an Honor Flight. Attendees will have an opportunity to sign cards thanking veterans for their service which will be given to future Honor Flight participants. Cards will also be available on a display upstairs from Nov. 1-14.

The cards written that night will be part of those I plan to send to Honor Flight organizers - they are looking for “mail” for the veterans taking their honor flights to monuments. Cards, letters and notes will be handed out at “mail call” - reminiscent of their days in the service. If you, your church group, scouts, teams, class - want to write short notes or thank yous to send to vets to receive during

their flights, I’m happy to coordinate getting the letters where they need to go. Kids drawings from the very young to older students, adults too, of course. Fifteen to 1800 letters each year are used and some are still needed for this year’s flights. Remember to stay positive and no dates or specific wars should be mentioned as the letters will be used on various flights. You don’t need to write a long letter or have a personal connection to the military. A few sincere sentences of appreciation can make a lasting impression. Get your letters, notes and drawings together and message me and I’ll collect and ship them. Let’s have them ready to mail at Thanksgiving. I’ll collect by the Christmas parade. A good project and time to give thanks to our vets.

Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile will be the Ogden Library movie Saturday, Nov. 7 at 10 a.m. for Cereal Cinema. This comedy-drama film based on the children’s story Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile featuring the singing crocodile Lyle. Enjoy the all-you-can-eat cereal buffet and a simple craft for the kids to enjoy while they watch the movie on the big screen.

Two local exchange students will share their experiences and introduce folks to their worlds Saturday, Nov. 14 at 10:30 a.m. at the Ogden Library - a special opportunity to learn about their home countries, cultures, and traditions.

The Common Room Community event at Awestruck was well attended and lots of fun. They do have some leftover pumpkins however, so if you missed it or want to support the endeavor, pick up a pumpkin this week at Ren-Rest - proceeds will go to the fundraiser. Available while supplies last.

Music on the Delaware will welcome Backtrack Vocals - a New York City-based vocal group celebrated for their dynamic performances that blend heart, humor, and harmony - to the main stage at the historic Walton Theatre Saturday, Nov. 21 at 7:30 p.m. Their repertoire spans current pop, Motown, Broadway, classical, original music, and more offers something for everyone. Backtrack Vocals will conduct workshops with Walton schools Friday, Nov. 20. Tickets can be purchased for this in-person and livestreamed concert at www.musiconthedelaware.org - select retailers and at the door.

The Walton Theatre Preservation Association will welcome

Kristina Marinova to the main stage of the Walton Theatre Saturday, Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m. Marinova will perform her critically acclaimed solo piano arrangements of early-period Grateful Dead material from her recent album, “The Bus Came By and I Got On.” Tickets can be purchased at www.musiconthedelaware.org and at the door.

A major change in Walton football - Ron Galley has retired from calling Warrior games after 55 years! I don’t listen on the radio and I still feel like I’m missing him already. Thank you, Ron, for your years of dedication, not just to the football program, but to the whole community. I know you will still be Walton’s biggest champion in any way you choose and can. The Hoover family gifted Ron with a Warrior jersey with the number 71 - the year he started broadcasting Warrior football. A well-deserved tribute.

Walton Boy Scout Troop 45 will host the final Wilson’s BBQ chicken, bake sale and bottle drive of the season Saturday, Oct. 31 at the bus garage from 9:30 a.m. till sold out. Come get your last taste of summer.

Get some tickets for chances to win the beautiful fall gift basket displayed at The Mary Hunter Gift Shop run by DVH volunteers. Tickets are available till Oct. 30 - \$1 each or six for \$5. Come in Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to enter. Several new vendors have shared some beautiful goods with the shop like fall diamond art projects and some beautiful quilts just to mention a couple items.

I loved the little guys raking leaves for a Booster Club fundraiser. What a great service for the community - the boys and girls used some energy and memories were made on a beautiful October day. I hope they made some money and I bet the kids (and parents) slept well Sunday night.

The Walton Booster Club will also host a fundraising barbecued chicken dinner Saturday, Nov. 7 at Austin Lincoln Park. Dinners are \$20 and include baked beans, coleslaw and a roll with butter. Halves are \$12.

The Booster Club will sponsor its second annual Trunk or Treat Nov. 7 from 4-7 p.m. Set up a trunk for \$5. Come enjoy music, games, haunted house, best costume contest, hot cocoa, basket raffle and a prize for the best decorated trunk.

Townsend Elementary School will again host a small celebration for veterans at the school au-

ditorium Nov. 10 starting at 8:30 a.m. Join them for donuts, coffee and socializing followed by a performance from the children’s chorus. All veterans are welcome - please respond to Jami Aubin at jaubin@waltoncsd.org or me - pwood2@frontier.com - before the event. Thanks for your service!

A new event at the Trout Creek Schoolhouse, Sunday Swap, sounds like fun. Bring anything homemade, homegrown, baked, canned, handmade to swap at the Trout Creek Schoolhouse Sunday, Nov. 15 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. You can get a table for \$5 and then swap with others or just sell your goodies.

Riverside Alliance Church, 110 Stockton Ave., will host a chili cookoff Saturday, Nov. 7. Registration fee is \$20; register by calling the church at 607-865-4737 with your name and phone number or mail your registration to the church. Two cash prizes - one for judge’s choice and one for people’s choice which includes a trophy. Set up starts at 4 p.m., tasting tickets are \$5 per person and starts at 5 p.m. Judging at 6:30 p.m.

Walton Fire Department members will hold their annual turkey raffle Saturday, Nov. 14. Doors open at 5 p.m. Event starts at 6; \$2 entry fee, raffle table, 50/50 and food concessions. Cash only; no saving seats so get there as a group. Donations toward the raffle table appreciated. Reach out to a department member to donate.

When you’re in Walton Diner this month consider taking some tickets for the lottery ticket raffle at the counter - until Oct. 31. Coordinated by the Walton Chamber, proceeds will go toward building a new business building on West Street to replace the one that burned. Don’t need to be local to win, we will mail them if you’re out of town. Good luck and thanks in advance.

For the first time, the Southern Tier Singers’ Collective will bring its music to Delaware County. Come to the Walton United Presbyterian Church, 58 East Street, for an afternoon of beautiful Renaissance polyphony in celebration of All Saints and a few musical surprises. This special performance will be Sunday, Nov. 22 at 12 noon. You may have seen STSC in Binghamton, and now they want to share their love of choral music with a new community. Mark your calendars, invite a friend, and spread the word.

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It is important to emphasize that AI does not replace original reporting or the essential work of our journalists. All stories, features, and investigative pieces are carefully researched, fact-checked, and written by our team of experienced reporters. The use of AI enhances our ability to bring you news efficiently but does not substitute the human insight, judgment, and dedication to accuracy that are hallmarks of our publication.

The Reporter remains steadfast in upholding the highest standards of journalism, ensuring that our readers receive trustworthy news while embracing new technologies that support, not replace, the hard work of our newsroom.

Weather Words with Frank Ward

What Happened to Normal?



file

Walton Weather Observer Frank Ward

from getting any deeper. So, let's wet things up. We have been very lucky. We had a very wet August and a very wet September because that brought our water table up. But we now have 11 days in a row where we haven't had any rain at all and that's going to continue until the end of this month. Maybe even into the beginning part of November.

I know there's piles and piles and piles of leaves that people have raked. I walked into the woods yesterday and in some places, we have a foot worth of dry leaves. Please don't burn anything outside. All we need is a spark in the wrong place, and we might have to get our fire departments to start battling wildfires. So please, don't burn outside. It's not a good idea. However, that means it's going to be wonderful for the Townsend School parade. It's going to be wonderful for anything else schools are doing. I don't know if other schools have



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County Economic Development Announces Ag Grants, Programs

By J. Lawrence-Bauer

DELHI - Delaware County Economic Development Specialist Lindsay Whitbeck laid out a wide-ranging update of local agricultural support and commercial development efforts during a county Economic Development committee meeting Wednesday, Oct. 7, highlighting new grant opportunities for dairy farmers, main street revitalization efforts, and ongoing industrial site redevelopments.

Whitbeck, who manages a wide-ranging array of grant and business education programs that can serve nearly every business in the county focused on current and near future opportunities in her report.

With a call to local dairy farmers regarding state funding opportunities for facility upgrades, Whitbeck said, “This [grant] is for dairy modernization, for the bulk tank, and parlor upgrades.” She added, “There is no match [of grant funding requires]. These grants are from \$50 to \$250,000, and the deadline is October 28th.”

Whitbeck emphasized that the funding is being administered through the state’s Farm Food

and Growth Fund via the Department of Agriculture and Markets, noting that the application process is unusually straightforward. “The application is very simple compared to what I’ve seen in the past, so I’m really getting that out there,” she said, encouraging interested producers to reach out directly to the county for assistance.

In addition to grant promotion, Whitbeck requested permission to attend the 2026 Agritourism Conference Nov. 4–5, noting that registration costs \$125 and that funds are available in the budget. She pointed out that past attendance provided valuable insight, particularly now that direct grant dollars are available for regional agritourism and lodging projects.

Reflecting on seasonal agricultural activity, Whitbeck noted that farm-related inquiries have slowed down as producers head into the fall harvest season.

“Ag is pretty quiet right now, considering it’s time for farmers to get out and get harvesting, corn, soybeans, et cetera,” Whitbeck explained. “Grants will be opening in November and December. You know, farmers just don’t have time at the moment to think about that. They’re very busy preparing for winter.”



Delaware County Economic Development Specialist Lindsay Whitbeck outlined a wide range of assistance programs for Delaware County businesses on Wednesday, Oct. 7 in Delhi. Among the offerings is a grant opportunity for dairy farmers that requires no matching funds.

Despite the seasonal lull in field operations, small-scale farm ventures and Main Street businesses continue to expand across the county. Whitbeck highlighted an uptick in roadside stands in communities like Fleischmanns, Delhi, Andes, and Meridale, with staff working to map new stands as they distribute Delaware Bounty guides.

“Roadside stands, even small, like, small businesses. They’re really starting to populate different main street areas,” she noted.

Department officials also addressed commercial and indus-

trial projects, acknowledging that business development often moves behind closed doors until agreements are finalized.

Economic Development Director Glenn Nealis said, “To let people know that we do more than ag and tourism... economic development stuff is a little harder to talk about just because everything’s confidential till it’s not.”

Key municipal development initiatives include assisting communities with applying for or implementing funds for Downtown Revitalization Initiatives (DRI). The efforts include assisting Delhi with an application, helping Walton with a New York Forward application, and participating in financing panels for business owners in Stamford.

Nealis noted that all of the revitalization grants operate on a reimbursement basis, which means communities and business owner must find funding to get the projects done they wait for reimbursement. County staff have been guiding grant recipients in developing upfront financing packages from Economic Development, local banks and the Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC).

Several property-specific proj-

ects were also highlighted across Delaware County. Nealis said that in Hancock, staff resolved state Superfund characterization issues on a commercial parcel with the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), fully clearing the land for a business expansion and returning it to local tax rolls.

Officials in Sidney are working to attract two new operations, including a transportation-related business in an industrial zone and what Nealis described as “potentially and hopefully a significant retail project.”

In Harpersfield, staff are assisting with an early-stage, tourism-related project involving DEC considerations.

“This will be a slow one because for them and for the area, it’s big and it’s gonna be a little bit complicated,” said Nealis.

Nealis, who also leads the Industrial Development Agency (IDA) reported finalizing some assistance for local initiatives, including water pre-treatment improvements for Lactalis in Walton and work on some Delaware Street Walton projects. He noted that in Roxbury, the IDA hopes to close soon for a new project that is part of their New York Forward list of projects.

Delaware County Supervisors Approve \$15K Budget Shift for Weather Stations, Drone

Equipment purchases to improve southern county weather monitoring and support mapping, cemetery and economic development projects

Staff Report

DELHI - Delaware County Planning Director Shelly Johnson-Bennett asked the county Planning Committee Tuesday, Oct. 20, to shift \$15,000 in unused personnel funding to equipment purchases, allowing her department to buy two weather stations and a drone this year rather than include the cost in its 2027 budget. Supervisors approved the budget amendment and purchases on Oct. 28.

Johnson-Bennett said the transfer will reduce her department’s 2027 budget request by \$15,000. Most of the department’s proposed budget increases involve contractual personnel costs, leaving little room for discretionary reductions.

“I figure every little bit can help,” she told committee members.

The proposed purchases include weather stations for Fishs Eddy and the village of Hancock to improve weather monitoring



A weather station on the county’s Planning and DPW office building on Bridge Street, Delhi.

in the southern part of Delaware County, where Johnson-Bennett said reporting coverage is limited.

“There really isn’t any reporting going on down there, so that would cover those areas,” she said.

Johnson-Bennett noted that much of the county’s active

weather this summer occurred around Hancock. Additional monitoring equipment would provide more data points for tracking local conditions.

The other purchase is a smaller drone equipped with an imaging system for routine photography and mapping projects, including cemetery work and economic development sites.

The department currently uses a larger, approximately \$40,000 drone for lidar flights, which produce detailed mapping data. Johnson-Bennett said the smaller drone would allow staff to

conduct routine imaging without putting unnecessary wear on the more expensive equipment.

“This new imagery drone will help us meet those needs without putting the wear and tear on the larger drone that we need to do the lidar survey mapping with,” she said.

Johnson-Bennett said the department has increased drone operations as more county

ning department, sheriff’s office, emergency medical services and Department of Public Works, she reported.

The Planning Department’s geographic information systems staff also coordinate drone administration for the county, including flight documentation, mapping records and Federal Aviation Administration requirements.

Johnson-Bennett said planning staff handles the administrative work for the county’s drone program, including maintaining records and coordinating FAA reporting. Staff members are cross-training to help ensure those responsibilities can continue if staff retires.

Committee members discussed the importance of cross training employees and maintaining consistent records across departments.

The committee advanced the proposed \$15,000 budget transfer to the full Board of Supervisors. Johnson-Bennett said she would remove the equipment request from her 2027 budget submission.

The department plans to submit purchase requests for the drone and two weather stations so they can be ordered before the end of the year.



Delaware County Planning Director Shelly Johnson-Bennett reports to the county’s planning committee Oct. 20.

employees have obtained pilot licenses. Two planning department employees are now licensed drone pilots, she said.

The county has 11 or 12 licensed pilots across several departments, including the plan-



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RE-ELECT MAYA BOUKAI
as Delhi Town Supervisor





Maya Boukai,
Delhi Town Supervisor

Maya’s financial planning skills have paid off handsomely for Delhi. **She has secured over \$875,000 in grant funds** to support recreation, planning, housing, and community development initiatives, significantly reducing the burden on local taxpayers while increasing public benefits. **Her smart investments of town funds generated \$330,000 over her first 30 months in office.** Maya’s excellent financial management ensures that the Town is well positioned for future capital investments and emergencies.

Maya has also been heroic in advocating for transparency and fairness on the County Board of Supervisors, which so often operates on darkness and favoritism.

We need Maya for two more years!

VOTE NOVEMBER 3

paid for by Delhi Town Democratic Committee

Delaware County Adds \$15,000 to Eviction Prevention Program

State funding will help Social Services assist households facing eviction over unpaid housing costs

Staff Report

DELHI - Delaware County supervisors approved a \$15,000 budget amendment Wednesday, Oct. 28, to support a program that helps individuals and families facing eviction because of overdue housing payments.

The resolution increases both state revenue and spending appropriations by \$15,000 for the Shelter Arrears Eviction Foreclosure Program, administered locally by the Delaware County Department of Social Services.

The county expects to be reimbursed for the full amount by New York state, according to the resolution.

The amendment increases revenue in the State Family Assistance account by \$15,000 and directs the same amount to the county's Rental Supplement Program.

The Shelter Arrears Eviction Foreclosure Program provides assistance to eligible households struggling with overdue shelter expenses, helping them avoid eviction and potential homelessness. Shelter arrears can include unpaid rent, mortgage payments and property taxes.

Delaware County supervisors previously accepted a \$17,425 New York State Family Assistance grant for the program in November 2024. At the time, the Department of Social Services said the funding would expand assistance for residents facing eviction or foreclosure because of housing arrears.

During a November 2024 Social Services Committee meeting, officials explained that applicants must first apply for Safety Net cash assistance or Emergency Assistance for Families. Those who do not qualify may then be considered for the foreclosure program, subject to its eligibility and financial requirements.

Officials also noted that applicants who had received funding through either of those programs within the previous five years were disqualified from receiving assistance through the foreclosure program.

The program is intended for households facing housing-payment arrears that may have difficulty meeting eligibility requirements for other emergency assistance. Officials previously described the funding as limited but useful in helping eligible residents avoid losing their housing.

High Fuel Costs...

continued from front page

County statistics show that HEAP cases stood at 3,390 last year, down from 3,556 in prior data, before dropping off sharply during early autumn - a seasonal trend that typically reverses once full heating assistance opens in November.

A complicating factor for the 2026-27 season is a planned blackout for unemployment insurance services by the New York State Department of Labor which is also scheduled to begin Nov. 2 and last at least 12 days. During the period, which coincides with many seasonal layoffs in the region, all online portals, automated phone lines, and filing/certification services will be offline and no new claims or certifications for weekly benefits will occur.

While benefit cases and payment delays will be temporary, they will occur, as many families

are gearing up for their first big fuel expenditures of the season. **Cold weather triggers shelter housing mandate**

Alongside heating assistance, county officials are turning their attention to cold-weather emergency housing and homelessness protocols. Under state regulations, when local temperatures drop to 32 degrees Fahrenheit or below, factoring in windchill, the county has a mandatory obligation to provide shelter to individuals in need.

"When I got in my car this morning, it was 27 degrees," Weaver reported. "So anything that's 32 degrees or below factoring in windchill, so it could be 40 degrees out, but the windchill makes it below 32, we have an obligation to house."

Weaver cautioned that these weather-triggered mandate rules

complicate local shelter enforcement when individuals break rules or act against facility expectations. In such instances, the county loses the ability to remove non-compliant individuals during subfreezing conditions.

"We had our first situation where somebody was acting against our expectations, for the shelter," an official explained. "We could remove them today, but if they present again this weekend, where the weather is going to be below 32 degrees, then we have a mandate or we will have the inability to remove them if they're not behaving the way that we expect them to."

To accommodate individuals and families requiring shelter, Delaware County utilizes facilities including a shelter where the lower level features a handicap-accessible ramp. County practice generally reserves the lower level for families, barring specific accessibility needs for single individuals.

Delaware County Manure Program Spreads More than 18M Gallons, Expands Farm Options

Soil and Water Conservation District reports growing success with manure injection and plans regional conservation coalition

Staff Report

DELHI - Delaware County's manure management program has spread more than 18 million gallons of manure this year with work continuing as officials look to expand the effort and build a regional coalition to secure additional funding for agricultural and environmental projects.

Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District Stream Program Coordinator and Executive Director Graydon Dutcher told the Delaware County Planning Committee Tuesday, Oct. 20, that the program is helping farmers manage manure more efficiently while reducing the challenges associated with storing and spreading it.

"It's a home run of epic proportion, as far as I'm concerned," Dutcher said.



file

Manure injection equipment.

He credited the county supervisors for supporting the program and providing funding that helped the district leverage additional grants. The district also works with the Watershed Agricultural Council, Cornell University, Cooperative Extension and other partners on nutrient management planning, technical assistance and field testing.

"This is what a demonstration of when all of our local partners are working together and rowing in the same direction," Dutcher said. "We're, as a unit, achieving big things."

Farmers see potential savings
The program's benefits may extend beyond environmental protection, officials said.

By hiring contractors to apply manure, farmers can avoid some of the costs of purchasing and maintaining spreading equipment and hiring workers to operate it. The coordinated approach also can make it practical to transport manure farther from a farmstead to productive fields that otherwise might not receive it.

Dutcher cited one farm that transported manure more than 20 miles this year.

"They said we would never have been able to do that without this project," he said.

The district is also working with Cornell researchers on test plots examining manure injection and fertilizer use. Early results suggest some farmers may be able to reduce commercial fertilizer applications after injecting manure, though Dutcher said the data must be evaluated before conclusions can be drawn.

One farmer who applied additional nitrogen to corn after manure injection told the district, "I don't think I should have. I don't think I needed to do that."

Dutcher said the findings could eventually point to significant savings in fertilizer costs. He cautioned that the results remain preliminary and that researchers must complete their analysis.

Officials also cited potential safety benefits from reducing winter manure spreading, when frozen equipment and hazardous conditions can put farmers and workers at risk.

Regional coalition planned
Dutcher said the district is working to establish a coalition of conservation districts across the Upper Delaware River watershed, with eight districts expected to participate.

The coalition would seek state and federal funding for conservation projects throughout the basin, allowing communities inside and outside New York City's watershed to pursue opportunities more equitably.

"I want all - everybody - in that Delaware River watershed to be treated equally," Dutcher said.

He said the district has secured support from the participating districts and is working to finalize paperwork. The effort would follow a model used by the Upper Susquehanna Coalition, which brings conservation districts and other partners together to coordinate projects and pursue funding.

Dutcher said a regional structure could help participating counties share technical expertise and compete for larger grants. Delaware County has three engineers on staff, he said, whose expertise could benefit other districts.

Committee members also discussed the possibility of state environmental agencies eventually helping cover manure application costs as grant funding changes or expires. Dutcher expressed confidence in the program's results but did not announce a commitment for future state funding.

He said the district plans to continue expanding the program and building partnerships across the region.

"We want to look at things as: 'How does this benefit and work together in the whole Northeast?'" Dutcher said.

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J. Lawrence Bauer/The Reporter

Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District Stream Program Coordinator and Executive Director Graydon Dutcher gave a presentation to the county's planning committee Oct. 20.

The program relies on custom applicators, including Albanos (Frank Albano of Albano's Precision Application), to spread manure on farmland using specialized equipment and coordinated planning. Officials said the approach allows farms to apply manure to fields that might otherwise be difficult to reach and reduces the need for individual farmers to maintain their own spreading equipment.

Dutcher, who began his career as a district technician designing large manure storage facilities, said the transition from daily spreading to storing manure for six to eight months has created new demands on farmers.

"You love it in the storing period, but when you have to get it out on growing crops, you have to have robust equipment, manpower, all those things have to come together seamlessly to make that happen," he said.

The custom application program helps address those challenges, Dutcher said, while advancing the district's mission of reducing nonpoint source pollution from agriculture.

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Andes Botanical Garden Plan Faces Test: Can a Historic Mansion Be Saved?

Vision for gardens, trails and community programs at the Ballantine mansion outlined, but council questions continued tax relief without measurable progress on restoration

Staff Report

ANDES - The future of the Ballantine mansion, a historic property across from the Andes Public Library, came into sharper focus at the Andes Town Council meeting Tuesday, Oct. 13, as Tina DeSantos presented a proposal to turn its grounds into a botanical garden and community destination.

The vision is expansive: native and pollinator gardens, walking trails, educational programs, outdoor gathering spaces and eventually, the restoration and reuse of two historic buildings. Organizers say the project could preserve an important property while giving residents and visitors new reasons to spend time in Andes throughout the year.

But the presentation also revived a difficult question: How long should the town continue

benefits even while the buildings undergo the lengthy process of restoration.

“We wanted the project to feel more informed by the community,” DeSantos said.

Organizers have sought public input through surveys and displays asking residents what they value about Andes, what they would like to see at the property and what concerns they have about the proposal. A harvest picnic held Sept. 26 was among the community activities associated with the effort.

The property has also provided parking for town events and for the Andes Library while its parking area was being rebuilt. Those uses have offered a glimpse of how the grounds might support community activities before the larger project is complete.

DeSantos said the organization wants residents to understand what has been happening

remains the most immediate obstacle.

DeSantos described efforts to clear and secure parts of the property, make small repairs, board vulnerable windows and basement openings, and temporarily protect areas affected by leaks. Some test cuts have been made for potential trails, and portions of an old sidewalk have been excavated.

range would suggest roughly \$2.4 million to \$3 million for that building alone.

The actual cost could vary substantially depending on the condition of the structure, the scope of repairs, code requirements and the specialists needed. The meeting produced no firm overall budget or completion date.

DeSantos said the immediate priority is the roof, followed by

damage to windows, DeSantos said. Organizers have boarded openings and taken steps to secure the buildings. The proposed transition from residential use to community, educational and event space will require further review, she acknowledged, including consultation with the Planning Board and potentially additional permits.

Gladstone presses for accountability

For Gladstone, the question is not whether a botanical garden could benefit Andes, but whether the organization has demonstrated enough progress to justify the property’s tax-exempt status.

Participants estimated that the exemption represents about \$15,000 in annual property-tax revenue for the town. That amount was cited during the meeting but was not independently verified in the presentation.

Gladstone said the town should be able to see substantive renovation work rather than rely solely on plans for the grounds and future programming.

“Support equals progress, in my opinion,” he said.

He warned that without timely repairs, the buildings could continue to deteriorate.

“The structure is still going to fall in on itself if nothing gets done pretty quick,” he said.

Others at the meeting pressed for a clearer schedule: What work would happen first? When would the roof be repaired? What would be done about the windows and other structural issues? How would residents know that the project was moving forward?

Some questioned whether the garden proposal differed from the educational facilities and activities described when the property was first donated. DeSantos said education remains central to the plan and that the botanical garden provides a way to combine learning with public access to the landscape.

The concern over the property’s mission also reflected a broader need to restore trust after years of disagreement and uncertainty. Some participants argued that the town should establish measurable milestones and review progress over the coming year.

DeSantos acknowledged that the presentation was intended first to explain the concept and gauge community support, rather than deliver a fully engineered restoration plan. She said the organization did not want the buildings to continue deteriorating and hoped the garden would help generate the public interest and financial backing needed to save them.

“We don’t want this building to fall into the ground,” she said.

Peter Calvert, whose family had a connection to the property, also spoke about its history. He said his parents moved there in 1997 and invested more than \$200,000 in restoration, opened French and Italian restaurants, and used the house for travel festivals. He supported repairing the property, though his account of the roof’s history differed from DeSantos’ description.

The meeting ended without a firm restoration timetable or a resolution of the tax-exemption debate. Organizers still need cost estimates, funding commitments and approvals before the full project can proceed.

For now, the proposal rests on a sequence of steps: stabilize the roof, address urgent building problems, secure financing, develop a detailed restoration plan and begin building the gardens and trails in coordination with construction.

The larger question remains whether the organization can translate its vision into visible work quickly enough to persuade town officials and residents that the Ballantine mansion has a viable future - and that the town’s continued support is warranted.



The Ballantine mansion, 255 Main Street, Andes.

But the copper roof needs attention, she said. Its seams were not properly sealed, and a skylight has been a persistent source of leaks. A roof specialist has been contacted to assess the damage, recommend temporary measures and provide an estimate. DeSantos said she expected the specialist to return within a couple of weeks.

Other work includes replacing an electrical panel in the basement after previous flooding and addressing the challenges common to historic buildings, including lead paint, deteriorated plaster and exterior woodwork.

Any substantial renovation will have to meet modern building and fire-safety requirements while preserving the buildings’ historic character. That may require specialized architects and contractors, updated electrical systems and a modern fire-suppression system.

DeSantos said the organization has contacted architects familiar with the property and historic restoration. Crawford and Stearns, which had worked with a previous owner, reportedly expressed interest in the preservation-focused proposal. Henson Architecture has also been contacted.

The financial challenge is considerable. During the presentation, estimates of \$400 to \$500 per square foot were discussed as a possible benchmark for major restoration work, though no detailed construction estimate was presented. Applied to the larger, 6,000-square-foot building, that

other urgent repairs. A more detailed schedule will depend on professional assessments and the money the organization can secure.

A costly dispute and questions about progress

The property’s recent history has complicated efforts to build confidence in the project.

DeSantos described a dispute in 2024 involving building inspection and code-enforcement placards that restricted access and delayed work. She said a later inspection found that the buildings were not condemned, disputing how the earlier restrictions had been characterized.

She also said the organization incurred approximately \$125,000 in legal expenses during the dispute. That figure prompted questions from participants, who sought a clearer explanation of the expenses and the circumstances that led to them. DeSantos said supporting documentation existed, but she did not have it with her during the presentation.

The discussion did not independently resolve the differing accounts of the earlier dispute.

DeSantos said the organization had raised \$181,000 for the project, with much of that money consumed by legal costs during 2024. That left the group facing the task of rebuilding its financial capacity while developing a plan for a property requiring extensive work.

Organizers hope to secure money through private foundations, government grants and community donations, supplemented by limited revenue from events and programs. DeSantos said she had applied for a Main Street grant the previous year but was not awarded funding. She noted that some preservation and revitalization grants are available only to qualifying nonprofit organizations.

The organization plans a fundraising push during the final quarter of 2026. DeSantos said a more concrete scope and timeline would be developed after the group has a clearer picture of available funding by the end of the year.

The property has also sustained trespassing, break-ins and

“The structure is still going to fall in on itself if nothing gets done pretty quick.”

ANDES COUNCIL MEMBER WAYLAND “BUD” GLADSTONE

foregoing property tax revenue from a nonprofit-owned property when the buildings remain in need of substantial repairs and no firm restoration timetable has been established?

Councilmember Wayland “Bud” Gladstone argued that the organization must demonstrate tangible progress on the buildings before the town should support continued tax relief.

“We should be giving exemptions if there’s substance to a plan, and that’s renovation,” Gladstone said. “Show us the renovation. Do the renovation.”

The discussion laid bare the divide between the project’s long-term promise and the immediate work needed to keep the property from deteriorating further.

A garden and community gathering place

The property covers about 14 acres and includes two historic buildings, one approximately 3,000 square feet and the other about 6,000 square feet. The site was donated in 2023 to MaNaBu Movement, a nonprofit educational organization.

DeSantos said the proposed Andes Botanical Garden grew out of discussions about how to make the property useful to the community while protecting its historic and natural features.

The plan envisions gardens featuring native plants and pollinators, trails through the grounds, educational activities and public gathering areas. Organizers also have discussed a possible tool-lending library, allowing residents to borrow equipment rather than buy tools they may need only occasionally.

The project is intended to offer activity in all seasons, DeSantos said, helping address the seasonal ebb and flow of tourism and business in the Catskills.

She described the property as an opportunity to connect historic preservation with environmental education and community development. Gardens and trails could provide public

at the property and to have an opportunity to shape its future.

“The goal is to just try to let everybody know what is going on,” she said.

Environmental education and landscape work

The proposed garden is intended to be more than an ornamental landscape. Organizers described opportunities to teach visitors about native plants, pollinators, invasive species and ways to manage rainwater.

Landscape architect Katherine Bridges discussed the concept of “sponge landscapes,” which are designed to absorb and slow rainwater rather than send it rushing across paved or compacted surfaces.

A proposed rain garden or bioswale could help capture and filter runoff, reducing the amount of water moving toward nearby streams and the buildings’ basement areas. Native plantings and other landscape improvements could also provide habitat for pollinators while demonstrating approaches residents could use on their own properties.

The group has begun informal landscape planning and work to identify invasive plants, including Japanese knotweed, invasive roses and barberry. Organizers have discussed using the grounds for educational activities in partnership with local gardening groups.

The long-term intention is to coordinate landscape work with building restoration rather than treat the two as separate projects. But organizers also face a practical challenge: Major construction around the buildings will need to be coordinated with future gardens and paths so work does not have to be repeated.

DeSantos said the landscape could begin taking shape before the buildings are ready for public use, creating visible progress while fundraising and planning continue.

The buildings need substantial work

The condition of the mansion



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Delaware County Senior Council: More Support for Seniors



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Renate Rennie, representing Roxbury seniors, left, at a Monday, Oct. 19 Delaware County Senior Council meeting. Also pictured is Senior Council President Bill Moody, Hamden resident Elfie Anschlowar and Robert Henault, treasurer.

Staff Report

DELHI - Delaware County's Office for the Aging plans to expand options for seniors who need help at home and increase outreach to family caregivers, Director Lyndsay Komosinski told the Delaware County Senior Council at its Monday, Oct. 19, meeting.

Komosinski said the agency received positive feedback at a public hearing held earlier in the day, where staff reviewed current

provide assistance, rather than wait for help through an agency.

Komosinski said the county's two contracts with home care agencies offer limited availability.

Another goal is to have an Office for the Aging staff member attend senior club meetings throughout the county to explain available services, particularly the National Family Caregiver Support Program.

The program, formerly known as Legacy, offers support to people caring for family members. Komosinski said participation has been low despite an expansion that now includes a voucher program to help pay for respite care.

Under the program, eligible caregivers can receive up to \$600 per program year to pay someone they choose to provide temporary care, giving the caregiver time away from those responsibilities.

"We aren't getting really many phone calls at all," Komosinski said, adding that she believed only one person was receiving respite assistance through the



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Delaware County Office for the Aging Director Lyndsay Komosinski gives a report to senior council Monday, Oct. 19.

agency at the time of the meeting.

Council members said many residents may not know the service is available.

"I think that's a great idea because that's what I hear from my neighbors," one member said. "People didn't need help, so they didn't know where to go to help. When they find out they need it, they don't know where to look."

Komosinski said the caregiver program is supported by fed-

eral funding and is not limited to people enrolled in Medicaid. Eligibility requirements apply, and residents can contact the Office for the Aging for details.

Harvest Fest draws praise

Senior Council member Peg Hilson also reported that the council's annual Harvest Fest fundraiser - the sale of apples, cider and baked goods - was successful despite rainy weather.

Apples and cider were donated by Frog Pond, Hilson said, and organizers included the business's cards in bags of apples to recognize the donation and encourage attendees to visit.

Council members also praised the variety of baked goods available at the event. Some attendees returned looking for particular pies and cakes they had purchased in previous years, Hilson said, demonstrating the event's continuing appeal.

For more information about Delaware County Senior Council, or to join a senior club in Delaware County, call OFA at 607-832-5750 or visit delcony.gov/departments/ofa/seniorclubs.html

Stamford Trustees Approve New Laws Amid Public Concerns

Bridge Funding Advances, Veteran Banners Discussed

By Duane Martin

STAMFORD - Stamford Trustees held their regular meeting Tuesday, Oct. 20 following two public hearings on proposed local laws.

The first hearing addressed an amendment to an existing law changing eligibility requirements for planning board and zoning board of appeals members. Under the amendment, members must own property within the village and reside either in the village of Stamford or the towns of Harpersfield or Stamford. The second hearing concerned a new indemnification law for village employees and elected officials while performing village-related duties.

During the public hearing, Karen Saminski, owner of Mountain Dog Café LLC and 5-9 Harper Street LLC, questioned why the first law required amendment after it had already been passed. Officials said that the change was necessary to comply with New York state requirements.

Saminski also raised concerns about the indemnification law, noting it had not been publicized on the village website or in local newspapers. She argued that the lack of notice limited opportunities for public input and questioned provisions involving the use of personal email, social media, or websites for village business. Saminski, an attorney, expressed concern that the law could place financial burdens on taxpayers and argued that determining whether conduct was village-related should remain a matter for the courts. She also stated that an elected official involved in ongoing litigation with her family should recuse themselves from voting on the measure.

Trustees closed the public hearing at 7:10 p.m. and approved both local laws by roll-call vote.

Resident Maggie Rickett of Harper Street thanked Public Works Superintendent Jesse Calia and the public works crew for their quick response to a water main break near her home. Rickett said she discovered her basement flooding at approximately 5:30 a.m. and initially believed the issue was related to her plumbing before learning it was caused by a water main break.

Rickett expressed concerns about cleanup expenses and a potentially increased water bill. Mayor Rob Schneider stated that water board members are discussing ways to address cleanup costs and noted that meter readings were not affected by the break.

Laurie Lamport of River Street raised three issues during public comment. First, she asked why the village did not display banners honoring veterans and active-duty military personnel. Schneider explained that many banners are attached to streetlights slated for replacement as part of the village's New York Forward grant project. Trustee Catherine Snyder said the village

would work with community organizations to explore ways to honor veterans through a banner program.

Lamport also inquired about the River Street bridge, which has been closed for more than five years. The bridge connects River Street to state Route 10 between the Baptist Church and Tractor Supply. Schneider said a previous state grant was returned because historic preservation requirements increased project costs beyond available funding. He announced that the New York State Department of Transportation has approved additional funding for the project but could not provide a timeline for construction.

Her final concern involved a

River Street property where vehicles are allegedly being repaired. Lamport cited issues including noise, traffic, and vehicles parked on sidewalks. Schneider said Code Enforcement Officer Richard Briscoe had spoken with the property owner and that further discussions with county officials would determine the next steps.

In his report, Calia said crews have been collecting leaves, preparing equipment for winter operations, and recently repaired two water-related breaks, including one on Hobart Road and another on Harper Street. He also reported preparations for the installation of new gas generators.

Village Treasurer Sandra Collins reported that Excellus Health

Insurance remained the most cost-effective option for employee coverage, despite a 13.5% premium increase.

Water and wastewater plant manager Lucas Flaschs reported that the tank one coating project was nearing completion and expected to return to service by the end of the week. He also noted that an Aerzen turbo blower remained out of service pending installation of replacement parts.

Flaschs requested approval to replace outdoor lighting and wiring at the sewer treatment plant. The existing system has been inoperable since last fall after electrical upgrades overloaded the wiring. He presented a proposal from Place Electric of Oneonta

totaling \$12,800, with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection covering \$3,200 of the cost. Trustees cited safety concerns and approved the expenditure. Flaschs added that new generators at both treatment plants are expected to be installed by Oct. 29 and that NYSEG and Place Electric are upgrading the electrical system at the filtration plant.

In other business, the Code Enforcement Office reported issuing four zoning permits and three compliance permits, conducting two inspections, reviewing one site plan application, and completing one property search.

The next regularly scheduled trustees meeting is Nov. 17.



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DSS Navigates Staffing, Vehicles, and New Programs

By J. Lawrence-Bauer

DELHI - Budget preparations, capital improvement projects, and state-reimbursed funding programs took center stage Monday, Oct. 19, as the Delaware County Social Services (DSS) committee convened to hammer out adjustments for the department's 2027 budget.

Department officials reported making significant strides in settling their personnel budget, awaiting final sheets from the personnel department to complete the last hurdle in the process.

"It's the last step from our standpoint for what we need to do to have our budget ready to rock and roll," said Commissioner Keith Weaver, highlighting the department's readiness to finalize its proposals once unfilled position cuts are reviewed with a fine-tooth comb.

Addressing persistent staffing vacancies, Committee Chairperson Wayne Marshfield noted that chronically unfilled positions remain in the budget, holding resources that might never be used if the positions continue to go unfilled. Marshfield reassured staff that critical roles would remain supported: "If you need the position, we'll find it in finance," said Marshfield.

Catherine "Cat" Noeth, direc-



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Delaware County Social Services Commissioner Keith Weaver gave a report on budget items during the monthly meeting of the county's Social Services Committee Monday, Oct. 19. The department has not finalized their proposed budget for 2027.

tor of Fiscal Management, reported on efforts to make equipment purchases slated for next year now as long as they still have current-year funds available. Noeth noted the request to push up the purchases had come from county administration and noted quotes for department vehicles have already been secured, while pricing for computers and printers remains pending from technology personnel.

"They're [cars] actually cheaper this year than they were last year," Noeth said regarding vehicle pricing. Because vehicle deliveries are expected next year,

the committee plans to encumber the funds following formal resolution approval.

"So from a fiscal standpoint, I think we're doing pretty well," Weaver added.

Committee members reviewed and voiced no objections to a budget amendment establishing the Shelter Arrears Eviction Forestallment (SAFE) program, a component of the state's Rental Supplement Program. Designed with minimal barriers to assist residents facing eviction who might otherwise exceed income limits for standard emergency assistance, the \$15,000 initiative is fully funded by state reimbursement.

Reading the resolution aloud Weaver highlighted its scope: "Whereas the department believes that this program will assist individuals and families who are facing eviction due to shelter arrears, and whereas the county will be 100% reimbursed by the state... Now, therefore, be resolved that the 2026 budget be amended."

Professional Training and Advocacy

Weaver celebrated a major win for state-level administrative training, a topic often discussed by the committee. Following months of advocacy alongside the New York Public Welfare Association (NYPWA), the state is launching its first Fiscal Institute training Oct. 29, focusing on state claiming deadlines and other protocols.

Noeth will represent Delaware County at the inaugural session.

Additional authorizations were approved for adult services supervisors attending the Cooperstown Community Conference, organizational wellness training in Binghamton, peer support sessions with Schoharie County fiscal staff, and specialized visitation center training.

Committee members concluded with a review of ongoing capital project balances, including \$266,000 remaining in the visitation project line, \$73,000 remaining in the homeless shelter project line and \$272,000 remaining for the DSS South facility in Walton near Delaware

Valley Hospital.

While acknowledging remaining the remaining funds, Weaver was unwilling to say the money is available noting there is more work yet to finish. He pointed to site work such as fencing, landscaping, and walkway installation and emphasized the need to coordinate parking lot paving at DSS South with neighboring construction at Delaware Valley Hospital.

"It's a bit inconvenient, but it's for the greater good, and I think both sides have done a really good job on collaborating with one another to make it as seamless as humanly possible," Weaver said.

He indicated that Pete Montgomery (county building and grounds and maintenance department head) was the person who knew the exact status of each project and that only he could determine if or when the funds should be considered ready for closeout.

Weaver will consult with Montgomery before formally closing out any project.

Middletown Inches Toward Short-Term Rental Law; Increases Building Permit Fees

By J. Lawrence-Bauer

MARGARETVILLE - Moving one step closer to finalizing local oversight for the town's booming vacation rental market, Middletown council members approved a resolution to officially advance short-term rental licensing and regulations and scheduled another public hearing on the proposal for Wednesday, Dec. 2 at 6 p.m. In a related matter, council members also approved an updated schedule of building permit fees for 2027 that includes new fees related to the proposed law.

The procedural vote allows municipal officials to formally notify Delaware County and surrounding municipalities about the proposed regulations, triggering a mandatory review process before final enactment.

Officials explained that adopting the formal resolution is a required prerequisite under New York General Municipal Law § 239-m, which mandates that local legislation affecting real property or zoning considerations be submitted to the Delaware County Planning Board and shared with neighboring municipalities for review prior to a final vote.

After a properly noticed public hearing on the resolution, the town may then move on to the new local law.

Council members emphasized that scheduling a second public hearing ensures full public review before any final adoption

and it will also allow discussion of the proposed fee schedule associated with short-term rental permits and building inspections.

"And it's probably a fair thing, because when we get to [discussion] the rates for the licensing are part of that conversation," Supervisor Glen Faulkner said during the discussion. "So it'll be fully transparent with the public that here's the law and what it means, but it also will have the rate structure with it."

The licensing fees and building permit rates are designed to cover the administrative and code enforcement costs associated with inspecting properties, verifying safety compliance, and processing annual applications.

Months of Review and Community Input

The proposed framework represents the culmination of research by the Middletown Citizen Short-Term Rental Committee. Earlier committee research presented to the board by committee member Lissa Harris estimated that approximately 15% of Middletown's total housing stock operates as short-term rentals.

In previous public hearings, residents and town officials weighed the balance between supporting tourism revenues and protecting long-term housing affordability. Town Assessor Meg Balcom, who served on the drafting committee, previously pointed out that investor-driven acquisitions often remove single-family homes from the local residential market. Other residents,

including local realtors and business owners, urged the board to ensure broad public notice and consider caps on non-resident ownership.

Under the current draft regulations, operators will be required to obtain annual licenses, maintain local property managers reachable within specific response times, adhere to strict occupancy and parking limits, prove liability insurance, and pass annual fire and building safety inspections.

New Building Permit Fees

Among the changes in fees that were unanimously adopted were a new fee for swimming pool inspections, an increase in the one-time-only tourist home registration fee to \$150, and an increase in the fee for municipal searches from \$25 to \$50.

Fees directly tied to short term rentals once they are registered will be \$300 a year for Middletown residents and \$400 a year for non-residents.

Fees for permits to build new homes rose by \$100 in each of four size categories making the fee to build a new home under 2,000 square feet \$500, climbing to \$600 for 2,000 - 3,000 square feet and \$700 for 3,000 to 5,000 square feet and \$900 for over 5,000 square feet. Fees for additions, repairs and decks are determined by the square footage of the projects with minor repairs and small decks at lower fees to a maximum fee of \$800 for a major home addition. Renewing a building permit will increase from \$25 to \$50 for the first year.

Margaretville Cool...

continued from front page



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Kristina Zill told Margaretville trustees Oct. 20 that Transition Catskills will discontinue operation by the end of the year. She asked the village to take over EV chargers in the municipal parking lot.

coverage details remain unfirmed.

Despite Zill's assertion that user fees would offset operating expenses, trustees responded with skepticism. Mayor John Hubbell mostly listened as Trustee Jeff Warren voiced immediate opposition to taking on additional municipal responsibility, raising concerns over vague financial metrics and the departure of Transition Catskills.

"My concern is that Transition Catskills... you're coming in and this gets done and then you guys are gone," Warren said. "You want us to take on this responsibility so that we don't have anyone that's going to show up once or twice a year coming in to talk

to us about this... because the numbers seem to be vague and you didn't seem to be able to explain them all clearly."

Warren added firmly, "I don't think the village taxpayers should be hit for someone else going up there... for car electricity or even us having it there."

Trustee Dave Budin echoed Warren's sentiments, questioning why local government should enter the vehicle fueling market.

"I think we're talking a moot point. I kind of agree with Jeff. I wouldn't vote for this thing," Budin said. "I don't think the village belongs in the charging station business. I don't want to be blunt, but that's my answer."

Currently, one of the two village ports is entirely out of service and has been broken for several years, while the remaining port continues to function. Zill noted that Level 2 stations were not intended to be super chargers that would charge cars at super fast speeds.

As debate turned to how neighboring municipalities manage public charging, including stations operated in Fleischmanns, Belleayre, and by the town of Middletown - trustees agreed to hold off on any immediate decisions.

Warren agreed to investigate how the town of Middletown handles billing, usage policies, and cost-recovery for its local chargers before the board revisits the matter. Trustees tabled the discussion for a future meeting.

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Roxbury Advances DRI Projects, Sets Budget Hearings

By J. Lawrence-Bauer

ROXBURY - Roxbury council members addressed a wide range of municipal business at their meeting Tuesday, Oct. 13, receiving progress reports on the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI), scheduling a public hearing on the 2027 tentative budget, and adjusting upcoming meeting schedules.

Peg Ellsworth, executive director of the MARK Project, presented a detailed update on various components of the state-funded DRI program. Ellsworth noted that the branding and marketing team recently completed four community focus groups, including a session with local youth.

"They held four focus groups," Ellsworth said. "One of them with the Roxbury Central School grades nine through 12, which I thought was really important and a great accomplishment."

Ellsworth informed the council that consultants are moving into the preliminary design phase and requested the appointment of a small steering committee to

work directly with designers. To ensure balanced representation across the town, members were selected from both Grand Gorge and Roxbury. Jody Albano and Joe Resch agreed to represent Grand Gorge, while Allan Aujero of Catskill Mountain Wood and Daughter and an unnamed representative from Plattekill Mountain will serve for Roxbury.

When questioned about the appointments, Ellsworth responded by pushing forward. "Allan, Judith's husband. That's how everyone knows him," Ellsworth quipped. "So if you guys are okay with that, I'd like to keep that moving."

To keep residents informed, Ellsworth announced that a monthly tracking document detailing the real-time status of all DRI projects will be published and regularly updated on the town website.

"It will be the end of each month, it'll be a new doc explaining where every project is in its real time, whether they're under contract, whether they're in construction," she explained.

Addressing upcoming infra-



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

MARK Project Executive Director Peg Ellsworth reported on the status of Downtown Revitalization Initiative Projects at a meeting Tuesday, Oct. 13. Ellsworth said branding and sidewalk repair are on tap, cautioning that there isn't enough money in the grant to do every lineal foot of sidewalk infrastructure.

structure projects, Ellsworth stated she is preparing a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) for engineering and design for town sidewalks once priority locations are finalized. She noted that while \$1.25 million in DRI funding is allocated for sidewalks, it

will not cover all areas.

"The 1.25 in the DRI for sidewalks is not going to do every lineal foot of sidewalks in both towns, so we need to start where the worst parts are prioritized," Ellsworth said.

The board also discussed reissue timing for the Civic Center engineering RFP, which previously generated only a single response. Board members agreed to issue the RFP immediately rather than waiting until spring, aiming for a late November or early December submittal date to ensure a start in early 2027.

During public discussion, Renate Rennie inquired about the status of a proposed short-term rental (Airbnb) regulation document introduced three meetings prior. Officials confirmed comments and revisions from multiple parties are currently being compiled, with an updated draft expected at the next meeting.

Transitioning to official business, the board approved standard financial reports and authorized a lease agreement with the Delaware County Office for the Aging to continue senior meal

service at the Civic Center.

Following a budget workshop held earlier in the month, the board moved to classify the 2027 financial plan as a preliminary budget and make it available on the town website. Public hearings for both the preliminary budget and a proposed local law to override the state tax levy cap were formally scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 5, at 4 p.m.

Council members noted that while additional cuts are being explored, public feedback is an essential step before final adoption.

"The way that's done is if we can get enough cut out of the budget that we don't need that [the tax cap override], and we just won't pass it," Supervisor Allen Hinkley explained.

The regular November meeting was rescheduled to Thursday, Nov. 12, at 6 p.m. Council members concluded resolutions by approving the annual transfer of unpaid Denver, Grand Gorge, and Roxbury water balances onto the January 2027 town and county tax bills for accounts remaining delinquent after Oct. 30.

Colchester Opposes Proposed State Landfill Regulations Over Fears of Rising Costs

By Patti Cantamessa

COLCHESTER - Though the public comments period has expired, Colchester council members opposed proposed New York State Department of Environmental Conservation regulations that county officials estimate could add millions of dollars annually to the operation of the county's landfill, at a meeting held Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Proposed regulations would require active municipal solid waste landfills to treat leachate, the liquid generated when water passes through waste, for contaminants including heavy metals, PFAS and 1,4-dioxane before discharge to wastewater treatment facilities.

According to the resolution adopted by Colchester councilmembers Delaware County estimates that complying with the proposed requirements could cost approximately \$2.9 million annually in debt service for treatment system construction and

installation.

Including operating expenses, the county projects annual costs could reach approximately \$6.8 million over the next 20 years, excluding inflation.

The resolution states that recovering those costs through landfill tipping fees could require an increase of approximately \$322 per ton, based on the county's 2022 disposal volume of 21,084 tons.

County officials also estimated an annual cost equivalent to approximately \$354 per household, based on 19,203 households recorded in the 2020 census.

The figures represent county projections rather than costs already incurred.

The state proposal announced in July is intended to reduce the release of potentially harmful contaminants into waterways and strengthen protections for



The Delaware County Landfill on state Route 10 in Walton.

drinking water.

However, Delaware County officials contend that the proposed requirements could impose substantial financial burdens on rural communities operating mu-

tal impacts of the proposed regulations.

Delaware County supervisors previously adopted a resolution opposing the proposed rulemaking.

Supervisor Robert Hafele encouraged board members to support the county's position, explaining that the proposed costs could ultimately affect municipalities and residents.

The town's resolution calls for DEC to delay consideration of the regulations until an appropriate fiscal impact analysis has been completed.

Although the public comment period has closed, the state has not taken final action on the proposed regulations, according to the resolution.

Copies of Colchester's objection were forwarded to DEC, Governor Kathy Hochul and state and federal representatives.

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Middletown’s 2027 Preliminary Budget Proposes 2.43% Tax Increase

Staff Report

MIDDLETOWN - Middletown council members adopted their 2027 preliminary budget Oct. 14. The budget totals \$4,887,058, with \$82,891 more in taxes to be raised than in 2026, an increase of 2.43%, according to the budget summary.

The proposal increases spending across several major categories, including highway operations, municipal insurance, employee benefits and engineering services. It also proposes using \$117,000 in unexpended bal-

ances to help offset expenses, compared with \$20,000 shown in the 2026 budget for that purpose. The use of fund balance helps reduce the amount that must be raised through taxes, but it is not a recurring source of revenue.

Overall spending and tax levy

The 2027 budget’s \$4,887,058 in appropriations compares with approximately \$4,573,287 in the 2026 budget, based on individual fund totals. That represents an increase of approximately \$313,771, or 6.9%.

The overall spending increase is considerably higher than the

2.43% tax increase because the town also relies on estimated revenues, state aid and unexpended balances to finance its budget.

The four primary operating funds account for \$4,549,778 of the 2027 total:

- General fund: \$1,373,828
- General fund outside villages: \$177,295
- Highway fund, townwide: \$1,522,655
- Highway fund outside villages: \$1,476,000

The remaining \$337,280 is allocated among the listed water, sewer and lighting districts.

2026.

The highway fund outside villages proposes \$75,000 for retirement, \$40,000 for Social Security and \$90,000 for medical insurance, with total benefits rising to \$205,000 from \$197,080.

These increases indicate that employee benefits and insurance are significant contributors to the budget’s cost pressures.

Highway spending and equipment

The townwide highway fund rises from \$1,296,300 in 2026 to \$1,522,655 in 2027, an increase of \$226,355, or about 17.5%.

A major driver is machinery equipment, which increases from \$145,000 to \$325,000, a jump of \$180,000.

Snow removal appropriations increase from \$575,100 to \$607,055, up \$31,955. Within that category, personal services rise from \$359,100 to \$377,055, and contractual expenses increase from \$216,000 to \$230,000.

The highway fund outside villages decreases slightly from \$1,470,051 to \$1,476,000, an increase of \$5,949, or about 0.4%. Its general repairs allocation decreases from \$820,300 to \$787,300, while consolidated highway aid increases from \$443,671 to \$483,700.

The Arkville water fund’s power and pumping appropriation rises from \$17,000 to \$20,000.

Engineering and other notable changes

The general fund’s engineering contractual expense rises from \$20,000 to \$50,000, an increase of \$30,000.

The general fund’s total general government support rises from \$705,705 to \$760,437, an increase

of \$54,732, or about 7.8%.

The ambulance appropriation increases from \$85,025 to \$90,000, up \$4,975. The refuse and garbage budget rises from \$116,757 to \$122,344, an increase of \$5,587.

In the general fund outside villages, the zoning budget increases from \$84,319 to \$109,352, up \$25,033. That includes a proposed increase in the code enforcement officer’s salary from \$43,338 to \$52,331 and the zoning clerk allocation from \$27,446 to \$43,359. The contractual expense line appears as \$11,000 in the tentative budget but \$71,000 in the preliminary column.

Fund balance and reserves

The 2027 summary shows \$117,000 in unexpended balances used to offset spending: \$55,000 in the general fund, \$12,000 in the townwide highway fund and \$50,000 in the highway fund outside villages. The general fund outside villages shows no unexpended balance applied.

The 2026 figures show \$20,000 in unexpended balance in the townwide highway fund, with no amounts listed for the other main funds. On that basis, the proposed 2027 budget uses \$97,000 more in fund balance than the 2026 budget.

Using reserves can help moderate the immediate tax levy, but it reduces funds available for future expenses.

A public hearing on the tentative budget is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 10, at 6 p.m.

To view the tentative budget, visit the-reporter.net and click on this article.

Salaries and elected officials			
The proposed budget raises several elected officials’ salaries, while some other personnel and administrative allocations shift significantly.			
Position	2026 budget	2027 proposed	Change
Town supervisor	\$19,981	\$20,980	+\$999
Town Board, total	\$23,665	\$24,848	+\$1,183
Town Board, each of four members	About \$5,916	\$6,212	+\$296
Town clerk	\$52,489	\$55,114	+\$2,625
Town justice	\$31,360	\$32,928	+\$1,568
Highway superintendent	\$75,844	\$79,636	+\$3,792

Proposed salary increases for the town clerk, highway superintendent and town justice are 5%. The assessor’s budget is more complicated because the town lists separate lines for assessors, the chairman and the assessor’s clerk. The proposed chairman’s salary increases from \$34,370 to \$55,377, a rise of \$21,007. The assessors’ line decreases from \$21,370 to \$18,900, while the assessor’s clerk allocation drops from \$29,678 to \$10,000. Those shifts may reflect a change in how assessment duties or compensation are allocated.

The general fund’s deputy clerk allocation also decreases from \$17,000 to \$5,000. Meanwhile, the bookkeeper line in the supervisor’s department rises from \$36,102 to \$46,134.

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High Caseloads, Staffing Shortages Strain DelCo CPS

By J. Lawrence-Bauer

DELHI - Delaware County Child Protective Services (CPS) caseworkers are facing caseload pressures driven by staffing shortages and an unexpected spike in reports, Department of Social Services (DSS) Commissioner Keith Weaver told the Delaware County Social Services Committee Monday, Oct. 19.

Addressing committee members during his monthly update, Weaver outlined the growing operational strain on child welfare caseworkers and provided updates on the department's satellite location in Walton.

Weaver noted caseloads across the county's CPS unit have consistently exceeded the state's recommended guideline of cases per worker.



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter
Hamden Supervisor and Delaware County Social Services Committee Chairperson Wayne Marshfield listened to updates from DSS Commissioner Keith Weaver Oct. 19.

"For the first time in months, we've got caseloads in Child Protective Services that across the unit are consistently above the 15 case per worker guide expectation," Weaver said. "It's not policy, but it's guidance from the state."

Weaver attributed the uptick to two primary factors occurring at once: persistent open positions within the department and a sudden surge in reported cases.

"We're really short staffed in the Child Protective Unit right now, and we've seen a jump in CPS reports that we haven't seen in quite a while," Weaver told the committee. "So those two things are happening concurrently, and it's been a tough road for CPS the

last month or so."

The unit currently has just four caseworkers stationed at its Walton location out of a full capacity of 11. Relief may be on the horizon as new staff move through required training protocols.

"We've got new staff coming in," Weaver noted. "There's an individual that I think is almost through the training protocol. Once he's through, we'll place him in CPS. We've got another one in the hopper, so hopefully we can bolster that unit. They're struggling. Caseworkers struggle in general, but they're having a time right now."

Expanded Footprint at DSS South in Walton

To better serve residents on the western side of the county and reduce travel times for field staff, DSS continues to expand operations at its DSS South satellite office in Walton, adjacent to Delaware Valley Hospital. The facility currently accommodates roughly 15 staff members, with capacity for approximately 20.

Along with the CPS unit working fulltime out of Walton, preventive foster care units utilize the building several days a week, and the Foster and Adoptive Home Development Unit is scheduled to transition there in the coming weeks.

Starting in November, the satellite location will also offer direct program services Wednesdays. A senior program specialist recently completed a successful trial run to process SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and public assistance applications locally.

"The intent has always been that folks who would need to come to Delhi to get services or discuss their needs would be able to get the same array of services at DSS South," Weaver said. "And I think we're definitely moving in that direction."

Weaver acknowledged initial reservations about opening a facility outside the central county seat in Delhi, but pointed to the clear benefits for staff and clients alike.

"Having a presence on that side of the county, and having a

satellite office that people can float in and out of; I still think it was a great idea for us to be down there," Weaver said. "Until you're actively doing it, you don't really know what kind of a project you're taking on, but I think we've been very successful with it."

In other DSS activity, Weaver pointed with pride to the department's efforts on utilizing subsidized daycare funding. He noted the county continues to open every eligible daycare assistance case without placing families on waitlists, putting the county in a strong position compared to others in the state.



A satellite office for the Delaware County Department of Social Services, dubbed DSS South by the department, adjacent to Delaware Valley Hospital in Walton.

\$1M+ State Grant Advances Long-Awaited Treadwell Water Upgrades

Staff Report

FRANKLIN - The town of Franklin has been awarded \$1,025,850 in state funding to upgrade the Treadwell Water District, bringing the hamlet's long-awaited effort to modernize its aging drinking water system closer to reality.

Governor Kathy Hochul's office announced the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act grant Oct. 20 as part of nearly \$500 million in awards for 106 drinking water and sewer projects across New York. The projects represent approximately \$1.4 billion in total costs.

The funding is part of Hochul's \$3.75 billion commitment to water infrastructure in the state's 2027 enacted budget. The investment is intended to help municipalities replace aging systems, address drinking water threats and support economic development while limiting costs for residents and businesses.

The Southern Tier received \$26 million for seven projects, including Franklin's Treadwell Water District improvements.

The award marks a significant step for a project estimated at \$1.75 million that has faced unsuccessful funding applications in previous years. At a public information meeting in July, town officials and their engineering consultant outlined the district's funding challenges and possible alternatives if grants fell short.

Nick Bandel of Cedarwood En-

gineering told residents that the town was pursuing both the state grant and a federal Community Project Funding appropriation requested through U.S. Rep. Josh Riley. At the time, the federal request under consideration was \$746,868, down from an original request of approximately \$1.4 million.

Bandel said changes to the state grant program allowed municipalities to combine federal and state funding without reducing grant eligibility, potentially reducing the amount the district would need to borrow.

The state award now provides a substantial source of funding for improvements to the system, which serves Treadwell and has infrastructure dating back decades.

The proposed project addresses four areas identified in an engineering report: water sources, transmission lines, treatment and storage.

The existing system stores untreated water in a reservoir before it flows by gravity through chlorination equipment and into the hamlet. The reservoir building needs replacement, and the nearly mile-long transmission line carrying water from the source is aging and vulnerable.

Plans also call for enclosed storage for treated water before distribution. The district currently has about 30,000 gallons of storage capacity; the proposed tank would increase that to between 50,000 and 85,000 gallons.

At the July meeting, water dis-

trict official Eric Huneke emphasized that the drinking water is safe and meets state health standards. The concern, he explained, is that during major water main breaks or other emergencies, water can move through the treatment system too quickly to meet required chlorine contact times, prompting precautionary boil-water advisories.

Officials also discussed whether the town could acquire the property where the existing reservoir and well are located. Bandel said land acquisition is an eligible project expense and could be considered as the town advances its plans.

The project has qualified for state-designated hardship status based on the community's median household income, which could help the town obtain favorable financing for costs not covered by grants.

If funding proves insufficient to complete all planned improvements, Bandel said the town could prioritize the most urgent work, including storage and treatment upgrades, rather than abandon the project.

"We have to do something," Franklin Supervisor Don Smith said at the July meeting. "We don't have much choice. We can't do nothing."

The state grant announcement provides a major funding boost as Franklin works to replace aging infrastructure and improve the long-term reliability of Treadwell's public water system.

Rotary Club of Bainbridge Continues Tradition of Election Day Pancakes



contributed

For over half a century, Pancake Day has been a cherished non-partisan tradition in Bainbridge, held Election Day and organized by the Rotary Club of Bainbridge. This year marks the 59th anniversary of this community event, where neighbors and friends gather to enjoy a delicious "all-you-can-eat" pancake feast. The Rotary Club is excited to announce that Pancake Day will take place at the Bainbridge First Presbyterian Church, offering a cozy atmosphere for people to sit, eat, and socialize.

Rotarians encourages everyone to participate in both civic duty and community spirit by voting Tuesday, Nov. 3, and then stopping by for a meal. The event will be open from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., with an additional serving from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., perfect for break-

fast, lunch, or dinner.

The menu features all-you-can-eat pancakes, complete with real maple syrup, savory sausages, applesauce, and a variety of beverages. But that's not all! One of the highlights of Pancake Day is the raffle, where attendees have the chance to win baskets and gift certificates generously purchased from local businesses and donated by Rotary Club members.

Proceeds from the event will support Bainbridge Rotary's service projects so by attending you're not only enjoying a great meal but also giving back to the community. Make sure to join in this longstanding tradition of food, fun, and fellowship while supporting both local businesses and Rotary's charitable work.



VICKI DAVIS

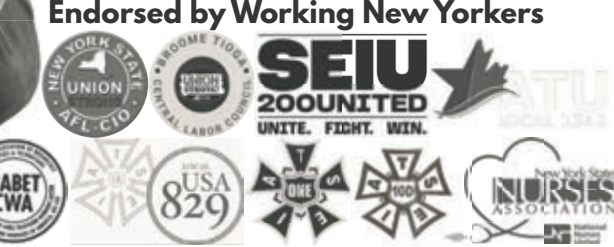
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What about Joe Angelino?

- Against NY Health Act
- Voted against SUNNY Act
- Supports Constitution Pipeline
- Received a 17% score with the NY League of Conservation Voters
- Voted against data center moratorium
- Introduced legislation to repeal NYS Film & Television Tax Credits which support 65,000+ jobs, \$13+ billion in wages, and places NYS #2 in the nation in production jobs, wages and number of productions
- Voted in support of abortion restrictions & against maternal support

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Office for the Aging Looks To Preserve Programs Amid Funding Cuts

Agency reports strong participation in produce distribution, transportation and senior events while exploring new ways to provide in-home care

Staff Report

DELHI - The Delaware County Office for the Aging is working to preserve popular programs threatened by funding cuts while expanding services that help older residents remain independent, according to Director Lyndsay Komosinski during the agency's annual public hearing held Monday, Oct. 19.

Komosinski and staff members reviewed programs ranging from in-home assistance and health insurance counseling to fresh produce distribution, transportation, emergency response systems and social activities. They also outlined plans for 2027, including a proposed consumer-directed approach to home care, efforts to continue a local produce program and the potential addition of chair yoga classes.

The discussion highlighted the agency's efforts to meet growing demand despite staffing shortages, limited service capacity and uncertainty over future funding.

Home care program faces staffing shortage

The Office for the Aging's Standard In-Home Services for the Elderly Program, known as EISEP, provides assistance to older adults who need help at home but do not receive the same services through Medicaid.

Staff reported that the program currently serves active clients and has six people on its waiting list. The agency continues to face a shortage of home health aides, making it difficult to meet demand.

Because of state regulations, the county contracts with licensed agencies to provide aides. Komosinski said the office currently works with two agencies.

The program uses a cost-sharing arrangement for eligible participants whose income exceeds certain thresholds. Komosinski explained that changes to Medicaid income limits have complicated the distinction between people who qualify for Medicaid and those who may receive assistance through the county program.

The shortage of aides remains a significant challenge, staff said, as workers can often earn more in hospitals and other facilities than through home care.

For 2027, OFA is considering a consumer-directed option that would allow a person receiving assistance to use program funding to pay a family member, friend or neighbor to provide care.

"This would allow us to use our funding to have a person in need of home care pay a family member, a friend, a neighbor," Komosinski said.

The approach would give participants more control over selecting their caregivers while potentially helping reduce the

waiting list.

Produce program faces loss of state funding

One of the agency's most pressing funding concerns involves SNAP-Ed, a nutrition education program supported by state grant funding since 2022. Komosinski said the state program has been cut, meaning the office will no longer receive that grant.

The funding loss threatens the continuation of Local Roots, a program that distributes fresh produce through the county's dining centers in partnership with Schoharie Farms.

From July through October this year, Local Roots distributed 2,310 boxes of fresh produce to approximately 240 individuals, according to figures presented at the meeting.

Staff said the program provides more than food. It also brings people together to socialize, exchange recipes and address food insecurity.

The state had provided funding for staffing, supplies and delivery, but the grant could not be used to purchase the food itself. OFA has relied on outside support, including a \$43,200 grant this year from the Binghamton-based organization to help cover food costs.

The agency is now working with a partner to determine whether the program can continue in 2027.

Komosinski estimated the total cost at approximately \$100,000, with about \$50,000 needed for food and another \$50,000 for staffing and services. The office has received approval to use state unmet-need funding for staffing and supplies but is still seeking a partner to help pay for the produce.

Some counties have opted to discontinue similar programs, Komosinski said, while Delaware County is pursuing a way to maintain its distribution effort.

The program has traditionally served people who meet low-income requirements and receive services through the dining centers. If it continues next year, the office hopes to make it available to a broader group of residents who may benefit.

Fitness programs expand, volunteers needed

OFA continues to offer Tai Chi and Bingocize classes, with sessions currently operating in Harpersfield, Franklin, Walton and Grand Gorge.

Two longtime Tai Chi volunteers are retiring, creating a need for replacement instructors. The office is also seeking additional volunteers and instructors for Bingocize, a program that combines bingo with exercise.

OFA is also preparing to introduce chair yoga. Komosinski said the state approved the agency to move forward with the program, and staff hope to complete the

necessary training during the winter, with classes potentially beginning in late winter or early spring. The office must obtain state approval for the health and fitness programs it offers.

HEAP assistance begins Nov. 1

The Home Energy Assistance Program, or HEAP, is scheduled to begin around Nov. 1. The Office for the Aging will have two full-time workers available through the end of April to help residents 60 and older with applications and the approval process.

People who received HEAP previously should receive applications by mail. Those applying for the first time can contact the office for help.

Residents can also apply through the county Department of Social Services or Delaware Opportunities, Komosinski said. The application process is the same regardless of which agency a person chooses.

The office also offers interpretation services by telephone for people who need assistance in another language.

Medicare counseling in high demand

The agency's Health Insurance Information, Counseling and Assistance Program, known as HIICAP, provides Medicare and other health insurance counseling.

New coordinator Bette Bojo has completed the required training and is working with existing staff to assist residents during fall open enrollment.

From September 2025 through August 2026, the office assisted nearly 860 people through its health insurance counseling services. Of those, 326 received assistance with Medicare Savings Program or Medicaid-related applications, while 79 submitted new applications through the program discussed at the meeting.

Staff said demand has been particularly high this fall, with counselors handling a large volume of calls and a waiting list for appointments.

One attendee described Medicare information as difficult to navigate, particularly as prescription drug coverage changes.

"It is a lot," Komosinski acknowledged, praising the office's counselors for helping residents compare plans, costs and copayments.

She said the number of plans available locally is limited this year. Unlike some insurance brokers, HIICAP counselors are not paid by individual plans, allowing

them to provide impartial guidance across available options.

Komosinski said the office is working to train additional staff to help address demand.

Caregiver support, legal assistance and emergency response

The National Family Caregiver Support Program offers respite assistance to eligible caregivers age 50 and older who care for someone of a similar age or an adult child with a disability.

The program can provide a \$600 voucher to help pay for non-medical respite care, such as having a family member or another person stay with someone who needs supervision while the caregiver takes a break.

Komosinski said the program currently has one participant. She suggested the office could better publicize the service to senior clubs and explain that formal medical training is not required for the nonmedical assistance covered by the program. Respite workers are not expected to lift clients or administer medication.

OFA also contracts with the Legal Aid Society of New York to provide civil legal assistance, including help with wills, powers of attorney and advance directives. Referrals had been limited to two per week because of staffing shortages at Legal Aid, but staff said the organization has reported that its capacity is improving.

The Personal Emergency Response System (PERS) remains one of the office's most popular programs, with approximately 565 active clients and four pending installations.

Devices include landline and mobile units, watches and necklaces, with fall-detection options available. The monthly contribution is \$20, regardless of the device selected.

Komosinski said the office previously had a waiting list when it worked with another provider. Since switching to Connect America, it has largely eliminated that backlog, with the remaining four people awaiting installation rather than approval for a device.

Transportation service records 906 trips

The office shifted its nonemergency medical transportation service to the Rural Health Network of South Central New York after demand outgrew its volunteer-driver program. Through the network's Volunteer Transportation Service, residents age 60 and older received 906 trips from Jan. 1 through Aug. 31, covering a total of 45,223 miles, according to figures presented at the meeting.

Komosinski said the contract

has enabled the office to serve more residents because the network has a larger pool of volunteer drivers.

Residents are encouraged to request rides as soon as they schedule medical appointments because drivers remain limited.

New York Connects staff also help residents identify services and navigate applications for programs including SNAP, Medicaid and Medicare Savings Programs. From September 2025 through September 2026, staff assisted more than 1,200 individuals and hosted or attended 34 in-person events.

Senior events draw record attendance

The Office for the Aging also highlighted the role of the Delaware County Senior Council, a nonprofit organization that raises money to support programs and events.

Its fundraising activities include a pie auction, pork dinner, pancake breakfast and other events. The council also helps supplement services affected by reductions in state or federal funding.

The agency's recent Masquerade Ball attracted approximately 100 people, including about 85 guests. The event included a meal and was supported in part by an anonymous donor. Staff described it as a social opportunity for adults age 55 and older, complementing services focused on helping older adults remain at home.

The agency's annual Senior Fun Day also set an attendance record, drawing more than 400 people this year.

The event moved from its longtime location at the 4-H camp in Delhi to the Delaware County Fairgrounds in Walton, providing more parking and room for activities. It featured lunch, information booths, mini golf, crafts, music, and an Italian ice truck. Chobani donated approximately 450 pounds of yogurt for attendees.

Komosinski said the office plans to return to the fairgrounds next year. Staff are considering improvements to the food and seating areas to accommodate the larger crowd.

The office welcomes suggestions for future events and volunteers interested in helping organize them.

As the agency looks toward 2027, its central challenge will be maintaining services that older residents rely on while finding alternative funding and staffing arrangements.

Scene in Franklin

Main Street Scarecrow Teaches Bee-havior



Randy Shepard/The Reporter

A scarecrow scene adds a touch of rustic charm to Franklin's Main Street. Scarecrows have roots dating back thousands of years to ancient Egypt, where farmers used early methods to keep birds from eating valuable crops along the Nile River. Today, they're as much a symbol of the harvest season as they are a practical farm tool.

County Tax Cap Override and Delinquent Tax Payment Plan Laws Advance

Staff Report

DELHI - Delaware County supervisors unanimously approved two measures following public hearings, where there was no comment from the public, during their regularly scheduled meeting Wednesday, Oct. 28, including a local law allowing the county to override the state's property tax levy limit and another establishing installment payment plans for eligible property owners with delinquent taxes.

The first hearing addressed a proposed local law authorizing supervisors to override the tax levy limit established under New York State General Municipal Law, Section 3-c. The second concerned a proposed law that would replace the county's existing delinquent-tax installment law, adopted in 1995, with a system allowing eligible property owners to repay overdue taxes over as many as 36 months.

Both measures passed unanimously following the hearings.

Tax-cap override

The proposed tax-cap override law stems from state legislation enacted in 2011 that allows local governments to exceed the tax levy limit through adoption of a local law approved by at least

60% of the governing body's total voting power.

The county attorney prepared the proposed law, which the Board of Supervisors reviewed and modified before scheduling the public hearing.

The override provides a mechanism for the county to exceed the state's tax levy limit if needed during the budget process. Approval of the local law does not, by itself, establish a specific tax levy increase.

Delinquent-tax payment plans

The second measure would authorize the county treasurer to enter into written agreements with eligible property owners to repay delinquent property taxes, including interest, penalties and other charges, over a period of up to 36 months.

As previously reported, the proposed law is intended to give qualifying homeowners and farm property owners additional time to settle overdue tax bills while preserving the county's ability to pursue foreclosure if an agreement is not maintained.

Participants would be required to make an initial payment of at least 15% of the amount owed, followed by monthly installments. The proposal excludes certain properties, including

those owned by limited liability companies, short-term rentals, vacant properties and secondary residences, as well as some owners with other unresolved tax delinquencies or recent tax foreclosures.

Under the law, an installment more than 15 calendar days overdue would incur a late fee equal to 5% of the overdue payment. An installment remaining unpaid for 30 days after its due date could put the agreement in default, allowing the county to demand the remaining balance or pursue enforcement of the tax lien under applicable law.

Properties would be protected from tax foreclosure while an installment agreement remained in good standing, although the tax lien would remain in place as payments reduced the amount owed.

The law also provides an exception for certain financial hardships substantially caused by qualifying military deployments, allowing interest, penalties and fees to be waived when the owner provides satisfactory evidence to the county treasurer.

The proposed law would replace the county's existing installment-payment law, which dates to 1995.

Fire Prevention Week Brings First Responders to Margaretville School

By J. Lawrence-Bauer

MIDDLETOWN - Members of the Arkville, Margaretville, and Fleischmanns fire departments along with EMS staffers from Margaretville Hospital turned out at Margaretville Central School Thursday, Oct. 22 to help elementary students celebrate fire prevention week.

In an area of the school usually dominated by yellow school buses, red fire trucks and a white ambulance signaled the annual fire prevention education efforts. Activities inside and outside the

school were designed to teach students about equipment used in emergencies and how they should respond if they found themselves in an emergency.

The school yard was a sea of red plastic helmets as students listened, sometimes attentively to what first responders were telling them. The highlight was clearly their opportunity to get into the vehicles and feel for themselves, the enormity of the “fire” power volunteers bring to bear when an emergency arises.

While the drama of the morning was delivered by the site of axes and the jaws of life, students

also got training in more mundane elements of emergency response as volunteers highlighted stop/slow signs, traffic cones and other simple devices that keep people safe around emergencies.

For all of the excitement of apparatus, the students were also in awe of turnout gear and other items worn by firefighters who could show up at their homes looking like monsters in the middle of the night if a fire were to break out. The goal of the exercise is to be sure children don't try to hide from firefighters who could be trying to save their lives.



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Margaretville Central School students learned about the features of fire trucks Thursday, Oct. 22 when Middletown Hardenburgh Fire Chief Nelson Delameter, left, and his peers visited the school for fire safety education. Assistant Chief Alan Gavette, right, helped corral the eager young people.



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Jessica Olynech of the Arkville Fire Department showed the “Jaws of Life” tool to awed primary school students at Margaretville Central School Thursday, Oct. 22. The tool that helps extricate trapped people is always one kids find most awesome.



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Margaretville Mayor and fire department member John Hubbell, right, with Middletown Town Clerk and Assistant Fire Chief Sarah Hubbell behind fire truck door, explained the different pieces of equipment on the village fire truck at Margaretville Central School last week.



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Mark Marrello, left, helped Margaretville first grade student Ashley Munoz out of the Margaretville Hospital ambulance after her walk through Thursday, Oct. 22. Dozens of students got to experience emergency equipment up close during a public safety event at the school.



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Margaretville Central School art teacher Katy DiBenedetto, kneeling left, helps explain some of the equipment children saw during fire safety education activities Thursday, Oct. 22. First grade teacher Apryl Welch, back left, and aide MacKenzie Day also answered questions.



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Mark Marrello, left, and Richard Darmody explained features of the Margaretville Hospital Ambulance to students at Margaretville Central School Thursday, Oct. 22. The goal of the morning's activities was to help kids feel calmer should they or a loved one need an ambulance.

ATTENTION READERS

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Delaware County Shifts \$47,150 to Cover Inmate Psychiatric Hospital Costs

Inpatient treatment for defendants found unfit to stand trial adds to unpredictable county expenses

Staff Report

DELHI - Delaware County supervisors approved a \$47,150.40 budget transfer Wednesday, Oct. 28, to cover inpatient psychiatric hospital costs for county inmates found unable to meaningfully participate in their criminal defense proceedings.

The resolution transfers \$47,150.40 from the county's contingency account to the Department of Mental Health's professional fees account for psychiatric services.

According to the resolution, the county is responsible for 100% of the inpatient psychiatric hospital costs, and additional funding is needed to cover current hospitalizations.

The transfer comes as county officials continue to grapple with the unpredictable costs of treat-

ing criminal defendants who are found mentally unfit to proceed with their cases.

During a Sept. 21 Mental Health Committee meeting, Director of Community Services Doug Elston reported that two people were receiving treatment under Article 730 of New York's Criminal Procedure Law. One was receiving treatment at a state psychiatric facility, while another remained in the county jail awaiting placement.

Article 730 governs cases in which a defendant's mental condition prevents them from understanding criminal proceedings or assisting in their own defense. Courts can order treatment intended to restore a defendant's competency so the criminal case can proceed.

Elston reported that the person awaiting placement had been in the county jail for two to

three months. State forensic officials had cited a backlog and estimated that placement could take two to four months.

The delays can create additional demands on jail staff, Elston said, including the need for increased supervision and challenges involving medication compliance.

The financial burden also varies significantly from year to year. At the Sept. 21 meeting, committee materials showed year-to-date expenses for Article 730 cases totaling \$96,343. Elston reported that the county spent nearly \$900,000 on those cases in the previous year.

The New York State Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors has reported that the state forensic daily rate for competency restoration is approximately \$1,300, with counties responsible for the cost.

During discussions of the 2027 budget, county officials agreed to increase the allocation for Article 730 cases to \$100,000, recognizing that contingency funding might be necessary if expenses exceed projections.

The state has also been examining ways to address delays and

costs associated with competency restoration. Legislation establishing a statewide workgroup to study the process, treatment settings and potential reforms passed both houses of the Legislature in June, according to the previous reporting.

New Cooks Falls Justice Court Clerk Appointed

By Patti Cantamessa

COLCHESTER - Colchester officials announced Roscoe resident Melanie Huggins was appointed Cooks Falls Justice Court Clerk at a meeting of the Colchester Town Council, Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Supervisor Robert Hafele reported that Magistrate Nona Lavorgna interviewed candidates for the position and submitted a letter recommending Huggins be appointed, effective immediately. Huggins will be a part-time employee and paid \$20 per hour.

According to Hafele, the New York State Unified Court System accepted the necessary appointment paperwork.

Hafele explained that the selection of a court clerk falls under the authority of the town justice rather than requiring an appointment by the town council.



Patti Cantamessa/The Reporter

Roscoe resident Melanie Huggins was appointed Cooks Falls Justice Court clerk.

Huggins attended the meeting as officials acknowledged her selection.

The court clerk assists with administrative responsibilities associated with court operations, including maintaining records, processing documents and supporting the work of the town justice.

From the Sheriff's Desk: Political Signs and Respect for Private Property



file

Sheriff Craig DuMond

As Election Day approaches, we are reminded that our communities are made up of people with differing opinions, beliefs, and political viewpoints. Diversity is a part of our community, and every resident should feel comfortable expressing their views peacefully and lawfully.

The Delaware County Sheriff's Office would like to remind everyone that political signs placed on private property with the property owner's permission represent someone's personal choice and right to express their support for a candidate or cause.

Regardless of whether or not we agree with that choice, we should respect it.

Under the New York State Penal Law §155.25, Petit Larceny, a person is guilty of petit larceny when they steal property. Petit larceny is classified as a Class A misdemeanor. Political signs are property, and unlawfully taking another person's sign without permission may result in criminal consequences, depending on the circumstances.

Conversely, please be aware that signs placed on public property or within public rights-of-way may be subject to separate laws, regulations, and/or removal procedures.

While we understand that elections can bring forth strong feelings and passionate disagreements, removing and/or damaging someone else's political sign is definitely not the answer. We can disagree without being disrespectful, and we can hold differing opinions while continuing to treat our neighbors with courtesy and consideration.

Ultimately, we must remember

that we are all part of the same community and that our neighbors represent more than signs in their yards. Let's move forward through this election season with patience, kindness and respect for one another. While we may not always agree, we can definitely make the conscious choice to treat one another with respect.

We encourage everyone to exercise good judgment, respect differing opinions, and refrain from taking matters into their own hands. Anyone who believes their political sign has been unlawfully taken or damaged should document the incident and contact the appropriate law enforcement agency with jurisdiction.

Political differences are no excuse for disregarding the law or another person's property rights.

If you believe that your sign has been unlawfully taken or damaged, we encourage you to document the incident and to report the incident to the Delaware County Sheriff's Office at 607-832-6900.

Sheriff Recognizes Employees at Annual Awards Ceremony

DELHI — The Delaware County Sheriff's Office recognized employees for attendance, years of service and outstanding performance during its annual awards ceremony Thursday, Oct. 22.

Sheriff Craig DuMond hosted the ceremony, attended by Delaware County Board of Supervisors Chair Tina Molé, District Attorney Shawn Smith, Emergency Services Director Stephen Hood, Probation Director Scott Glueckert, and employees' family members, friends and colleagues.

DuMond thanked employees for their dedication to public safety and their service to county residents, while recognizing the support provided by families and colleagues.

Perfect attendance awards went to Deputy Sheriff Brenden Cairns, Corrections Corporal Trevor Cazzolla, Deputy Sheriff Alec Elderkin, Deputy Sheriff Nicholas Empara, Corrections Sergeant David McClung, Civil Division Corporal Daniel McGowan, Deputy Sheriff Justin Mohr, Corrections Officer David Mondore, Deputy Sheriff Michael Pedulla and Corrections Officer Diego Sanchez.

Years of service awards recognized Deputy Sheriff Victor Altheim, Deputy Sheriff Lucas Elmore, Corrections Officer Dalton Carver and Corrections Corporal

Trevor Cazzolla for five years of service; Officer Robert Mantzouratos for 20 years; and Undersheriff Kim Smith for 25 years.

Superstar awards went to Deputy Sheriff Victor Altheim, Corrections Officer Arthur Cash and Corrections Officer Bryan Lubertine.

Distinguished service awards were presented to Deputy Sheriff Sgt. Eric Alexander, Senior Investigator David Barnes, Deputy Sheriff Ethan Berghammer, Deputy Sheriff Nicholas Empara, Corrections Officer Ryan Hanley, Corrections Officer David Mondore, Deputy Sheriff Michael Pedulla and Corrections Officer Richard Vasquez.

Exceptional service awards went to Deputy Sheriff Lucas Elmore, Corrections Officer Robert Mantzouratos and Corrections Officer Trey Pesout.

Other honors included the Civilian of the Year award to nurse practitioner Karena Trimbelle; Corrections Officer of the Year to Corrections Corporal Elizabeth Cherry; and Deputy of the Year to Deputy Sheriff Corporal Justin Mohr.

The Community Partner of the Year award recognized the Delaware County District Attorney's Office and District Attorney Shawn Smith.



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OPINION LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reverse Corruption By Voting

We need to vote.....that comes first. How we vote is just as critical. Please consider that we have had seven elected representatives to Congress out of 26, all Republicans. They have abandoned their constitutional responsibilities and taken an oath to Trump rather than follow the rule of law. That big beautiful bill they passed shifted millions from our state to the billionaires it was designed to support. Many

in New York lost their healthcare, are still losing their SNAP benefits, are suffering from the effects of a war that was not approved by Congress and is having enormous negative impacts on us. We need to elect representatives that will restore our way of life; follow the rule of law and reverse the corruption that has taken over the presidency. Aren't you tired of the lies and manipulation - I hope so. Make your vote count for all of us!

WILLIAM MOON
FRANKLIN

The Reporter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 350 words and 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. No more than two submissions within 30 days will be considered for publication. Opinions expressed in this section reflect that of the author, not that of The Reporter. Endorsement letters for political candidates are not accepted and are considered paid advertisements. Submit letters by email to editor@The-Reporter.net

SPORTS REPORTER

Margaretville Girls Soccer Advances to Section IV Title Game



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Margaretville's Cailen Passarelli throws the ball in during her team's game Tuesday, Oct. 27.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Margaretville's Vasilissa Hrazanek chases the ball during her team's game Tuesday, Oct. 27.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Margaretville's Xandria Gavette and CVCS/S's Jaiden Wheeler chase the ball during their game Tuesday, Oct. 27.



DAVENPORT - Margaretville girls varsity soccer advanced to the Section IV Class D championship game with a 2-1 victory over top-seeded Charlotte Valley/Schenevus on Tuesday, Oct. 27.

River Williams scored both goals for Margaretville, while Xandria Gavette and Amelia Marks each contributed an assist.

Jordan Odell converted a penalty kick for Charlotte Valley/Schenevus, accounting for its lone goal.

With the semifinal win, Margaretville advances to the Section IV Class D title game Friday, Oct. 30, against Edmeston/Morris.

Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Margaretville's River Williams celebrates her first goal during her team's 2-1 win over Charlotte Valley/Schenevus in the Section IV Class D semifinals.

U/F's Girls Soccer Season Ends in Section IV Semifinals

TRUMANSBURG - Unatego/Franklin's girls varsity soccer season came to a close Tuesday, Oct. 27, with a 3-0 loss to top-seeded Trumansburg in the Section IV Class C semifinals.

U/F finished the season with a 13-4-2 record after advancing to

the semifinal round.

Shannon Kingsbury closed out an outstanding season with an area-leading 49 goals, capping a career that established her as one of the region's most prolific scorers.

Unatego/Franklin Wins First Volleyball MAC Championship



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Delaware Academy's Ella O'Leary spikes the ball during her team's game with Unatego/Franklin Monday, Oct. 23.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Unatego/Franklin's Nica Hurlburt plays the ball over the net during her team's game Monday, Oct. 23.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Unatego/Franklin's Mallory Hafele celebrates with teammates and the 2026 MAC Volleyball championship trophy after her team's 3-0 win over Delaware Academy Monday, Oct. 23.

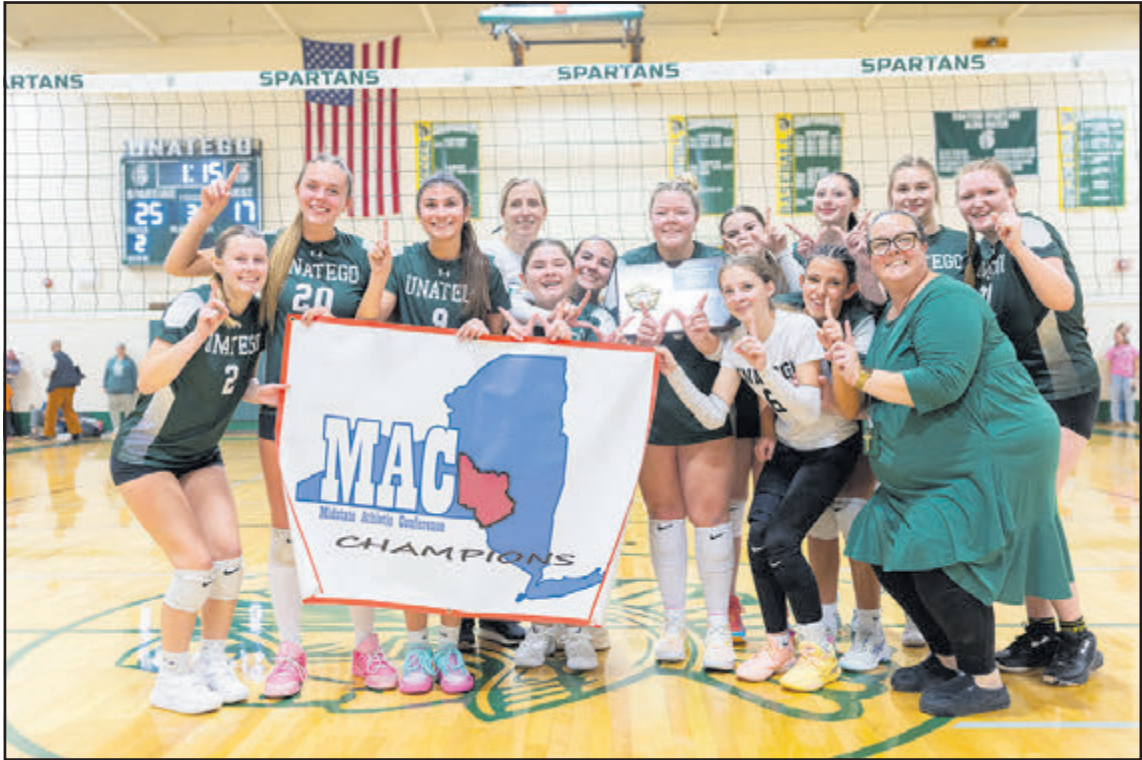
OTEGO - Unatego/Franklin made history Monday, Oct. 26, sweeping Delhi 3-0 to win the 2026 Midstate Athletic Conference girls varsity volleyball championship.

The Spartans defeated the Bulldogs 25-23, 25-17 and 25-17 to claim their first MAC title. The championship marks Unatego's first league title.

Raelynn Parks led U/F with 10 kills, eight digs and six service points. Nica Hurlburt contrib-

uted 10 service points, five digs, four kills and three aces, while Mallory Hafele recorded 17 assists, 11 service points and four kills. Vivienne Tesoro added four kills and three blocks.

DA was led by Madalyn Moody, who finished with 21 assists, three aces and three digs. Tegan Perry recorded 10 kills and three blocks, while Carly Potrzeba added seven kills and Carly Guy contributed six.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Unatego/Franklin volleyball is seen after winning the 2026 MAC Volleyball championship Monday, Oct. 23. It was the school's first ever title in the sport.

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U/F Boys Soccer Steamrolls SVEC 7-1 to Advance to S4C Semis



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Unatego/Franklin's Jake Kingsbury controls the ball around the SVE/Candor goalie for a goal during his team's Saturday win.

OTEGO - Unatego/Franklin advanced in the Section IV Class C Boys Soccer Tournament with a 7-1 victory over Spencer-Van Etten/Candor Saturday, Oct. 24.

U/F was powered by Levi Russell, who scored four goals and added an assist. Jake Kingsbury contributed two goals and four assists, while Itzu Guttman add-



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Unatego/Franklin's Shon Klintchev takes a shot during his team's win Saturday, Oct. 24.

ed a goal and George Coulter recorded an assist.

Benjamin Patton/The Reporter →
Unatego/Franklin's George Coulter takes a shot during his team's win Saturday, Oct. 24.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Unatego/Franklin's Levi Russell finds the back of the net for a goal during his team's 7-1 win over SVECandor Saturday, Oct. 24.



CV/S Girls Soccer Tops SK/A to Advance in Section IV Class D Quarterfinals



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
CVCS/S's Jordan Odell dives over SK/A goalie Kennedy Quarino during their game Friday, Oct. 23.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
SK/A's Charleigh Brown and CVCS/S's Brooke Green play the ball during their game Friday, Oct. 23.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Charlotte Valley/Schenevus's Carleigh Reed and SK/A's Lily Martin chase the ball during their game Friday, Oct. 23.

SCHENEVUS - Charlotte Valley/Schenevus girls varsity soccer defeated South Kortright/Andes, 2-0, in second-round play in the Section IV Class D quarterfinals on Friday, Oct. 23.

Jordan Odell scored both goals for CV/S, netting the first on a direct kick at the 26 minute 11 second mark of the first half, followed by her second goal at the 9:41 mark.

CV/S outshot SK/A 7 to 1. SK/A goalkeeper Kennedy Quarino had four saves.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Charlotte Valley/Schenevus's Madison Losie and SK/A's Alyssa Tucker play the ball during their team's game Friday, Oct. 23.

Central Empire State Rifle and Pistol League

In Match IV of the Central Empire State Rifle and Pistol League for Oct. 23, teams from Rockdale, Walton and Sidney notched victories.

Rockdale defeated Stamford/Richmondville 1076-20X to 1054-18X. High shooters for Rockdale were: Rob Gould 274-5X; Gerry Palmer 271-5X; Tom Rees 266-6X; and Cole Fleming 265-4X (Jr). Others shooting for Rockdale were: Pat Hawkins, Dave Dewey, Brent Wessels, Steve Ingalls, Jennine Noxon, Dave VanValkenberg, Rick Braun, Rick Jaycox, Jason Fleming, Gloria Galley, Ericka Fleming, David Smith, and Bonnie Budd.

High scores for Stamford/Richmondville were: Carl Tubbs 280-9X; Jim Hitt 262-2X; Steve Baker 259-4X and Stephen Hansen 253-3X.

Walton defeated Oneonta: 1084-15X to 1081-11X. High shooters for Walton were: Dennis Bennett 286-6X; Glenn Bowker 268-5X; Steve Dutcher 266-1X;

and Michael Noviello 264-3X.

Other Walton shooters: Carl Banker, Ryan Boice, Kris Bowker, Bill McAdams, Jeff Yambor, Brian MacRabie, John Noviello, and Michelle Bowker.

High shooters for Oneonta were: Kevin Lord 276-4X; Adam Nichols 275-1X; Brianna May 267-6X; and Al Nichols 263-0X.

Other Oneonta participants were: Wayne Jones (qualifying), Hunter Sitts (Jr.), Mark Eagle, Scott May, Calli Ruff, Justin Ruff, Ken Soden, Don Fleming, Glenn Sullivan, Nate Lowe, Roland Groppe, David Gerowe, and Traci Sitts.

Sidney beat Delhi: 1037-16X to 987-7X. Top shooters for Sidney

were: Connor Sherman 266-5X; Mike Terzo 262-7X; Jim Winn 260-3X; and Mike Pecoraro 249-1X. Other Sidney shooters were: Brandi Sherman and Chris Curtin. Top shooters for Delhi were: Kevin Gutliph 264-2X; Bret Sage 245-3X; Bob Anderson 245-1X; and Bryan Fitch 233-1X. Also shooting for Delhi were: Jeremiah Anderson, Dennis Klimowski, and Eric Groh.

Stats

- Rockdale 4-0
- Walton 4-0
- Stamford/Richmondville 2-2
- Oneonta 1-3
- Sidney 1-3
- Delhi: 0-4

Sporterrifle League

In the New York State Sporterrifle League Delhi lost Match 6 to Burlington Flats, 1402 to 1376.

Top shooters for Delhi were Garrett Fitch 282, Bryan Fitch Jr. 277, Sarah Keehr 276, Kevin Gut-

liph 272, and Kara Fitch 269.

Also shooting was Kristy Fitch 264.

For the Heavy Iron League Mabel Gutliph shot a 292.

W/D Boys Soccer Falls to Trumansburg in Class C Soccer Quarterfinal

TRUMANSBURG — Walton/Downsville boys varsity soccer saw its postseason run come to an end with a 1-0 loss to Trumansburg Friday, Oct. 24, in the second round of the Section IV Class C tournament.

Trumansburg scored the

game-winning goal midway through the first half to take a 1-0 lead.

W/D battled back in the second half, pressing for an equalizer and appearing to find the net before the goal was waved off.

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Bulldogs Football Tops Eagles 40-18 to Clinch Division



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
DA's John Wilson dives for a potential interception during his team's 40-18 win over Deposit-Hancock. The play was ruled a drop during the game Friday, Oct. 23.

HANCOCK - Delaware Academy built an early lead and pulled away in the fourth quarter to defeat D/H, 40-18, in varsity football Friday, Oct. 23.

DA opened the scoring in the first quarter when Saverio Prisco blocked a punt and returned it for a touchdown. Mason Reed added the extra point. The Bulldogs

extended their lead on a 37-yard touchdown pass from Cole Kivell to Johnny Wilson, followed by another successful kick from Reed, for a 14-0 advantage.

D/H answered with two touchdowns in the second quarter, scoring on a 10-yard pass and a 2-yard run. Both two-point conversion attempts failed. Delhi responded with Wilson's 35-yard touchdown run, although the extra point was unsuccessful, giving Delhi a 20-12 halftime lead.

D/H cut into the margin with a 40-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter, but DA answered with a 61-yard scoring connection from Kivell to Prisco. The extra point was no good, leaving Delhi ahead 26-18.

DA took control in the fourth quarter as Prisco scored on runs of 2 and 9 yards. Reed converted both extra points to seal the 40-18 victory.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
D-H's Brody Matthews uses his helmet to pull in a catch while Delhi's John Wilson defends during their game Friday, Oct. 23.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
DA's Lincoln Raba defends a pass intended for DH's Charles Dohanec during their game Friday, Oct. 23.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
Deposit-Hancock's Jake D'Elia dives into the endzone for a touchdown as Delhi's Jack Mokay and Lincoln Raba defend during their game Friday, Oct. 23.



Benjamin Patton/The Reporter
DA's Saverio Prisco carries the ball during his team's win over DH Friday, Oct. 23.

Prisco led DA's ground game with 209 yards on 30 carries and two touchdowns. He also caught four passes for 80 yards and a touchdown. Wilson added 29 rushing yards and a touchdown on three carries, while catching five passes for 37 yards and a score.

Kivell completed 11 of 16 pass-

es for 138 yards and two touchdowns, with one interception. Jeremy MacNeill rushed nine times for 54 yards.

Simon Cowles led DA's defense with nine tackles. MacNeill recorded six tackles, Wilson had five and Prisco added four. Lincoln Raba contributed two tackles and an interception.

Sidney Edges Walton 2-1 in Field Hockey

SIDNEY - Sidney defeated Walton 2-1 in varsity field hockey Friday, Oct. 23, using a two-goal effort to hold off a late Walton score.

Jaclynn Debiew scored for Sidney off an assist from Dylan Casey, while Onaka Stanton-Helms added a goal assisted by Grace Beauchat.

Walton's Brynlee Hunt scored the team's lone goal.

Sidney outshot Walton 14-6, while Walton held a 9-5 advantage in penalty corners.

Walton goalkeeper Mackenzie Roach recorded 12 saves, while Sidney goalkeeper Lukas Goodspeed made four.

Margaretville Girls Edge Milford in Class D Soccer Tournament

MARGARETVILLE — Margaretville girls varsity soccer edged Milford, 3-2, Thursday, Oct. 23, advancing in the second round of the Section IV Class D tournament.

Xandria Gavette scored a goal for the Blue Devils, while Mackenzie Hubbell converted a penalty kick. Margaretville also ben-

efited from a Milford own goal to secure the one-goal victory.

River Williams contributed an assist for Margaretville.

Zoie Stanley and Bella Garlick scored for the Wildcats, who got a strong effort from goalkeeper Mackenzie Briggs, who made 13 saves.

Walton Volleyball Edges Harpursville/Afton In Five-Set Thriller

WALTON - Walton girls varsity volleyball battled through five sets Friday, Oct. 23, to earn a 3-2 victory over Harpursville/Afton, winning 26-24, 25-22, 24-26, 17-25, 15-13.

Julianna Roy led Walton with 15 kills and four aces. Lilly Eisele and Chloe Edwards each added six kills, while Cami Barringer and Tylee Northrup contributed three aces apiece.

Edwards finished with 29 as-

sists, helping power Walton's attack, while Eisele led the defensive effort with 21 digs. Roy added 12 digs.

For Harpursville/Afton, Helena Scabella recorded seven kills, and Gabby Piester finished with 28 assists and five digs. McKenna Ross led at the net with seven blocks.

Walton improved to 12-1 overall and 10-1 in league play with the win.

Sidney Volleyball Sweeps Oxford to Advance in MAC

SIDNEY - The fifth-seeded Sidney girls varsity volleyball team swept No. 7 Oxford in straight sets, 25-17, 25-10, 25-20, in MAC League tournament action Thursday, Oct. 23.

Sidney controlled the match with a balanced offensive attack and strong serving, led by Sydnie VanValkenburgh, who recorded nine kills, one ace, two assists

and eight digs.

Madison Paul and Natalie Debiew each added six kills. Paul also contributed an assist, four digs and two blocks, while Debiew finished with two assists, four digs and one block.

Philomena Chirico led Sidney with 21 assists and added six aces, one kill and one block. Audrey Snell also served up six aces

and recorded two kills.

Leelah Charles anchored the defense with 16 digs.

For Oxford, Paizleigh Timke and Miley Depew led the attack with five and four kills, respectively. Keira Somers distributed 14 assists, Bridgette Foster recorded five digs and Bray Barrows contributed three aces.

Kingsbury Scores Four As Unatego-Franklin Girls Soccer Advances In Sectionals

ELMIRA - Unatego-Franklin girls soccer delivered its signature win of the season Friday, Oct. 23, defeating Elmira Notre Dame 5-3 on the road in a Section IV Class C quarterfinal.

Shannon Kingsbury scored four goals including the game-winner 9 minutes, 22 seconds into the second half, as U-F advanced to the semifinals. Her four-goal performance raised her Franklin school-record total to 49 goals this season.

Harly Birdsall added a goal and

two assists. Her assists brought her season total to 23, setting a Unatego girls soccer record. Finly Birdsall and Jessalyn Taggart also recorded assists.

The teams were tied 3-3 at halftime after a back-and-forth first half. Elmira Notre Dame's M.K. Young scored all three of her team's goals, including one on a penalty kick, with assists from Rose Daly and Sadie Potter.

Unatego-Franklin's defensive effort was key to containing Young, a Hofstra commit. Jor-

dan Parkes and Peyton Woodard worked to limit her space and prevent her from taking over the game, even as she finished with a hat trick.

U-F controlled much of the contest, responding to each Elmira Notre Dame surge without losing their composure. U-F outshot the E/ND 21-9, while both teams had four corner kicks.

Goalkeeper Daniella DeSilva made six saves for U-F. Liz Young stopped eight shots for E/ND.

DA Rallies Past Walton In Five-Set Volleyball Match



Delaware Academy's Tegan Perry plays the ball at the net during her team's Wednesday win over Walton.



Delaware Academy's volleyball team celebrates after their 3-2 win over Walton in the MAC championship semi-finals.

WALTON - Delaware Academy outlasted Walton in a five-set varsity volleyball match Tuesday, Oct. 21, winning 3-2 by scores of 25-17, 25-18, 22-25, 16-25 and 15-7.

Madalyn Moody led Delhi

with five aces, seven assists and Tegan Perry added four aces and six kills. Carly Potrzeba also recorded six kills, while Carly Guy finished with five.

For Walton, Chloe Edwards recorded 17 assists, while Julianna Roy led the team with eight kills and 13 digs. Cami Barriger added five kills, two aces and three blocks, and Hayden MacDonald contributed eight digs.

Delhi improved to 8-2 with the victory. Walton fell to 11-1 overall and 9-1 in league play.



Delhi's Madalyn Moody saves the ball during her team's win over Walton.

For online daily content visit
The-Reporter.net

Sidney Volleyball Rallies Past UV in MAC Tournament

SIDNEY - Fifth-seeded Sidney defeated eighth-seeded Unadilla Valley 3-1 in a MAC League varsity volleyball tournament match Tuesday, Oct. 21, recovering from an opening-set loss to win 20-25, 25-19, 25-14 and 26-24.

Audrey Snell led Sidney with eight aces and three kills. Natalie Debiew recorded seven kills and four aces, while Madison Paul added seven kills and Sydnie VanValkenburgh finished with four kills and two aces.

Philomena Chirico contributed 12 assists and four aces, while Melora Artis added six aces. Leelah Charles led Sidney defensively with 13 digs.

For Unadilla Valley, Shyla Roberts led with 13 kills, nine digs and two aces. Madison Pierce recorded 19 assists, while Piper Hine and Logan Cook each contributed five kills.

Sidney advanced in the MAC League tournament with the victory.

Greene Boys Soccer shuts out DA in Playoff Opener

GREENE - Greene defeated Delaware Academy 7-0 Wednesday, Oct. 21, in the opening round of the Section IV Class C Boys Soccer Tournament.

Jack Rice led the Trojans with two goals and

an assist, while Gavin Ely also scored twice. Judd Dutcher added a goal and an assist, and Levi Pritchard and Dillon Eichler each scored once. Caleb Tennant contributed an assist.

Walton/Downsville Boys Soccer Tops Groton 5-1 in Playoff Opener

DOWNSVILLE - Walton/Downsville defeated Groton 5-1 Wednesday, Oct. 21, in the opening round of the Section IV Class C Boys Soccer Tournament.

John Noviello led Walton/Downsville with two

goals. Landen Reed added a goal and an assist, while Tyler Reed scored on a penalty kick. Kruz Henderson also found the net as Walton/Downsville advanced with the four-goal victory.



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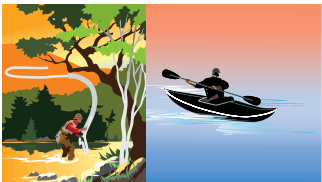
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OUTDOOR LIFE



Help Protect Bats During ‘Bat Week’

In observance of Bat Week and to raise awareness about the critical role of bats in the environment, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) encourages outdoor enthusiasts to refrain from visiting caves and mines during the fall and winter months to reduce human disturbance to endangered and threatened bats. Bat Week is observed October 24-31 annually and is organized by representatives from conservation groups and government agencies in the United States and Canada to build support for the conservation of bats – a frequently misunderstood species.

These nocturnal flying mammals are more helpful to people than harmful, with most species having absolutely no interest in biting other mammals. There are nine species of bats in New York, all of which are insectivores that help control pest populations across the state. Their voracious appetites for insects help limit the amount of pesticides used for crops and gardens, reduce mosquitoes, and may help limit the spread of invasive insects in New York.

Of the nine bat species found in New York, six are cave bats that hibernate in caves and mines throughout the winter. Three tree bat species migrate to warmer areas. All these bats need to build up fat stores in the fall to make

sure they have enough energy to carry them through their long hibernation or migration. They do this by consuming up to their bodyweight in insects each night. During this time, known as the fall swarm, bats are also congregating in large numbers to mate. For cave bats, this means they are using their hibernation sites to find potential mates before hunkering down inside for the upcoming winter, making these sites even more valuable to them.

Bats spend the winter hibernating in caves and mines where relatively constant, warm temperatures protect these mammals from harsh winter temperatures above ground. The health of bats is particularly vulnerable to human visitation to winter “hibernacula,” and especially harmful since the arrival of white-nose syndrome (WNS) in 2006, a fungus that has killed more than 90% of bats at hibernation sites in the state.

Both WNS and human visitation cause bats to rouse more frequently than they typically do throughout the hibernation season.

If bats are disturbed during hibernation, they raise their body temperature, depleting crucial fat reserves. This stored fat is the only source of energy available to the bats until the weather warms in spring and insects become readily available. The more

frequently bats are disturbed, the less likely they are to survive the long winter months underground without eating.

In recent years, scientists have found evidence of recovery of the once-common little brown bat throughout New York state. While this seeming stabilization provides a hopeful outlook after more than a decade of devastating population declines, similar evidence of stabilization has not been seen for other severely affected bat species.

DEC reminds the public to follow all posted notices restricting access to caves and mines. If bats are discovered hibernating in a cave, DEC urges visitors to leave

quickly and quietly to minimize disturbance. Anyone entering a listed bat hibernation site from Oct. 1 through April 30, the typical hibernation period for bats, may be subject to prosecution.

Other ways to help protect bats in New York include:

- Limiting tree removal to the winter months (Dec. 1 – Feb. 28 in Suffolk County or Nov. 1 – March 31 elsewhere) to protect bats from harm. During the active season (spring through early fall), bats roost in trees and form maternity colonies to rear their pups, so tree removal during this season can potentially harm bats using trees for these behaviors.
- Planting a pollinator garden

to increase prey availability for bats, who feed on insects;

- Putting up a bat box on your property to offer bats a summer roost safe from predators and human activity; <https://www.bat-con.org/about-bats/bat-house-guidelines>;
- Keeping cats indoors to prevent their predation of bats; and
- Contacting a bat-certified Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator when looking to remove bats safely from your home.

For more information on bats, including state and federally listed species like Indiana bat and Northern long-eared bat, visit dec.ny.gov

Learn How to Use eBird at Free Audubon Program Nov. 20

The Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society will present a program on eBird, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s bird-sighting database, Friday, Nov. 20, at 7:30 p.m.

Birder and educator Pete Fenner will explain how to use eBird to record bird sightings and contribute to citizen-science research. The free program is open to the public, but registration is required.

Fenner will cover the differences between eBird’s website and mobile app, the benefits

of documenting sightings, and the review process. He also will discuss how comments, photographs and audio recordings improve reports and how eBird works with the Merlin bird identification app.

Fenner lives in East Peoria, Illinois, and has family ties to central New York. A Colgate University graduate with a degree in biology, he is retired from Caterpillar and birds nearly every day. He is among the top eBird users in his home area and Otsego

County.

Fenner has served on the Peoria Audubon board for more than 20 years and is its treasurer. He also is trustee emeritus for the Nature Conservancy of Illinois.

To register, visit <https://tinyurl.com/eBirding-Pete-Fenner>

For more information, contact Susan O’Handley, publicity chair for the Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society, at 607-643-5680 or info@doas.us

IT’S Academic

Margaretville Central School

Honors Academic Achievement in Evening of Excellence



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

From left - Genevieve Curlew-Siclare with Zachariah Wells, Brynna Asher, Amelia Marks, Gabriella Sines and LilliAnn Van Benschoten - were among the students honored for academic achievement at the 12th annual Evening of Excellence at Margaretville Central School Monday, Oct. 26.



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Aubrey Hougén, Everley Marks, Camden Hillriegel, Aydin Said, Alexander Siciarz and Madeline Hall were honored at Margaretville Central School Monday, Oct. 26 for high test scores achieved in New York state exams of 2025/26.



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

From left, Margaretville Central School Principal Joy Holden honored Brynna Asher and Genevieve Curlew-Siclare for achieving perfect scores to both their chemistry and their U.S. history & government Regents exams last June. Guidance counselor Daniella Quiroz and alumnae and math teacher Erin Cure joined the ceremony to honor the students.

Andre spoke to her former peers about prioritizing genuine satisfaction, avoiding the trap of the pursuit of wealth and about true self worth. Acknowledging her own struggles in trying to determine her future, she said she had some things figured out.

“In today’s society, the pressure to make the most money, to drive the nicest car, or to own the biggest home can make you feel inferior and worthless, but self-worth is not defined by materialistic attributes.”

In her remarks during the evening, Holden noted that for the students being recognized, consistency of effort was a defining characteristic.

“These students have shown consistent effort, commitment, and excellence in all areas of their studies.”

Jeremy Marks, MCS alumnus and Operations & Student Activities Administrator also noted the consistency of effort saying, “I think what gets overlooked is the daily process that you guys do, your effort, how you’re trying to be the best that you can be every single day, and by doing that, that’s what allows you to come here.”

The ever-popular dessert buffet at the 12th annual Evening of Excellence was prepared by the school cafeteria team and served prior to the award ceremonies.

By J. Lawrence-Bauer

MARGARETVILLE - Brynna Asher and Genevieve Curlew-Siclare were honored at Margaretville Central School Monday, Oct. 26 for doing what many believed was impossible. Each student achieved a perfect score on a New York State Regents Exam.

During the 12th annual Evening of Excellence held at the school to celebrate the exceptional academic achievements of more than 40 students, Asher and Curlew-Siclare stood out because each earned perfect scores on two Regents exams taken last spring. School Principal Joy Holden noted it is rare for a student to achieve a perfect score in just one Regents exam before noting that Asher and Curlew-Siclare had done so in both the chemistry and the U.S. history and government exams. Asher was also the school’s top scorer on the algebra II and the English and language arts Regents.

Each of the perfect scores were marked with engraved plaques given to the students, as well as an engraved plaque that remains



J. Lawrence-Bauer/The Reporter

Jeremy Marks, class of 1994 and current administrator for operations & student activities, addressed more than 40 students honored at the school’s 12th annual Evening of Excellence Monday, Oct. 26.

hanging in the school with the names of all past students who achieved perfect scores.

The two topped an exceptional field of academic achievement that saw LilliAnn Van Benschoten honored as the top school scorer on three different Regents including geometry, global history and geography II and Earth &

space science.

Amelia Marks was the algebra I top scorer while Gabriella Sines shared top geometry score with Van Benschoten. Zachariah Wells pulled down the top score in the life science biology Regents.

Students have been taking Regents exams in New York since 1865, first as entrance exams into high school. In 1878 the exams were instituted for end of course work proficiency measures and allowed students to demonstrate mastery of statewide standards as compared to other students across the state. The class of 2027 will be the last class mandated to take the exams to earn a high school diploma. For members of the class of 2028 the exams will be available but optional.

Alumnae Bella Andre, the school’s laureate graduate in 2026, returned to address the students including those honored for placement on the honor roll last year and elementary and middle school students honored for high state test scores in English & language arts, math and science.

First Grade Students Step Back in Time at Hamden Schoolhouse



contributed by DA

Delaware Academy Central School District at Delhi first grade students in Cindy Mostert's class visited the Hamden Schoolhouse Museum Wednesday, Oct. 21 to learn what school was like generations ago. Hamden Supervisor Wayne Marshfield talked with the students inside the restored Hamden School District No. 1 schoolhouse, which operated from 1859 to 1954 and is now owned by the town.

Walton CS Mechanic Earns Inaugural Facilities Scholarship



contributed by WCS

Walton Central School District Building Maintenance Mechanic Millard Gladstone recently received the inaugural James L. Day Memorial Scholarship from the New York State School Facilities Association. The award covered attendance at the association's annual conference and expo earlier this month and recognized Gladstone's dedication to his profession, service to his school community and potential for future leadership.

WCS Class of '86 Celebrates 40 Years of Memories



contributed

The Walton Central School Class of '86 came together the weekend of Oct 3 at the Walton Vets Club to celebrate a special milestone — their 40th class reunion. Classmates traveled from near and far to reunite with old friends, share stories, reminisce about their school days, and of course enjoy plenty of laughter. It was a heartwarming weekend filled with familiar faces, cherished memories, and the joy of catching up on all the years in between. New memories were made, old friendships were rekindled, and everyone had a chance to relive a little piece of the past. This was one of the largest gatherings to date for the WCS Class of '86, making the occasion even more special. Forty years may have passed since graduation, but the friendships and memories formed along the way continue to bring everyone together. There is something truly special about reconnecting with the people who shared those unforgettable school days. No matter how far life has taken us or how much time has passed, there is always a little bit of home in gathering with classmates. Cheers to the WCS Class of '86 — 40 years of memories, a lifetime of friendships, and many more stories still to share!

Walton CSD Welcomes 17 New National Honor Society Members



image courtesy of WCS

Front, from left: Ellis Greene, Raegan Foster, Alivia Conklin, Esther Salvia, Liam Kane, Lauren Sloan-Boice, Emma Kingsbury, Brynlee Hunt, Lila Trimbell, and Lina DuPrey-Diederichsen. Back row, from left: Aubrie Green, Kai Storrer, Mayla Evans, Paige LeBarge, Annalia Yetto, Kennedy Williams, Grace Walley, Anika Fassler, Sabrina Avolio, Maisy Rhinehart, and Natalie Hoffman.

WALTON — Seventeen students were inducted into the Walton Central School District chapter of the National Honor Society during a ceremony Thursday evening, joining four current members in the organization.

The annual ceremony included a candle-lighting presentation and explanations of the society's four pillars: scholarship, leadership, character and service. The new members were introduced and received certificates and

hoods before reciting the National Honor Society pledge.

"I pledge myself to uphold the high purposes of this society to which I have been elected, striving in every way by word and deed to make its ideals the ideals of my school and of my life," the inductees pledged.

The newest members of the Walton chapter are Sabrina Avolio, Alivia Conklin, Lina DuPrey-Diederichsen, Mayla Evans, Anika Fassler, Raegan Foster, Ellis Greene, Brynlee Hunt, Liam

Kane, Emma Kingsbury, Paige LeBarge, Esther Salvia, Lauren Sloan-Boice, Lila Trimbell, Grace-Mary Walley, Kennedy Williams and Annalia Yetto.

Current members are Aubrie Green, Natalie Hoffman, Maisy Rhinehart and Kai Storrer.

Chapter officers for the year were also introduced. Green will serve as president, Rhinehart as vice president, Hoffman as secretary and Storrer as treasurer.

SUNY Delhi Receives Grant to Expand Outdoor Recreation and Wellness Opportunities

DELHI - SUNY Delhi has been awarded an \$8,000 grant through the State University of New York's (SUNY) Outdoors for All initiative to expand access to outdoor recreation, enhance campus green spaces, and create new opportunities for students to connect with nature.

The grant will support the creation of a new outdoor amphitheater and learning space on SUNY Delhi's main campus, along with enhancements to the college's Bronco Walking Trail system and 50-acre Outdoor Education Center. Planned improvements include updated trail markings, accessibility features such as stability railings and improved walkways, and upgrades to an existing pollinator garden and labyrinth.

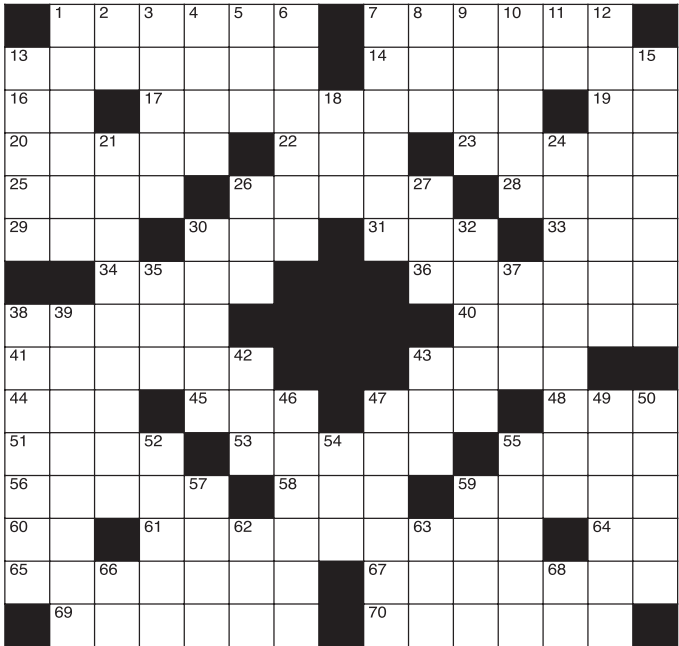
In addition to physical improvements, the project aims to engage at least 150 additional students through new programming, including guided hikes, nature-based mindfulness activities, and trips to New York State Parks and other outdoor destinations. Students will also participate in gardening and sustainability projects, while nature soundscape recordings accessible through QR codes will encourage mindfulness and relaxation.

SUNY Delhi's Outdoors for All Project supports broader SUNY and New York state priorities related to outdoor access, student

wellness, sustainability, and environmental stewardship. Improvements and programming

are expected to be completed by the end of the 2026-27 academic year.

REPORTER CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. Spiritual leaders

7. Containing salt

13. Fortified wine

14. Edible mollusk

16. Blood type

17. Make a comparison

19. Government lawyer

20. "Game of Thrones" actor Ciaran

22. 8th month of the year (abbr.)

23. Very willing

25. ___ ex machina

26. Satisfies

28. New Zealand mountain

29. A doctrine

30. Popular Dodge truck model

31. Dekagram

33. Naturally occurring solid material

34. Company higher-up

36. Villains

38. Cricket frog genus
40. Influential early psychologist

41. Endured

43. Servant

44. You can get stuck in one

45. ___ and feather

47. Passive optical network

48. French ballet dynasty

51. Employee stock ownership plan

53. Forming a bottom layer

55. Sound

56. Yankees slugger Judge

58. Dickens character

59. Beloved late sportscaster Craig

60. "The Mount Rushmore State"

61. Sarcastic and critical

64. Atomic #79

65. Longtime Atlanta Braves pitcher

67. Humor

69. Shawl

70. Preliminary assessment of patients

CLUES DOWN

1. Animal disease

2. Commercial

3. Craft supplies

4. Containers

5. A way to save for your golden years

6. Common Arabic greeting

7. Bulged downward

8. Acquired brain injury

9. Lay about

10. Intestinal

11. Not yes

12. In a way, pleased

13. Messianic figure in Islam

15. Resulting from intense conviction

18. Not in

21. Number above the line in a fraction

24. Lawn pest

26. Pouch

27. Ancient language (abbr.)

30. Start anew

32. Wild flower
35. Fourteen

37. Graphical user interface

38. Facing the same way

39. Campaigns

42. Touch lightly

43. "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen

46. Violent seizure of property

47. One who supports the Pope

49. Malaise

50. Body fluid

52. Inauthentic person

54. Title of respect

55. Moth genus

57. Central Japan city

59. Silk garment

62. Draw from

63. Automobile

66. A male

68. Powerful government lawyer

Solution to last week's puzzle on page 21

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Roxbury Arts Group Seeks Artists For 2027 Window Installations

STAMFORD - The Roxbury Arts Group is inviting artists to propose installations for the front window of Headwaters Arts Center, 66 Main Street, Stamford.

Four installations will be selected for 2027, each displayed for about 10 weeks. All artistic media will be considered, and each selected artist will receive a \$300 stipend.

The themes and schedule are:

- January-April: Light
- April-June: Reflection
- June-September: Lost and Found, featuring repurposed materials
- September-December: Paper

The window measures 10 feet wide, 9 feet high and 3 feet deep. Artists are responsible for installation, including providing tools and hardware. The arts group will coordinate installation schedules with selected artists.

Artwork will be promoted through social media and local news outlets.

Located among downtown Stamford's shops and cafes, Headwaters Arts Center benefits from pedestrian and vehicle traffic along Main Street, also known



contributed

as state Route 23. The center is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Artists can submit proposals through the Art Installation Proposal form, available on the Roxbury Arts Group's Open Calls

page. The organization did not specify a submission deadline in its announcement.

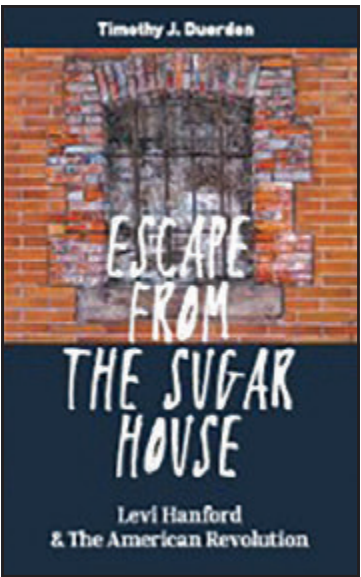
For more information contact Kristin Stevenson at headwaters@roxburyartsgroup.org or visit roxburyartsgroup.org

New Book Explores Revolutionary War Prisoner's Escape and Delaware County Roots

DELHI — A teenage prisoner's experiences during the American Revolution and his later life in Delaware County are the focus of a book presentation and signing Wednesday, Nov. 4, at the Cannon Free Library in Delhi.

Tim Duerden, director of the Delaware County Historical Association, will discuss his new book, "Escape From the Sugar House: Levi Hanford and the American Revolution," at 1 p.m.

Published by Purple Mountain Press, the 212-page book blends historical fiction with real events to tell the story of Levi Hanford, a teenager imprisoned by the British as a prisoner of war in New York City during the Revolution-



contributed

ary War. The narrative draws on documented events and episodes from Hanford's wartime experiences.

After the war Hanford and his wife, Mary Mead, settled in Walton, where they lived on Dunk Hill for decades until their deaths in the mid-19th century.

Illustrated with drawings, the book is intended for readers of historical fiction and young adult literature, though adults may also enjoy the story.

Admission to the presentation is free and open to the public. Copies of the book will be available for purchase for \$25, and Duerden will be available to sign them.

Middletown Historical Society Plans Annual Meeting, Prepares Time Capsule

Members and friends of the Historical Society of the Town of Middletown will gather Saturday, Nov. 7 at 2 p.m. for the organization's annual meeting. Historian and author Bill Birns will be the featured speaker at the event, to be held at the Middletown History Center, 778 Cemetery Rd., Margaretville.

The center and its archives will be open earlier in the day, from 10 to 1. Those who can't make the meeting might want to stop in and leave a message to the future in a notebook which will be buried with other items in a time capsule to be opened in 50 years.

Contents of the capsule - actually a sturdy rigid "Pelican" box - will be on view along with a plaque which will be mounted on a boulder to mark the burial spot in the history center garden. The capsule will be buried later

in November, and unearthed in 2076, the nation's Tricentennial year.

The annual meeting will include reports on the society's finances and activities, the election of trustees and the drawing of winners of two hand-crafted clocks made by Ellis Tobin of Redkill. Trustees seeking reelection are Patricia Moore, Josef Schoell and Suzanne Sluiter.

The business meeting will be followed by a talk by Bill Birns of Fleischmanns who will share his views on the importance of preserving local history.

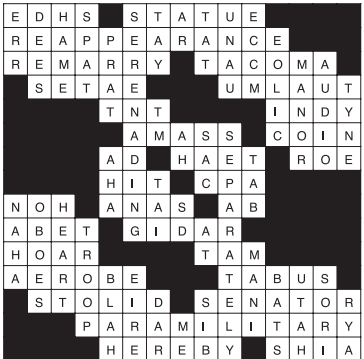
Bill is the editor of the recently released book "Peter Pan in the Catskills and other Histori-

cal Essays," published by Purple Mountain Press. The book is a collection of articles from the magazine "Catskills Tri-County Historical Views."

A retired teacher (he taught at both Margaretville and Oneonta Central Schools), Bill is also the author of "A Catskill Catalogue," a collection of essays he wrote for the *Catskill Mountain News*; and "I Was Corning a Beaver Like You Do: John Burroughs, Joe Hewitt, Mountain Culture."

Light refreshments will be served at the meeting, when attendees may join HSM or renew their membership. Ideas for future programming are also requested.

Last Week's Crossword Answers



VETERANS RESOURCE FAIR

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Come join us for a day of community, resources & appreciation

Oneonta: Stamp Club Meets Nov. 5

The Tri-County Stamp Club, a regional American Philatelic Society (APS) club active since 1950, will hold its next monthly meeting Thursday, Nov. 5 at 2 p.m. at The Gathering Place, 5506

State Route 7, Oneonta. The program presented by Scott Fielder is entitled "Cartoon and Comic Characters on Stamps." All are welcome. Come and get your stamp questions answered.

Roxbury Library Holiday Bazaar Opens Nov. 7

The Roxbury Library's annual Holiday Bazaar opens Saturday, Nov. 7, at 10 a.m., offering shoppers a chance to find gifts while supporting the library's operating expenses.

The bazaar will continue through December during regular library hours: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

Items for sale include clothing, jewelry, holiday and everyday decorations, toys, games and more.

The library's board and staff thanked community members for their donations and expressed special appreciation for the volunteers who make the annual sale possible.

For more information, call the Roxbury Library at 607-326-7901.

Community Photo Show Opens Nov. 14 in Stamford



contributed

STAMFORD — Photographers of all ages and experience levels will showcase their work at the Roxbury Arts Group's annual Community Photo Show, opening with a free reception Saturday, Nov. 14, from 3 to 5 p.m. at Headwaters Arts Center, 66 Main Street.

The reception offers visitors a chance to meet the photographers, hear the stories behind

their images and explore different perspectives on the community. Light refreshments will be served, and all are welcome.

The exhibition will remain on view through Jan. 9, 2027. Photographs may be available for purchase, with prices set by the artists.

For details visit roxburyartsgroup.org or call 607-214-6040.

Fairview Public Library basket raffle drawing set for Nov. 20

MARGARETVILLE - The Fairview Public Library's annual basket raffle drawing will be held Nov. 20, with proceeds supporting an early literacy initiative for children and families.

Twenty-one baskets featuring donated items and themed collections went on display at the library Oct. 16. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase during

regular library hours.

The annual raffle has been part of the library's fundraising efforts for five years.

Fairview Public Library is at 43 Walnut Street in Margaretville. For more information call 845-586-3791.

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Thurs., November 5
5PM TIL SOLD OUT

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Main Street, Franklin

by Donation

Election Night DHS Fundraiser

Tuesday, November 3, 4:30 pm - 7pm

Join DHS at the **Delhi Fire Department** for a delicious dinner prepared by **SUNY Delhi's Hospitality Program** to help raise funds to promote Delhi's rich history.

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Regular Advertisements In *The Reporter* Are Money Makers.

SIDNEY/UNADILLA

By Anna Ritchey
607-563-1104
brauna43@yahoo.com

Sidney

The free Share the Bounty community meal will be Thursday, Oct. 29, serving from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall, 15 Liberty Street. The meal will be hosted by the Masonville Federated Church serving macaroni and cheese, tossed salad, bread and dessert. All are welcome to attend.

Sidney Memorial Public Library, 8 River Street, is open Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday 1 to 4 p.m. Phone 607-563-1200 and for programs visit website www.sidneylibrary.org Many programs for preschoolers and school age kids - visit website www.sidneylibrary.org The library has extended The Great Give Back through the end of October. Donations of cleaning supplies, cat/dog food and toys are being donated to the Delaware Valley Humane Society. Bring donations to the library during regular library hours.

The Masonville Branch Library is having a Halloween Scavenger Hunt Friday, Oct. 30, from 1 to 5 p.m. and find whatever you can to win a prize.

The Tri County Senior Center in the back of the hospital building, 43 Pearl Street, is open

Wednesday and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Fridays 10 a.m. to noon. For more information contact Carol Allen at 607-563-8065 and on Face book. The Tri-County Senior Center folks will put together Uplift Care Kit boxes to be given to children and their families who are going through difficult times such as cancer treatment, major surgery or other serious medical challenges. Items will be distributed through the Bassett Healthcare Network School-based health offices to those most in need. Look for boxes from Nov. 4 through Dec. 4 with a list of items needed. Village Variety in Unadilla, SFCU in Bainbridge and Macho's Tacos, Trackside Dining, Club 55 and Tri County Senior Center all in Sidney.

The Sidney Historical Association monthly meetings are (usually) held on the third Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. at 44 Grand Street. All are invited to come and consider becoming a member. The hours to visit are Wednesday and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The food bank at the Sidney United Methodist Church, 12 Liberty Street, is open Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

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

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p.m. Regular hours for Catholic Charities are Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Birthright of Sidney, 21 Liberty Street, Suite 10, serves Chenango, Delaware and Otsego counties. Office is open Monday 1 to 4 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free services, trained volunteers, information is confidential; 607-563-4321. Offering counseling, pregnancy tests, agency referrals, baby food and diapers.

Unadilla

Trick and Treating in the village will be Saturday, Oct. 31 from 5 to 7 p.m.

A Veterans Day breakfast and assembly will be held at the Unatego Elementary School Tuesday, Nov. 14 to honor local veterans with a connection to students, faculty or staff at the elementary school. Breakfast for Veterans, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., can include a spouse or significant other, in the gymnasium from 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. with families of Veterans welcome to attend. For reservations call 607-369-6200 or email kbarber@unatego.stier.org if planning to attend. First-time attendees may send in a military photo to use on the Wall of Honor to Unatego Elementary School, 265 Main Street, Unadilla, NY 13849 Attn: Veterans Day - or you may drop off.

The annual pancake breakfasts by the Unadilla Rod and Gun Cub Sundays through Nov. 15.

Serving ham or sausage, beverage, all the pancakes you can eat with real maple syrup from 8 to 11 a.m. at 566 Butternut Road.

The Unatego Cue and Curtain will present a fall musical production Newsies. The production is based on the real-life Newsboy Strike of 1899. The new Disney musical tells the story of Jack Kelly played by Jason Ostrander. The family-friendly tale will be brought to the Unatego stage Friday, Oct. 30 and Saturday, Oct. 31 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 1 at 1 p.m.

All lot owners/family members of the Evergreen Hill Cemetery Association are reminded of the fall cleanup of the cemetery. All dead flowers, artificial flowers, pots and decorations will be removed and discarded as of Nov. 1. Fall and Christmas decorations will be removed early next spring. If there are any personal items that you want to keep remove them before Nov. 1.

The Unadilla Community Food Pantry and Unadilla Methodist Church provide a Blessing Box for those in need in Unadilla. The box is on the front porch of the Community House. To help to stock it, here is a list of some items needed: pasta, rice, cereal, crackers, soup in box, instant potatoes, boxed mac and cheese, tea, coffee, toilet paper, paper towels, socks. All items must be brand new. Leave items on the front bench in the Unadilla office or place them directly in the

October 29, 2026

Blessing box.

A free breakfast in the basement of the First United Methodist Church, 170 Main Street is held on the first and third Saturday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m. Call 607-369-20 52 for reservations.

Village board meetings are being held on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Firehouse, 77 Clifton Street.

Town board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Municipal Building, 1648 State Highway 7

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. 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.

Unadilla Public Library, 193 Main Street - board open monthly meetings every third Monday beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Unadilla Food Pantry, 172 Main Street, is open Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Second Wednesday of every month is 4 to 6 p.m. For more information call 607-267-5602.

The Unadilla Methodist Church has a clothing donation shed in its parking lot sponsored by Troop 1 BSA. You may stop anytime to donate clothing, shoes, blankets, sheets, curtains, stuffed animals.

DELHI

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

I hope everyone has a fun Halloween and that this beautiful weather we've been having continues.

Starting Nov. 2, the HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program) season opens to help income-eligible Delaware County residents with heating costs. If you or someone you know needs assistance staying warm this season, call Delaware Opportunities at 607-746-1615. If you are over 60, call the Office for the Aging at 607-832-5750, or the Dept. of Social Services for SNAP/Public Assistance at 607-832-5300. The gross monthly income limit for a household of 1 is \$3,563; for 2, \$4,659; 3, \$5,756; 4, \$6,852; 5, \$7,948; and 6, \$9,045.

Last week's trivia question: What was the name of the hurricane that made it to Delhi in October of 1954? "Hurricane "Hazel" Hits Delhi Hard But With Little Damage," was the headline in the Oct. 21, 1954 paper.

This week's trivia question:

What is on the menu at the Delhi Senior Dining Center Monday, Nov. 9? Next week you can enjoy tuna noodle casserole, peas and carrots, three bean salad, whole wheat bread, fruited Jello with topping Monday, Nov. 2. Tuesday, Nov. 3, beef cabbage bake, mashed potato, broccoli and cauliflower, grape juice, and ice cream. Wednesday, Nov. 4, chicken parmigiana, spaghetti noodles, sautéed spinach, dinner roll, vanilla pudding with peaches. Thursday, Nov. 5 barbecued pork loin, baked sweet potatoes, vegetable medley, tossed salad, and scalloped apple and then Swedish meatballs, egg noodles, red cabbage, whole wheat bread, and mandarin oranges on Friday, Nov. 6. The Delhi Dining Center is open Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at 97 Main Street, suite 3. For information about congregate meals (community/group serving) or home-delivered meal services call the Office for the Aging at 607-832-5750.

This week's community volunteers of the week are the SUNY Delhi students who hosted and

participated in the Trunk or Treat event last weekend. Thanks to the Greek Council and the O'Connor Center for Community Engagement for hosting this fun event for Delhi.

The Abundant Life Church, 79 Assembly Lane, will host a fall carnival Saturday, Oct. 31, from 6 until 7:30 p.m. There will be free games and candy for all.

Help 4-H turn your extra or unwanted Halloween candy into a gesture of appreciation for those who have served our country. Join Delaware County 4-H staff on Monday, Nov. 2 for a sweet community service project in honor of Veterans Day. They will work together to assemble candy care packages and create thank-you cards for veterans serving around the world throughout the coming year. It's a simple way to spread kindness and show our veterans that they're appreciated as we wind down our year-long celebration of America's semi-quintcentennial. Bring your candy and creativity to help 4-H, pledging our hands to larger service. If you have any questions contact Corrine Tompkins at

607-865-6531 or email crb222@cornell.edu Register at https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a62sS4KTWnEM6yO

Join the Delhi Historical Society at the Delhi Fire Department between 4:30 and 7 p.m. on election night, Nov. 3, for a delicious dinner prepared by SUNY Delhi's Hospitality Program to help raise funds to help promote Delhi's rich history.

Tim Duerden will give a presentation based on his book just published by Purple Mountain Press at the Cannon Free Library Wednesday, Nov. 4 at 1 p.m. The book is titled "Escape From the Sugar House: Levi Hanford and the American Revolution," and it tells the tale of a teenage Levi and his incarceration by the British as a POW in New York City during the American Revolution. Although much of the book is fiction, the narrative is based on true events and relates some of the actual episodes of young Levi's wartime experiences. After the war, Levi and his wife, Mary Mead, moved to Walton where they spent many decades living on Dunk Hill until their deaths

in the mid-nineteenth century. Admission to the presentation is free and open to the public. Tim will also be available to sign purchased copies of his book. The cost of the book is \$25.

Registration is open for Cornell Cooperative Extension's Winter Sugar Pinecone Décor workshop Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. Join Ag and 4-H Staff in creating a beautiful winter-themed sugar pinecone outdoor decor item. This program will be limited to 24 participants so preregistration is required. Participants are encouraged to bring their own snips if they have them - and their creativity. A \$20 fee will be charged to help cover the cost of materials for this program. Bring either cash or a check to the day of the event. Find more information and the link to register at ccedelaware.org/events/2026/12/01/winter-sugar-pinecone-d-cor or contact Kaitlyn Conklin at krs257@cornell.edu or 607-865-6531. The workshop will be held at CCE, 34570 State Highway 10, Hamden.

FRANKLIN

By Amber Gray
agray1795@gmail.com

Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, Nov. 1, at 2 a.m. when clocks turn back one hour.

Early voting for the general election is available at the Delaware County Board of Elections, 97 Main Street, Suite 5, Delhi, Saturday, Oct. 24 through Sunday, Nov. 1. Contact BOE for daily hours. The general election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 6 a.m.-9 p.m., with voting held for town of Franklin voters at the Franklin Town Garage, 12480 County Route 21. Sample ballots, including offices up for election and propositions are available at <https://www.delcony.gov/boe>

Town of Franklin Board meeting, Wednesday, Nov. 4, 6 p.m. at the Franklin Town Garage, 12480 County Route 21. The monthly meeting will be held Wednesday, Nov. 4 due to the general election. Also note the time change that is in effect through March 2027. There will be a public hearing at 6 p.m. regarding the proposed 2027 town budget.

Franklin Planning Board will meet Thursday, Nov. 5, at 6:30 p.m. at the Franklin Town Garage, 12480 County Route 21.

Village of Franklin trick-or-treating will be held Saturday, Oct. 31, 4-8 p.m. If you would like trick-or-treaters to visit your home, make sure your porch light is on. The fourth annual Franklin Community Trunk or Treat event will be held in the Franklin Central School parking lot Oct. 31,

from 5:30-7:30 p.m. In the case of inclement weather, the vent will be moved inside the school.

Franklin Central School fall sports events can be found at <https://www.schedulegalaxy.com/schools/130> The Backpack Program is fundraising via the Regional Food Bank. Donations can be made online at <https://give.regionalfoodbank.net/franklins> FFA and junior class members are taking fruit and cheese orders now through Nov. 8. See a member to order. This week is Halloween Spirit Week. Student Council's Haunted Hallway will be causing frights Saturday, Oct. 31, 6-7 p.m. along with a costume and pumpkin carving contest, 7-7:30 p.m.

Franklin Head Start, 293 Main Street, is recruiting children age 3 to 5 for the full day program. Call 607-829-3312 for more info.

Treadwell Fire Department is selling tickets for its 2026 sportsmen's raffle with the drawing Saturday, Nov. 7, 7 p.m. during the chili dinner and silent auction, 4-8 p.m.; 400 tickets are available for a \$20 donation per ticket. Contact a member of the fire department to purchase and learn about prizes. The fire department will host its annual Halloween Party, Saturday, Oct. 31, 7 p.m. including games, refreshments, and costumes contests. Fun for all ages.

Franklin Fire Department seeks new volunteer firefighters and EMS members. No experience needed - all training provided. Stop by any Monday, 6:30-8:30 p.m. or call 607-829-6822.

Greater Franklin Food Pantry,

574 Main Street, will be open Friday, Oct. 30, 2-4 p.m. Sign-ups are now open to new and returning pantry neighbors for the November and December holiday food boxes. Please sign up for the November box by Friday, Oct. 30, either at the pantry during open hours, call or text 607-386-1601 or email info@greaterfranklinfoodpantry.org Franklin Head Start and Franklin Central School families can sign up with their Head Start staff or FCS counselor. The pantry provides food for members of our community and is sustained through non-expired food and monetary donations. Appointments outside of open hours are welcome. Call the pantry at 607-386-1601 or visit greaterfranklinfoodpantry.org for more information.

Franklin Railroad and Community Museum, 572 Main Street, will host senior bingo in the Pearl Whigham Library Monday, Nov. 2, at 1 p.m.

Franklin Free Library, 334 Main Street, is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1 to 6 p.m., Wednesdays, 2-8 p.m., and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The Storytime Share begins Tuesday, Nov. 3, at 10 a.m. with books and crafts geared towards preschool aged children. All ages are welcome to attend. The program is seeks additional volunteers. 4CLS Electronic Services Librarian Brian Lee will conduct a free genealogy workshop introducing attendees to online tools Wednesday, Nov. 4, at 6 p.m.

Bright Hill Press, 94 Church Street, Treadwell will display

"Out of the Shadows: Slavery and Freedom in Delaware County, NY 1790-1870" in the Word and Image Gallery through Nov. 15. Gallery hours are Mondays-Thursdays, 12:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. or by appointment.

Bright Hill Community Library, 94 Church Street, Treadwell, is open weekly, Monday through Thursday, 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Franklin Rotary will meet Wednesday, Nov. 4, 6:30 p.m. at Open Doors Methodist Church, 475 Main Street. The meeting will also be held virtually at <https://meet.google.com/acw-rajn-eer> Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Compressor Free Franklin will meet via Zoom, Monday, Nov. 2, at 5 p.m. Contact a member for the link to join or message their Facebook page.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 307 Main Street, First Thursday Community Dinner on Nov. 5, 5-7 p.m., is the annual "thank you" turkey dinner in grateful appreciation of community who has supported the church and each other for 17+ years. Cost is by donation. All faiths and families are always welcome to Sunday service in the chapel facing Main Street during the winter season beginning at 10 a.m.

Save the date for A Hometown Christmas with the Catskill Brass, Saturday, Dec. 19 at 6 p.m.

Open Doors: A United Methodist Community, 475 Main Street, worship service at 10:30 a.m. Sundays with activities for children provided. Tai Chi, sponsored by Delaware County Office

for the Aging, is held Tuesdays and Fridays, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at no cost. Messy Church Nov. 1, 9:15-10:15 a.m., and includes a brief family friendly worship and activities for toddlers through grade five every other Sunday.

Community Bible Church, 89 Center Street, Sunday worship service starts at 10:45 a.m. Nursery care and Kingdom Kids Sunday School provided during the service. AWANA is open to all kids prekindergarten to sixth grade. Regular club meetings are held Thursdays after school. Community Ladies' Bible Study is held Wednesdays at 3:15 p.m. at the train museum. All ladies are invited. The church can be reached at 607-829-5471 or cbchurch@cbchurchfranklin.com

Aldrich Baptist Church, 2770 State Route 28, North Franklin, Sunday worship service is held 9:30-10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School is held during the service and dismissed after Children's Time.

The Christmas Stroll House Tour, Saturday, Dec. 12, 1-5 p.m., will be here before we know it. Organizers are seeking Franklin homeowners and businesses that would like to open their space to appreciative visitors during the stroll. Host homes show only their main floor area decorated for the holidays and, if they would like to, may provide light refreshments such as cookies. This is an important fundraiser for the Franklin Improvement Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community organization. Contact candjmartin@fastmail.com for more info.

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Franklin Church seeking piano player for Sunday and special worship services. Paid position. For more information call 607-829-2250. O45G

HELP WANTED

SUBSTITUTE DRIVER

Substitute Delivery Driver needed to deliver The Reporter Thursday, November 5 and Thursday, November 19. Approximately 8 hours starting at 7:00 a.m. Delivery route starts and ends at Delhi. The Driver is required to load, drive, deliver and collect money. Must be dependable, have a clean NYS driver's license, have reliable transportation, able to lift up to 40 pounds, and good with math. The volume of papers easily fit into an SUV. \$16.80 per hour plus mileage. To apply, stop by Decker Advertising's office to fill out an application. Decker Advertising Inc. publisher of The Reporter 39 Elm Street, Delhi, NY. Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. 607-464-4009. O46HW

SPORTS WRITER

The Reporter is looking for a part-time sports writer that can cover local high school sports games and write sports features in and around Delaware County. Must have reliable transportation and be proficient with computers. Must be available to attend games and conduct interviews as assigned. Must be able to work on deadline. Hourly compensation, based on experience, starting at \$17.25 per hour. To apply send resume to info@dckr.com or mail to: The Reporter, 39 Elm Street, Delhi, NY 607-464-4009. Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 am - 5 pm. O46HW

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SEASONAL EVENTS

SOMETHING HAPPENING THIS SEASON? LET EVERYONE KNOW! From holiday bazaars and craft shows to benefit dinners, concerts, parades, church services, and community celebrations, there's always something happening around here! Help spread the word by submitting your event to The Reporter's online calendar at The-Reporter.net. Click Submit under the Calendar tab to get started. Submitted events will be considered for inclusion in the print editions. OtfWT

Tuesday, No. 10

Heather Bartlett Poetry Reading: SUNY Oneonta's Red Dragon Reading series will feature Ithaca-based poet Heather Bartlett. She is the author of the poetry collection, Another Word for Hunger. New York Times bestselling author Maggie Smith praises Bartlett's book for the way it explores "the intricacies of desire, memory, and perspective--and the ways language can both fail us and save us," calling it "an exciting debut collection." Tuesday, November 10, 7:00 p.m. - 8 p.m. Free. Roger Hecht, roger.hecht@oneonta.edu, 607-436-3033. Martin-Mullen Art Galler, Fine Arts Building, SUNY Oneonta, Oneonta, NY.

Saturday, Nov. 14

Emergency Preparedness: Saturday, November 14 at 2:00pm, Citizen Preparedness Training. This Free program will give residents tools and resources to prepared for any type of disaster, respond accordingly, and recover as quickly as possible. This program is presented by NY Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services. To register for this event please call the library at 607-563-1200. This program will take place in the Smart Community Room. Saturday, November 14, 2:00 p.m. - 3 p.m. free. Patrick McGowan. Sidney Memorial Public Library 8 River St., Sidney, NY.

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- Custodial Worker
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Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF COLCHESTER ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

The Town of Colchester is seeking bids for a 40x40 Enclosure over a new salt storage facility. The project will be a three-sided enclosure with open face. Height will be 18' high above the ground level, attached to the 8' high prebuilt concrete walls. Structure will have Pre-Fab Trusses; the sides closed in utilizing 5/8th Zip wall sheathing taped, with 28 gage black metal siding/roofing. The inside of the structure will have 4' wall covering of 5/8 pressure treated plywood and sealed joints above the concrete. Construction to be upon acceptance of bid, completion must be completed no later than December 1st, 2026. Additional information or questions should be addressed to Ken Eck, Highway Superintendent, Colchester Highway Department at 607-363-2239. Sealed Bids will be accepted no later than noon on November 6th, at Colchester Town Hall, 72 Tannery Road, Box 321, Downsingville, NY 13755. Bid opening will be at Noon, on November 6, 2026.

Public Notices

Public notices/legals submit online 24/7 at: www.The-Reporter.net

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TOWN OF DELHI LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF HEARING UPON PRELIMINARY BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Delhi Town Board will hold a public hearing on the Preliminary 2027 Budget at the Town Hall at 5:55pm, on the 9th day of November 2026 and that at such hearing any person may be heard in favor or against the preliminary budget as compiled for or against any item or items therein contained. Pursuant to Section 108 of the Town Law, the proposed salaries of the town officers are hereby specified as follows:

Supervisor	\$12,300.00
Councilmember 4 each at	3,050.00
HWY Superintendent	43,285.00
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	48,109.00
Justice	30,824.00

The regular monthly Town Board Meeting will be held directly following the Public Hearing.

Dated: October 12, 2026
By order of the Delhi Town Board
Elsa Schmitz
Delhi Town Clerk

TOWN OF SIDNEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF HEARING UPON PRELIMINARY BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sidney Town Board will be holding a public hearing on the Preliminary 2027 Budget, at the monthly Board meeting on Thursday November 5, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. On this such hearing, any person may be heard in favor or against the Preliminary budget as compiled for or against an item or items therein contained.

FURTHER NOTICE is hereby given that a copy of the Preliminary Budget is available for inspection during office hours at the Sidney Town Clerk's Office, located at 44 Grand Street, Sidney NY.

Pursuant to Section 108 of the Town Law, the proposed salaries of the elected Town Officers are specified as follows:

Supervisor	\$ 10,000.00
Councilmember 4 each @	\$ 3,213.00
Highway Superintendent	\$ 76,640.00
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$ 55,391.00
Justice	\$ 20,221.00

Dated: October 12, 2026
By order of the Sidney Town Board
Sheila R Paul
Sidney Town Clerk

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Qual. of Twin River Holdco, LLC. Auth. filed with SSNY on 9/22/2026. Office location: Delaware. LLC formed in DE on 9/10/2026. SSNY desg. as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY mail process to: 1500 K STREET, 2ND FLOOR, WASHINGTON, DC 20005. Arts. of Org. filed with DE SOS. 401 Federal St., Suite 3 Dover, DE 19901. Any lawful purpose.



DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of formation of SNOWSERV LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/09/2026. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as an agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Vincent Citarella: 3479 County Highway 26, Hamden New York, 13782, USA. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE

Notice of formation of Trinity Contracting of New York, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/09/2026. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as an agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Sean Hesse: 39-04 201st street, Bayside, NY, 11361. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

DELAWARE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of formation of TEPLo Sauna Rituals, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/15/2026. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as an agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Secretary of State of New York: 1492 Roses Brook Road, South Kortright NY 13842. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.



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TOWN OF COLCHESTER PUBLIC NOTICE

- It is the Town of Colchester Highway Department's goal to keep Town Highways in a passable condition during the winter months. Any obstructions located in the Town's right-of-way may hinder the ability of snow removal and storage.
- In an attempt to clear roads, drivers try to be careful not to damage any obstruction in the right-of-way; however, that is not always possible. Therefore, any damage which may be done to mailboxes and fences while the Town Highway Department is trying to maintain the roads during the winter, will no longer be repaired or replaced by the Town, but will be the owner's expense.
- Vehicles parked on the Town right-of-way are also a hindrance when trying to clear roads of snow. Attempts will be made to contact the owners of such vehicles so they can be removed. However, if the Highway Dept. is unable to reach the owner, or if the vehicle is not removed, the Town will have the vehicle towed, at the owner's expense.
- It is also a violation to plow snow across or shovel snow back into Town Highways when residents clear out their own driveways and/or sidewalks. Be it noted that violators will be prosecuted.
- Reminder to all Town of Colchester Residents, the Town has a Sidewalk Ordinance which states: Snow and ice shall be removed from sidewalks within twelve hours after the snow has stopped falling and that the sidewalk shall be continuously maintained to be kept free of snow & ice.
- Local Law No. 2-1989 states no person, firm, corporation, association or other organization shall commence the construction, enlargement, alteration, improvement of an access road or driveway from private lands to a Town Highway located in the Town of Colchester, without having applied for or obtained a Highway Access Permit from the Town Code Enforcement Officer.

By order of the Town Board
Dated: October 21, 2026
Robert W. Hafele , Supervisor

TOWN OF COLCHESTER PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 205-a of the Highway Law that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester has hereby passed a resolution designating the following Town Highways as Seasonal Limited Use Highways to be appropriately posted that snow and ice removal and maintenance may be temporarily discontinued from December 01, 2026 until April 01, 2027:

- Dry Brook Road
- Hawks Hollow Road
- Berg Brook Road
- Horse Brook Road-

from the junction of Rogers Hill Road to Morton Hill Road.

- Lower Russell Brook Road-

from entrance of Russell Brook Campground northeasterly to said point of abandonment, being 523 feet.

- Upper Russell Brook Road-

from its intersection with Morton Hill Road southwesterly to said point of abandonment, being 4,137 feet.

- Murphy Hill Road- from 1407 Murphy Hill Road to the end.
- Baxter Mt. Road- from Rosencranse to the end.

By order of the Town Board.
Dated: October 21, 2026
Kenneth R. Eck Jr, Supt. of Highways

DELAWARE COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

TO THE VOTERS OF DELAWARE COUNTY
PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 4-120.1& 4-122.1 OF THE NEW YORK STATE ELECTION LAW, please take notice that the following list contains the name of every candidate for public office to be filled at the General Election to be held Tuesday, November 3, 2026. All polling places will be open from 6:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.

GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR- VOTE FOR ONE
Kathy C. Hochul for Governor (Dem) (Working Families)
Adrienne E. Adams for Lt. Governor (Dem) (Working Families)
Bruce A. Blakeman for Governor (Rep) (Conservative) (Vote Affordable)
Todd Hood for Lt. Governor (Rep) (Conservative) (Vote Affordable)
STATE COMPTROLLER- VOTE FOR ONE
Thomas P. DiNapoli (Dem) (Working Families)
Joseph Hernandez (Rep) (Con)
ATTORNEY GENERAL- VOTE FOR ONE
Letitia A. James (Dem) (Working Families)
Saritha Komatireddy (Rep) (Con)
CONGRESS 19TH DISTRICT- VOTE FOR ONE
Josh Riley (Dem) (Working Families)
Peter K. Oberacker (Rep) (Con)
STATE SENATE 51ST DISTRICT- VOTE FOR ONE
Michele Frazier (Dem) (Working Families)
Christopher W. Tague (Rep) (Con)
MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY 101STDISTRICT- VOTE FOR ONE
Brian M. Maher (Rep) (Con)
STATE ASSEMBLY 102nd DISTRICT- VOTE FOR ONE
Janet S. Tweed (Dem) (Working Families)
Marcus Molinaro (Rep)
MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY 121st DISTRICT- VOTE FOR ONE
Vicki Davis (Dem)
Joe Angelino (Rep) (Con)
TOWN OF ANDES- VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor-Ritchie Gabriel (Rep)
Superintendent of Highways-John Bouton (Rep)
TOWN OF BOVINA- VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor- Tina B. Mole (Rep)
Clerk/Collector- Carrie A. Hewitt-Choquette (Rep)
Superintendent of Highways-Edward F. Weber (Dem)
TOWN OF COLCHESTER- VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor-Robert Hafele (Rep)
Superintendent of Highways-Kenneth R. Eck Jr. (Rep)
TOWN OF DAVENPORT- VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor-Timothy Kelso (Rep)
TOWN OF DELHI- VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor-Maya Boukai (Dem) (Delhi United)
Mark Tuthill (Rep) (Con)
TOWN OF DEPOSIT- VOTE FOR ONE
Clerk/Collector- Elizabeth Polomcean (Rep)
Member of Council-Daniel B. Axtell (Rep)
Town Justice- Jennifer L. Valentine (Rep)
TOWN OF FRANKLIN- VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor- Donald T. Smith (Rep)
Clerk/Collector- Sonja L. Johns (Rep)
Superintendent of Highways-Jamie D. Archibald (Rep)
TOWN OF HAMDEN- VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor - Jonathan Kilday (Dem)
Wayne L. Shepard (Rep)
Clerk/Collector- Cathy Roloson (Rep)
Superintendent of Highways-Rodney I. Tweedie (Rep)
Town Justice- Gay L. Merrill (Rep)
TOWN OF HANCOCK- VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor-Samuel N. Rowe Jr. (Rep) (Voices United)
Jerry Vernold (Con) (Integrity)
KORTRIGHT VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor- George Haynes Jr. (Rep)
Clerk/Collector- Kristin A. Craft (Rep)
Superintendent of Highways-Harry C. Craft (Rep)
MASONVILLE VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor- Betty Scott (Rep)
Clerk/Collector- Linda Bourn (Rep)
Superintendent of Highways-Gordon L. Finch Jr. (Rep)
MEREDITH VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor- Stephanie Munro (Dem) (Meredith Neighbors)
James G. Ellis (Rep) (Unity Party)
Superintendent of Highways- Bradley S. Hitchcock (Rep)
MIDDLETOWN VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor- Glen A. Faulkner (Dem) (Community Collaboration)
ROXBURY VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor- Thomas O'Brien (Dem) (Roxbury Partners)
Allen Hinkley (Rep) (Con) (People's Voice Party)
Tax Collector- Bonnie Walker (Dem)
STAMFORD VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor- John S. Kosier (Rep)
WALTON VOTE FOR ONE
Supervisor- Joseph Cetta (Rep)
Superintendent of Highways-Jeffrey Offnick (Rep)

TOWN OF FRANKLIN PROPOSALS:

Proposal Number One, A Question:
"Shall the Town of Franklin in the County of Delaware increase the term of office of the Town Highway Superintendent from two (2) years to four (4) years, with the extension taking effect with the term of office beginning January 1, 2027?"

Proposal Number Two, A Question:
"Shall the Town of Franklin in the County of Delaware increase the term of office of the Town Clerk from two (2) years to four (4) years, with the extension taking effect with the term of office beginning January 1, 2027?"

Copies of a Constitutional amendment or questions may be obtained at the Board of Elections. (D) Democratic (R) Republican (C) Conservative (W) Working Families (I) Independent
Election Night Results will be on the Delaware County Elections Web Site:
<https://www.delcony.gov/boe/home/election-night-reporting/>
Maria E Kelso Judith L Garrison
Delaware County Commissioners of Elections
Delhi, New York Dated: October 15, 2026
Early voting Saturday October 24th - Sunday November 1st Location: Board of Elections 97 Main St Suite 5 Delhi, New York 13753. Call 607-832-5321 for hours.



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DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

1199 HOBART LLC. Filed 8/17/26. Office: Delaware Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: John Parker, 67 Chapel St, Kingstron, NY 12401. Purpose: General.

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF DELAWARE
CITIZENS BANK, N.A.

Plaintiff,
Against
CASEY BEERS AS HEIR AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN TO MARIE T. MONROE A/K/A MARIE T. CARLOUGH A/K/A MARIE THERESA MONROE; KIMBERLY FORTIER AS HEIR AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN TO MARIE T. MONROE A/K/A MARIE T. CARLOUGH A/K/A MARIE THERESA MONROE; et al.

Defendant(s)
Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered 03/27/2026, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction, Delaware County Courthouse, 3 Court Street, Delhi, NY 13753, on 11/18/2026 at 10:00AM, premises known as 3690 County Highway 2, Walton, NY 13856, and described as follows:

ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate in P.V.B. Livingston Patent, Town of Walton, Delaware County, New York State.
Section 209 Block 1 Lot 7.6

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$23,793.20 plus interest and costs. The Premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # EF2024-85
William Chellis, Esq., Referee.

MCCABE, WEISBERG & CONWAY, LLC, 10 MIDLAND AVENUE, SUITE 205, PORT CHESTER, NY 10573

Dated: 10/2/2026 File
Number: 23-300185 MB

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

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East Meredith, NY

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DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

Notice of formation of Miller Instinct LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/10/2026. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as an agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Northwest Registered Agent LLC: 418 Broadway, Ste N, Albany NY 12207. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

SIDNEY CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT
LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE – Tax
Collection

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the tax roll and warrant for the collection of taxes for the Sidney Central School District have been approved.
All school tax payments should be made either by mailing to: SIDNEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, Attn: Tax Collector, 95 West Main Street, Sidney, NY 13838, or you may drop taxes off in a SECURE DROP BOX at the Sidney Central School District – District Office Vestibule (Door 11) as follows:
Monday through Friday – 7:30am – 3:30 pm
September 1, 2026 through October 30, 2026
Taxes will be collected without penalty from September 1 to September 30, 2026; with a 2% penalty from October 1 to October 30, 2026. After October 30, 2026, all unpaid taxes will be returned to the County Treasurer. School taxes are then re-levied with an additional penalty and payable with the Town and County Tax that you will receive in January of 2027.

Dated: August 6, 2026
Nancy A. Edwards
District Clerk

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT- COUNTY OF DELAWARE

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS SUCCESSOR TO JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE FOR THE REGISTERED HOLDERS OF ABFS MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2001-1, MORTGAGE-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2001-1, Plaintiff, AGAINST
GLORIA A. LAUREANTI A/K/A GLORIA LAUREANTI, ANN M. LAUREANTI AS HEIR AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN OF ALFRED LAUREANTI, and UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF ALFRED LAUREANTI, if they be living and if they be dead, the respective heirs-at-law, next-of-kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignees, lienors, creditors and successors in interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant(s) who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or inheritance, any right, title or interest in or to the real property described in the Complaint; CHERYL L. STEWART A/K/A CHERYL L. LAUREANTI AS HEIR AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN OF ALFRED LAUREANTI; LAURA L. PORRETTA A/K/A LAURA L. LAUREANTI AS HEIR AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN OF ALFRED LAUREANTI; ALFRED LOUIS LAUREANTI A/K/A ALFRED LAUREANTI AS HEIR AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN OF ALFRED LAUREANTI; et al. Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale duly entered on September 3, 2026.

I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Delaware County Courthouse, 3 Court Street, Delhi, NY 13753 on December 1, 2026 at 9:00 AM premises known as 50439 State Highway 30, Roxbury, NY 12474 A/K/A P.O. Box Route 30 State Road, Roxbury, NY 12474.

Please take notice that this foreclosure auction shall be conducted in compliance with the Foreclosure Auction Rules for the Sixth Judicial District, Delaware County, and the COVID 19 Health Emergency Rules, including proper use of masks and social distancing.

All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Roxbury, County of Delaware and State of New York. Section 200., Block 2 and Lot 11.

Approximate amount of judgment \$74,011.95 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment. Index #EF2025-56.

Kelley M. Eckmair, Esq. , Referee,
Aldridge Pite, LLP - Attorneys for Plaintiff - 40 Marcus Drive, Suite 200, Melville, NY 11747

NOTICE

The Annual Meeting of the North Kortright Cemetery Association will be held on November 16, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Charlotte Valley Presbyterian Church, Davenport, NY for the purpose of electing 5 Directors and transacting any other business that comes before the meeting.

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

Notice of formation of Ryan Lowry Pictures LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/08/2026. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as an agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Ryan Lowry: 326 burke rd Delancey New york 13752. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Name: S T A Y W I T H B O N G O ENTERPRISE, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/08/2024. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: James and Ann Bonner, 1025 Taylor Rd, East Meredith, NY 13757. Purpose: any lawful activity.

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

Notice of formation of ANDES FAMILY TABLE, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/14/2026. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as an agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to The LLC: 160 Main Street, Andes, NY 13731, USA. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

BRIK2 LLC. Filed with SSNY on 05/13/2026. Office: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: PO BOX 15, FLEISCHMANN'S, NY 12430. Purpose: Any Lawful

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

Notice of formation of Clark Brothers Development LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/15/2026. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as an agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Sean Clark: 208 Phoebe Lane, Delhi, NY 13753. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Dragonfly Mudworks LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 10/1/26. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 83 Walnut St, PO Box 1175, Margaretville, NY 12455. Purpose: any lawful activity.

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Gun House Hill Games LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 10/13/26. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 60125 NY-10, Hobart, NY 13788. Purpose: any lawful activity.

CATSKILL WATERSHED
CORPORATION
ADVERTISEMENT FOR
BID

The Catskill Watershed Corporation (CWC) is seeking qualified entities for removal of two underground storage tanks in the Village of Hunter, Greene County on a property purchased pursuant to the NYCDEP funded Flood Buyout Program and approved by the Village. A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 AM on November 10, 2026. Bids must be received at CWC by 3:00 PM, November 24, 2026. For bid documents please contact Eric Lane or Timothy Cox at 845-586-1400. EOE

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

PALETTE CLEANSER LLC. Filed 9/16/26. Office: Delaware Co. SSNY desig. as agent for process & shall mail to: Jennifer Toth, 188 Moxham Rd, Harkersfield, NY 13786. Purpose: General.

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

Notice of Formation of a NY Limited Liability Company. Name: SULLIVAN ACRES LLC. Articles of Organization filing date with Secretary of State (SSNY) was 25 September 2026. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and SSNY shall mail copy of process to 44 Dearborn Dr, Old Tappan, NJ 07675. Purpose is to engage in any and all business activities permitted under NYS laws.

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF BOARD
MEETING

Legal Notice for November 2026

Hamden, New York – Notice of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County Board of Director's Meeting

The Board of Directors for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County will hold their Annual Meeting **November 13, 2026, at 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm – This will be a "Pie Social" no dinner just delicious pies.**

Meetings will be held at Camp Shankitunk, 2420 Arbor Hill Road, Delhi, NY 13753.

For more information visit our website: www.ccedelaware.org or call 607-865-6531.

DELAWARE COUNTY
NOTICE OF FORMATION
OF A LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY

Notice of formation of Clara Clara, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/24/26. Office location: Delaware County. SSNY designated as an agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to ZenBusiness Inc.: 41 State Street, Suite 112, Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

MIDDLETOWN-
HARDENBURGH FIRE
DISTRICT
PUBLIC NOTICE

Board of Fire Commissioners of the Middletown-Hardenburgh Fire District at the October 20, 2026 meeting passed the following resolution:
"BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Middletown-Hardenburgh Fire District does hereby agree for Treasurer to transfer from the building reserve fund to the general fund an amount not to exceed Seventy-five thousand (\$75,000) for the purpose of purchasing a new DeDietrich Model GT 335A boiler replacement for the Margaretville Fire Department building.

Please take further notice this resolution is subject to permissive referendum and shall take effect 30 days after its adoption, unless there shall be filed in the interim with the Fire District Secretary a petition signed and acknowledged or approved in the same manner as a deed to be recorded by resident taxpayers of the Middletown-Hardenburgh Fire District owning taxable real property aggregating at least one-quarter of the assessed valuation of all taxable real property of the Fire District, as such valuations appear on the latest completed assessment roll of the Town of Middletown and the Town of Hardenburgh protesting against such resolution and requesting that it be submitted to the qualified electors of the Fire District for approval.
Barbara Funck, Secretary

TOWN OF UNADILLA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING

TOWN OF UNADILLA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Unadilla on **Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.** at the Town Hall, 1648 State Hwy 7, Unadilla, New York, regarding the adoption of Local Law No. 1 of the Town of Unadilla for the year 2026, entitled: "A Local Law to Adopt Property Tax Exemption for Veterans with Permanent and Total Disability". A copy of the proposed Local Law is on file and may be examined in the office of the Town Clerk during regular business hours.

Persons with disabilities who require assistance in attending said public hearing, or in furnishing comments and suggestions, should contact the undersigned to request such assistance. Communications in writing regarding the proposed Local Law may be filed with the Town Board or at such public hearing.

Dated: October 22, 2026
Kirsten Ruling
Town Clerk

DELAWARE COUNTY
PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
OF THE VOTERS OF THE
SOUTH KORTRIGHT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SOUTH KORTRIGHT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that pursuant to a Resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the District on the August 3, 2026, a special meeting of the qualified voters of said School District will be held in the Gymnasium Lobby located at 58200 State Highway 10, South Kortright, New York 13842 on December 15, 2026 from Noon to 8:00 p.m., prevailing time, for the purpose of voting on the following proposition:

CAPITAL PROJECT PROPOSITION

Shall the following resolution be adopted:
RESOLVED, that the South Kortright Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake a capital improvement project consisting of reconstruction, renovation and construction of improvements and upgrades to the District's Main School building and bus garage and the sites thereof, the purchase of original furnishings, equipment, machinery and apparatus required in connection with the purposes for which such buildings, facilities and sites are used, all to include site, access, parking, demolition, utility, mechanical, plumbing and electrical improvements as well as payment of professional fees and all other necessary costs incidental to such work (collectively, the "Project") and expend therefore a total sum not to exceed \$5,100,000, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and to pay for the Project by spending \$1,000,000 on deposit in the Main Building Capital Reserve Fund approved by the District's voters on May 18, 2021, spending \$500,000 on deposit in the Transportation Capital Reserve Fund approved by the District's voters on May 16, 2023, and the levy of a tax which is hereby voted in the amount of \$3,600,000, subject to available State aid or to any other revenues available for such purpose, which tax shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and notes of the District are hereby authorized to be issued at one time, or from time to time, in the principal amount not to exceed \$3,600,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the principal and interest on said obligations when due.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that qualified voters of the District may obtain applications for an absentee ballot or an early voting ballot from the office of the Clerk of the District. Completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven days before the election if the absentee ballot or early voting ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, if the absentee ballot or early voting ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. A listing of all persons to whom an absentee ballot or early voting ballot is issued will be available for inspection by any qualified voter in the office of the Clerk of the District between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. during each of the 5 days prior to the election, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, and shall also be posted at the polling place at the election.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that military ballots may be applied for by qualified voters by requesting an application from the District Clerk at 607-538-9111 x304 or bpost@skcs.org. Completed applications for military ballots must be received by the Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 19, 2026. 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. An individual will qualify as a military voter if he or she (1) is a qualified voter of the State of New York, who is in actual military service, and by reason of such military service is absent from the District on the day of the election, or is a voter who is discharged from military service within 30 days of an election; or (2) a spouse, parent, child, or dependent of such service member who is a qualified voter and is absent due to accompanying or being with the military service member. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Board of Education of the South Kortright Central School District has previously complied with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (the "SEQRA Act"), Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, as amended, and the Regulations of the Department of Environmental Conservation thereunder (the "Regulations"). No further action under the SEQRA Act and Regulations is required.

By Order of the Board of Education of the South Kortright Central School District
Betty Ann Post, District Clerk
Phone: 607-538-9111 Ext. 304
Email: bpost@skcs.org
Fax: 607-538-9205

TOWN OF ANDES
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Carol Ames Town Clerk Town of Andes
Phone # (845)676-4791 email c.ames@andesnewyork.gov
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Please take notice, General Municipal Law of the State of New York, that pursuant to authorization of the Town Board of Andes, Delaware County, SEALED BIDS for the following:
Andes WWTP:
1.) Plowing consists of snow removal of the driveway, parking lot and gate. Snow will be removed prior to 6:30AM. Snow will be removed in front of every overhead door each time the facility is plowed and around the front of the court building. The Court sidewalk/walkway is also to be shoveled every day prior to 6:30AM.
Andes Water District:
1.) Spring Treatment Plant- Plowing to consist of snow removal of the driveway, wide enough for truck deliveries, inside the fence to each building and the gate. Snow removal will be before 6:30AM. Bid per season.
2.) Pump House- Shovel entrance and steps to the Pump House.
Town of Andes-
1.) Snow removal on delinquent home owner sidewalks will be at the direction of the Town of Andes C.E.O. or the Town of Andes Supervisor. Delinquent home owner snow removal from sidewalks will be on a per sidewalk basis. Photographs, date, and time of each snow plowing are required for any bill submitted to the Town.
2.) Snow removal from Veteran's Park (Bohlmann Park) sidewalk, Library sidewalk, emergency exit, walkway and Hamlet bridges prior to 8AM
3.) Snow removal from the Andes Town Hall sidewalk and both entrances prior to 8AM
4.) Snow removal at the Andes Railroad Station. Plowing and shoveling to the building as needed. Snow must be removed from the driveway and parking area. Snow must be shoveled from the walkways and doorways of the building.
5.) WINTER MIX- For fuel oil for heating at the Town Highway Garage-automatic delivery
6.) L.P. GAS- Wastewater Plant, Town Hall, Library, Railroad Station and Spring Water Reservoir- automatic delivery
7.) GASOLINE- Town Highway Garage- automatic delivery
8.) DIESEL FUEL- Town Highway Garage-automatic delivery, fixed rate and flux rate.
9.) WINTER MIX FOR DIESEL FUEL-Town Highway Garage-automatic delivery.
Instructions MUST be followed in order for your bid to be opened!
*One Bid Per Envelope
*Item being bid must be specified on envelope: Number, bid name, and your name
*All bids must be accompanied by a non-collusive bid certificate.
*All snow removal bids must be accompanied by proof of insurance.
*If your bid is accepted- you must provide proof of prevailing wage.
*ALL snow removal bids, will be bid per season, except #1 for the Town of Andes. The use of sand/deicer shall be used in necessary conditions on all parking lots, sidewalks, and entrances. The purchase of sand/deicer is the responsibility of the bidder.
*Bids #6-11 are to be twelve months bids to take effect 11/11/2027
Bids will be accepted at the Town Clerk's Office or can be mailed to: Andes Town Clerk
115 Delaware Ave.
P.O. Box 125
Andes, NY 13731
Bids will be accepted until November 6nd, 2026 at 12:00PM at the Andes Town Hall. The bids will be opened on Friday, November 6th, 2026 at 12:00PM. The bids will be awarded at the Regular Board Meeting of the Andes Town Board, Tuesday November 10th, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town Hall -115 Delaware Avenue.
Copies of the bid notice may be picked up at the Town Clerk's Office.
*The Andes Town Board may reject any and all bids and re-advertise.
By order of the Andes Town Board
Carol Ames
Town Clerk



HIRING?
Candidates are looking here!
Place an ad in our Classified Section

THE REPORTER
607-464-4009
The-Reporter.net

LOOKING BACK



100 Years Ago From The Pages of The Walton Reporter

100 Years Ago,
SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 30, 1926
**THE WEEK
IN WALTON**

**What We Are Talking
About at the County Hub**

**NO HUNTING
ON SUNDAY**

**Eyesore on Gardiner Place-
Married in Albany- Red
Cross Roll Call-Cows Bring
Fair Prices at Sale**

Carl McCoy of Woodlawn suffered a painful cut on the left foot Tuesday while cutting wood on the Joseph Honeywell farm. Dr. Gould dressed the injury.

Frank Armstrong was thrown from a plow last Saturday and the ligaments were torn loose from the vertebrae. He has since been confined to bed. Dr. W.R. Gladstone is attending him.

The attention of those who are inclined to go hunting on Sunday is called to section 2145 of the penal code, which prohibits all shooting on that day. The offense is a misdemeanor punishable by fine or imprisonment.

At More Brothers' commission sale Tuesday 70 head of stock was sold. The twenty-six head in the dairy of Nathan Budine brought an average of \$62. The average for the rest was somewhat lower. More Brothers have another sale Nov. 10.

John Wolf has sold his farm in Oxbow hollow, formerly occupied by Percy Jackson to Arthur Goodrich, taking in the deal the Goodrich house on Tripp avenue. Possession will be given November first. The sale was made through the agency of H.M. Robinson.

Philip Stalbird of Granton had his left hand crushed under the steam shovel about a month ago while working on the Granton-Rock Rift highway. One finger was amputated at that time. Saturday Dr. Smith amputated another finger which had failed to heal.

A union meeting in the interest of the Red Cross roll call will be held in the United Presbyterian church on Sunday evening, November 7th. The message will be given by Rev. F.C. Davidson, pastor of that church. The annual Red Cross roll call for memberships begins on Armistice day, November 11.

Miss Frances M. Benedict, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry M. Benedict of Walton, was married in Albany on Oct. 10 to Theodore Hill. The bride is a student in the Albany College for Teachers and Mr. Hill, whose home is near Syracuse, is a senior in the Albany Law School. He plans to enter the ministry.

The post office department is advertising for bids to be received on or before November 20, 1926, for a five or ten-year lease of post office quarters, beginning July 1, 1927, when the present lease expires. A minimum of 1,500 square feet of floor space is required. The bids are asked on a five and ten-year period and also with and without light and heat. The present rental is \$1,200 annually with light and heat furnished. The present location in the former Guild block, now owned by A.J. Holmes, is probably the most centrally located in the business section of any quarters that are available.

Miss Harriet St. John of No. 56 Linderman avenue had a narrow escape from being struck by a stray bullet that crashed through the window about 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon. The bullet broke the glass, passed through the curtains and narrowly missed her head as she was seated near the window. The shooting was reported to the police by her father, Howard R. St. John, and Officer Soper investigated. The police believe

that some boys were hunting in the vicinity. As it is against the law to discharge firearms in the city the person who discharged the gun will be arrested if caught.- Kingston Freeman.

James M. Knapp is building an addition to his residence on Gardiner Place which extends from the house to the sidewalk along the front of the property. Mr. Knapp proposes to use this place for an ice cream and refreshment stand. The building line of the business places on Gardiner Place is some feet back from where Mr. Knapp has built and the new structure shuts out the view of Walton hall as one goes up the street and certainly has added nothing to the artistic appearance of that part of the village. Mr. Knapp's house adjoins Walton hall on the south. There are reports that his right to build out so far will be tested in a legal way by the village authorities. At least it should lead to the adoption of a building code by the village board.

Last Friday Hon. Arthur W. North and his son, Robert, took train for Toronto, planning to proceed from that city about a thousand miles northwesterly via the Canadian National Railway. Leaving the railroad at a flagstop they expect to travel two days northward by canoe, then crossing the height of land, go afoot into the unexplored regions, near the great Albany river, and affluent of Hudson bay. While this is supposed to be a game region, having no means of bringing out trophies the adventure of the trip rather than hunting is the main incentive to the explorers. They will travel alone. Thirteen years ago Mr. and Mrs. North together visited a portion of this same country, traveling with the Indians. Robert North has been growing so rapidly that a few weeks in the open has seemed advisable for him.

**Two Walton Places Raided
By Prohibition Officers**

Three federal prohibition agents, accompanied by two state troopers, staged a series of liquor raids in Walton and vicinity Monday and Tuesday which resulted in the arrest of five persons on charges of illegal possession of liquor.

The men arrested are Frank Friedlander and Martin K. Nichols of Walton, Nathan and Peter Grotsky of Hancock and Charles Becker of Arena. When arraigned before Commissioner John G. More in Walton each furnished \$1,000 bail for appearance before the federal grand jury in Utica on December 7th, except in the case of Friedlander, who asked for a hearing before the commissioner. This was set for November 26th.

Frank Friedlander's place on upper Townsend street has been under suspicion for some time, but it has been difficult to secure evidence for a search warrant. When Enock Stedman and John Ackley were in court before Justice Edward S. White last week they told of having bought liquor from Friedlander and made the necessary affidavits to that effect before Commissioner More. The complaint for the search warrant was signed by Chief of Police Frank W. McCook and a warrant was issued by Mr. More. This was on Tuesday of last week. The federal officers, accompanied by the troopers, arrived in Walton Monday afternoon and before coming downtown stopped at the Friedlander home. It is said that objection to their entry was made by Mrs. Friedlander but she was soon convinced the officers had a right to search. The returns made to Commissioner More show the seizure consisted of six pints of colored distilled spirits, three pints of white distilled spirits, one pint of alcohol and five gallons of raisin jack liquor. The latter Friedlander claimed was only sweet cider.

The search warrant for Martin Nichols' home was issued by Commissioner Lester Hubbard of Albany. The raid at Nichols' was not made until Tuesday morning. The officers seized three quarts of white distilled spirits, ninety-six bottles of home brew beer and a quart of cider.

A visit was made to the place of Charles Becker of Arena where Agent Charles Spinks bought a pint of white distilled liquor for which he paid two dollars. The officers then searched the place and seized seven quarts of white distilled spirits and a pint of colored distilled spirits. Charges of illegal possession and sale were made against Becker.

After the raid on Martin Nichols' home in Walton, Tuesday morning, the officers went to Hancock armed with a search warrant for the premises occupied by Louis Grotsky. They did not find the older Grotsky at home but did find his sons, Nathan and Peter Grotsky, and placed them under arrest after finding a quart of colored distilled spirits on the premises.

Martin Nichols has been before the federal court before on a charge of violation of the Volstead act. Louis Grotsky is a former offender also but he was not arrested this time.

The federal agents were Warren C. Frahm, Charles H. Spinks and George W. Parsons. Samples of the liquor seized were taken for chemical analysis and the rest of the stuff was destroyed. Friedlander has retained Charles N. Peake of Walton to defend the proceedings against him.

**FORMER WALTON MAN
KILLED BY AN AUTO**

**George Covert Struck From
Behind While Walking
Along Highway**

George Covert of Conklin, Broome county, a former resident of Walton, died Friday morning, October 22, in the city hospital in Binghamton from injuries received the previous evening when he was struck by an automobile.

Mr. Covert was walking along the right-hand side of the highway in the village of Conklin when he met a car coming toward him. As this machine passed another car driven by Myron Rosa of Hallstead, Pa., came up behind Mr. Covert and struck him in the back. His skull was fractured and he never regained consciousness. The accident happened at 5:30 o'clock Thursday evening and Mr. Covert died in the hospital at 7:45 o'clock the next morning.

The body was brought to Walton and the funeral was held Monday afternoon at one o'clock at the home of a granddaughter, Mrs. Ralph Bowker, on East street, Rev. Harold Faulkner officiating. Burial was made in the Walton cemetery.

Mr. Covert, who was 78 years of age, is survived by two sons, Austin Covert and Charles Covert, both of Walton.

**PINNED IN BROOK
UNDER TRUCK**

**Jefferson Farmer Found
Lying Unconscious in Water**

(From Stamford correspondent)

Frank Cornell of Cornell hollow was seriously injured in an auto accident one day last week. Mr. Cornell was on his way home from Stamford, driving a light truck loaded with feed. On Welch hill the truck would not make the grade and in trying to turn the truck around the machine went off the small bridge at the foot of the hill and turned over in the creek, pinning Mr. Cornell under it and in the water, where he was held prisoner over an hour before he was rescued by William Stewart, who discovered him unconscious in the water.

Mr. Cornell was taken home and Dr. G.L. Hubbell of Stamford summoned, who found he had fractured his leg, the bones being splintered and the leg and his body were cut and badly bruised. He was also suffering from the exposure to the water. Dr. Marsh of Oneonta was called and assisted in reducing the fractured leg.

Sells Stamford Tea Room

(From Stamford correspondent)

Mrs. E. W. Landon, who has for some time conducted a restaurant on the corner of Main

and South Delaware streets, Stamford, has sold the building and business together with the cottage adjoining on South Delaware street, to James Churchill, proprietor of Ye Olde Delaware Inn. Mr. and Mrs. Landon will go south, where they expect to make their future home. The buildings adjoin the Delaware Inn annex and are across Main street from the hotel.

**AUTO PASSES
OVER CHEST**

**Boy Bicyclist Knocked
from Wheel By Car**

Donald Osterhout, aged 12 years, was run over by an auto in Hancock Wednesday morning. Miss Vera Brandner of Peakville, driving a Chevrolet coupe, was trailing another car coming west on the Liberty highway. According to her report of the accident to Chief of Police Austin McGranaghan at the intersection of Center street young Osterhout, riding a bicycle, attempted to cross the street in front of her car. Being too close he was knocked from his wheel and the wheels of the Chevrolet passed over his chest before Miss Brandner could stop it. His left arm was broken above the elbow, his ribs fractured and his chest partially crushed.

**GETS JAIL
SENTENCE AND FINE**

**Stamford Man Drove
Automobile While
Intoxicated**

(From Stamford correspondent)

Edward Smith of Stamford was arrested at the East End, Oneonta, Sunday, on a charge of driving a motor vehicle while intoxicated. He entered a plea of guilty before Justice F. A. Murdock on Monday and was sentenced to thirty days in the Otsego county jail in Cooperstown and to pay a fine of \$25. Smith's operator's license was revoked as were the registration plates for his Studebaker roadster. Smith attracted considerable attention by his driving Sunday afternoon and after he had bumped into several other machines he was arrested by Deputy Sheriff Walling.

**THROWN FROM
ROAD CART**

**Bovina Man Breaks
Collar Bone in Fall**

(Bovina Center correspondent)

Wilford Barnhart of Bovina Center meet with an accident on Monday. While driving a horse on a road cart by the breaking of the harness he was thrown backwards from the seat, receiving a broken collar bone and other bruises.

**FOUR DOLLARS
TO THE GOOD**

**Gypsies Steal Money
in Hancock Store.**

A band of gypsies motored into Hancock Friday over the Liberty highway from the south. Unnoticed by the police they stopped on Read street and visited the grocery store and ice cream parlor of Dewey Kirkpatrick, relieving the proprietor of about \$14 cash that was in the money draw under the counter of the soda fountain. As soon as he missed the money Kirkpatrick called Policeman Halsey Young. They located the gypsies near Winne's restaurant. After much persuasion and threats of arrest one of the men offered Mr. Kirkpatrick \$5. He refused to let them off so easily and finally got \$5 more. The gypsies were traveling in a Cadillac and a Buick.

**MARRIED
SIXTY YEARS**

Harpersfield Couple Celebrate Anniversary This Week

Sunday was the sixtieth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Harper of Harpersfield and a dinner in honor of the event was held Monday. The guests of the occasion, nearly all descendants

and other relatives, were about fifteen in number. The occasion and the dinner were heartily enjoyed by all, the latter being served in the house on ancestral acres which had been the home of Mr. Harper from his childhood, and which in fact had been in possession of the family since pre-Revolutionary days, when they were settled by Colonel Harper, from whom the town was named.

Among those present at the wedding feast of Monday were Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Hendry of Davenport, who attended the wedding sixty years ago.

**CITY'S MILK
SUPPLY THE BEST**

**Of Higher Quality Than
Any Other, Chemist Says**

Ogden L. Mills, Republican candidate for governor, was confronted Tuesday with a repudiation from the analyst whose reports on the condition of New York's milk he has used throughout the campaign.

Dr. Herbert G. Pease, head of the Pease Laboratories, announced that in his opinion "the milk supply of the city of New York is of as high, if not higher, quality than that of any large city in the United States."

He said that he had been requested by the Republican publicity director, William Bullock, to only give the results of his examinations rather than comments.

OBITUARY

George F. Kellogg

George F. Kellogg died Wednesday, Oct. 27, at the home of his son, Charles Kellogg, near that village, following a general decline for the past year. Funeral services will be held from the home Saturday afternoon at two o'clock, with Rev. M.H. Ryan of the Treadwell church officiating and interment will be made in the family plot in the Ouleout Valley cemetery at Franklin.

Born April 4, 1847, Mr. Kellogg attended the district school near his home and afterward the Cooperstown seminary under the principalship of Dr. Kerr, E.R. Ford of this city being one of the students there at the time.

In 1870 Mr. Kellogg married Ann Eliza Foote, whose father, the late Ezekiel Foote, was long a blacksmith at North Franklin. Their married life was passed almost entirely upon the old Kellogg homestead. Following the death of Mrs. Kellogg on May 2, 1916, Mr. Kellogg has resided with his son, Charles.

Four children, Mrs. H.W. Lee and Mrs. F.O. Rollins of Oneonta, Mrs. Elizabeth Bartlett of Unadilla and Charles Kellogg of Treadwell, survive.

Thomas Young

Thomas Young, aged 82 years, died at his home below Hawleys Station early Saturday morning after an illness of several weeks. He was born in Scotland in 1844 and came to America in early life. For years he was a resident of Gregory hollow, later settling on the farm on which he resided at the time of his death. He was a man of many good traits; honest and obliging in every way, and this Scottish home bore the religious stamp at all times. The wife is an invalid and has the sympathy of all in her grief. Three children were reared in this Christian home, one of them, Miss Belle, dying a number of years ago. Surviving is a daughter, Miss Jennie Young, who has given her parents tender care in their illness, and another daughter, Mrs. Roger Murray, of Hamden. Rev. W.M. Barr, pastor of the United Presbyterian church at Delancey, of which the deceased had been a faithful member for years, officiated at the services at the home on Monday at 2 p.m. He was assisted by Rev. George Young of Cincinnati, Ohio, a half-brother. Burial was made in Riverview cemetery at Hamden.

MASONVILLE

By Anne Scott
ahscottsl@gmail.com
607-265-3368

Writer and Speaker Jeff Chu: “For me, learning to find the extraordinary in ordinary things like compost was life-changing... There is such magic in how the next generation of life is written into the death of a flower, which produces seeds. I learned how to adjust my perception. What’s often overlooked can be so beautiful, but it takes a particular kind of attention.”

Halloween is this week and

The Pastor’s Pen

Hope, Trust and Perseverance Through Uncertainty

By Reverend Christine Lindeberg

Life rarely offers complete certainty. Plans can change, progress can be slow, and the future can remain unclear even when we prepare carefully. In these moments, hope, trust, and perseverance offer different but complementary ways to move forward. Hope allows us to imagine that improvement is possible. Trust gives us a reason to take the next step without knowing the outcome. Perseverance is willingness for continued effort. Together, these qualities help us face uncertainty without pretending that difficulties do not exist.

Hope is more than wishing for a favorable result. Hope can influence how we respond to the present. Someone learning a difficult skill may struggle through repeated mistakes. Hope does not promise immediate success; it keeps open the possibility that practice will lead to growth. This kind of hope is realistic because it acknowledges both the challenge and the opportunity. Rather than denying disappointment, it refuses to treat disappointment as the final word.

Trust supports hope by making action possible before certainty arrives. We can trust the value of preparation, the lessons of experience, or the guidance of someone who has shown reliability. Such trust should not mean ignoring evidence or overlooking reasonable concerns. Instead, it means recognizing we do not need perfect knowledge to make a thoughtful choice. A student beginning a challenging assignment cannot know exactly how the finished work will turn out. Yet the student can trusts a process of reading, drafting, ask-

ing questions, and revising. The outcome remains uncertain, but the next step becomes clear.

Perseverance connects hope and trust to everyday behavior. It is easy to feel hopeful at the beginning of a task; continuing requires a more deliberate commitment. Perseverance does not require endless struggle without rest or reflection. Sometimes continuing wisely means pausing, changing methods, or choosing a more realistic goal. What matters is the willingness to respond constructively rather than assuming that one setback makes every future effort point-

less. The relationship among these qualities becomes clearest when progress is difficult to see. Hope supplies a direction, trust supports the decision to begin, and perseverance sustains the work over time. None of them guarantees that every desired outcome will happen. Their value lies instead in how they shape our response to what we cannot control. We can acknowledge uncertainty while still taking responsibility for our choices. Small actions—preparing carefully, listening to advice, or trying a revised approach—can express hope more meaningfully than confident words alone.

Ultimately, hope, trust, and perseverance are not ways to escape uncertainty but ways to live thoughtfully within it. Hope is possibility. Trust allows us to act without demanding a guarantee. Perseverance is learning and adapting when the path becomes difficult. Together, they encourage a balanced outlook: honest about obstacles, open to improvement, and willing to take the next worthwhile step.

Christine M. Lindeberg, Western Catskill Charge, Senior Pastor

there will be all kinds of costumes around the school halls from teachers and students and other workers dressing up as someone maybe they admire or just dressing up as whatever they wish to be that can scare everyone they encounter. Children will be trick or treating around towns and it is important that all drivers keep an eye out for them and keep them all safe while they are having fun scaring everyone they see in their costumes.

At the Sidney junior/senior high school there will be a safe Halloween event for UPK to grade six from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29. On Wednesday, Oct. 28

ACT tests for college bound seniors will be held. Sunday, Nov. 1 is a reminder that Daylight Saving Time Ends and to turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed Saturday evening. Tuesday, Nov. 3 Sidney junior/senior high school will be picture retake day and Friday, Oct. 6 is elementary picture retake day, good luck all for a great picture.

Here on the Farm the fellas have finished all the chopping of corn that they can do and all that is left is fields that the corn has gotten too matured and has to be picked for ground corn. The bunks are pretty full and can be covered up until more can be chopped with a kernel processor on another chopper. The price of milk has been dropping and the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture encouraged dairy producers to begin applying for the Dairy Margin Coverage for which open enrollment began Oct. 5 with reauthorization through 2031. Keep on purchasing all the dairy products that you may need for your cooking for the holidays that are fast approaching and just for your own enjoyment as farmers expenses are raising, we need to



Barbara A. Doyle

Barbara A. Doyle, 96, formerly of Delancey, passed away peacefully Saturday, Oct. 10, 2026, at the A.O. Fox Memorial Hospital.

Barbara was born Aug. 10, 1930 in Hamden, a daughter of Burton and Katherine A. (Gladstone) Aikens. She graduated from Delhi High School and worked part time at the Hamden Post Office prior to her marriage to Robert Doyle on Aug. 26, 1956. She later worked at the National Bank of Delaware County in Walton where she retired in 1992 as the assistant vice president after 35 years. Barb enjoyed her ‘sweets’ and desserts, garage sales and auctions, quilting and embroidery. She was also a basketball fan of March madness and followed the Yankees faithfully.

Barbara, and her husband Bob, were active members of the Hamden Presbyterian Church for over 60 years. Bob predeceased her on Nov. 14, 2017. She was also predeceased by her siblings, Wilber Aikens, Burton “Bud” Aikens, Marion Peterson and William “Bill” Aikens.

Barb is survived by several nieces and nephews.

In keeping with Barb’s wishes, a graveside service will be held Saturday, Nov. 7, at 11 a.m. at the Hamden Cemetery followed by a gathering at the Hamden Town Hall. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in memory of Barbara to the Hamden Presbyterian Church Memo-

rial Fund, 6754 Basin Clove Road, Hamden, NY 13782.

The Langan Funeral Home of Schoharie and Cobleskill are assisting the Doyle family. Visit www.langanfuneralhome.com for further information or to leave a special message for Barb’s family and friends.

keep all our farmers in business because farmers feed the world. Have a great and healthy week everyone.

October is National Firewood Month and we are warned to make sure that if you build a campfire while you are chopping your wood supply that you make sure that you check that the flames are all out as this is how many forest fires begin. During this time of the year there are lots dry leaves lying on the ground in the woods - be sure that your chain saw sparks flying while sawing don’t catch any of them on fire and be safe always in the woods.

Birthday greetings go out to Dawn Foster, Jessie Rude Charles, and Anthony Robert Paoletti Oct. 24, Jennifer Cutting Oct. 25, Lori Schneider Oct. 26, Robert Huntington Oct. 30; Nov. 1 Bonnie Tripp, Ellen Dean Howard, Sam Sherman and Alisha Lent, Nov. 2 Kathy McGovern Phelps and Adrienne Benson Nov. 4. Have a great day everyone.

A reminder to all to get out there and VOTE Tuesday, Nov. 3, Election Day - it is very important.

Evelyn F. Search

Evelyn F. Search of Stamford passed away Oct. 20, 2026.

Evelyn was born on Aug. 21, 1933 in Stockholm, New Jersey, the daughter of the late Irene Holley and James Holley. She is survived by her son William P. Search and his children, Dane, Jade and Dylan Search of Binghamton, a great-granddaughter, Gabrielle Search of Binghamton; partner Norman Frederick Schreiner Jr. of Stamford, a sister Shirley Shields and her husband James of Sparta, New Jersey, a brother John W. Holley and his wife Anna of Branchville, New Jersey and many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband of 60 years, William Search; two brothers, Allen and Waldron Totten; and two sisters, Mary Alarcon and Muriel Paulison.

She was a devoted member of the Treadwell United Methodist Church and Treadwell Fire Department.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, Oct. 29, at 11 a.m. in the Treadwell United Methodist Church. Burial will follow at

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Masonville Branch Library is having a Halloween Scavenger Hunt with a list of books and letters to locate on Tuesday, Oct 27, Wednesday, Oct. 28 and Friday, Oct. 30. Come and enjoy some fun experiences - there will be prizes. A reminder that the next Bingo night at Masonville Branch Library will be Wednesday, Nov. 4 from 6 to 7 p.m. - everyone welcome. The library hours are Monday, 1 to 5 p.m., Tuesday, 3:30 to 7 p.m., Wednesday, 3:30 to 7 p.m., Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Friday, 1 to 5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Masonville Federated Church Sunday services are at 11 a.m. with Rev. Dr. John Helgeson. Bible study is Tuesday at 3:15 p.m. in the church dining hall. Each third Wednesday of the month the Food Bank is open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a light lunch at 12:30 p.m.

Deer season is fast approaching and it will be time for the annual Hunters’ Ham Supper which is now in the planning stages, so keep it in mind as some of you will be getting a call for help and donations.

OBITUARIES

the Croton Union Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to either the Treadwell United Methodist Church or Treadwell Fire Department.

Online condolences may be made at www.grummonsfuneralhome.com

Arrangements are by Grummons-Bookhout-Bennett Funerals & Cremations.

Martha Shampine

Martha Shampine, 91 of Ormond Beach, Florida, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 22.

She was previously a resident of Delhi for many years.

She was the wife of Bill Shampine; together they raised six children.

Martha is survived by five children: Judy Calbi, Timothy Shampine and Jody Shampine, Penny DiFlumera (Joe) and Joseph (Michele) Shampine.

She was predeceased by her husband Bill and daughter Susan Hulse.

It was her wish to be cremated. Private services will be held at a later date.

Courtney FUNERAL HOME

25 Townsend St.
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Kurt Lester, Owner/Director
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