

THE Spotlight

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NEWS Crime reports

The latest in law enforcement
action throughout town.

Story on Page 3

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TOP STORY

Take the time to vote

School district residents throughout the
Capital District go to the polls next week

CAPITAL DISTRICT — After months of deliberating,
area school boards now wait to hear back from their respective
residents, as polls throughout the region open up next week for
the process of approving budgets, propositions and trustees.

Inside this week's edition, we give you an overview for each
public school district within our readership: Bethlehem Central,
Guilderland, Voorheesville and Ravena Coeymans Selkirk.

Also, be sure to visit our website, www.spotlightnews.com,
for information about school board candidates.

Continues on pages 6 & 7

▲ Equipment, supplies and more are on the line as voters hit
the polls next week to decide their school district's budget.

ENTERTAINMENT



Hit the gas already!

Juggling day jobs takes
time away from the
music, but Holly & Evan
keeps an eye on the big
picture.

Story on Page B1

SPORTS



Keeps rolling

The record for Bethlehem boys
tennis remains unblemished
for the season.

Story on Page 9

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COMMUNITY

The Amazing Earth Day Race

Annual Five Rivers event highlights new eco-friendly visitor center

By SPOTLIGHT NEWS
news@spotlightnews.com

BETHLEHEM — On the evening of Friday, April 28, 15 teams participated in the third annual Amazing Earth Day Race organized by the Friends of Five Rivers at the Five Rivers Environmental Education Center. A friendly competition, the multigenerational, family-friendly event was developed to raise both awareness and funds to benefit the Friends' environmental education programming.

Teams used map skills and collaborated to complete hands-on educational activities while racing in the great outdoors at Five Rivers. The first team to complete all six environmental challenges in the shortest amount of time was crowned the winner. This year, the winning team was "Jenny & the Boys" – the McNay family of Glenmont.

The new LEED-certified Visitors Center at Five Rivers, funded by the state Department of Environmental Conservation, which will be opening soon, represents a model in environmental design and construction. To raise awareness of this eco-friendly design, three of the

six challenges in this year's Amazing Earth Day Race were developed to highlight green building design components used in the new center, including its green roof, geothermal/geoexchange heating, and the use of onsite resources such as rainwater. Two other challenges highlighted how wildlife use energy to survive, while the sixth challenge introduced participants to the ancient and environmentally friendly 'Bojagi' paper wrapping method.

The race was co-sponsored with Red Maple Land Services, Voorheesville Animal Clinic, and Four Corners Pharmacy.

Friends of Five Rivers volunteers help to run each activity and encourage participants as they move through the challenges. Many thanks to this year's volunteers, including Lynn Nugent, Elizabeth Rawlings, Mike Medvesky, Andrea Ricard, Christie MacFarlane, Ed Kautz, Heather Rutherford, Wini Eisan, Gaby Gastelum, Ale Gastelum, Henry Bievenue and Tom Bievenue.

"We reached our 15 team maximum again this year. Next year, we may need to think about increasing the maximum or hosting a 'family race' and a 'runners' race,'" said Nancy Conway, who coordinates guided programs for the Friends of Five Rivers and created the Amazing Earth Day Race.

The Friends of Five Rivers is a nonprofit membership organization supporting environmental education at the Five Rivers Environmental Education Center. More than 5,000 people participate in its programs annually.



The McNay family of Glenmont, aka "Jenny & the Boys."

Submitted photo

Third Recycle Fest breaks records

By SPOTLIGHT NEWS
news@spotlightnews.com

BETHLEHEM – The town's third annual "Spring Recycle Fest," held on Saturday, April 8, broke previous records with 805 households dropping off approximately 50,730 pounds (or more than 25 tons) of materials, which averages out to nearly 6 pounds for every household in Bethlehem. More than \$2,000 in donations were also raised to support Bethlehem Central School District's environmental programs.

The event was a collaborative effort between the Town of Bethlehem Recycling/Sanitation, Highway, and Senior Services departments, the Bethlehem Central School District Green Team, the Delmar Farmers' Market, Grassroot Givers, Up-Stitch, American Clothing Company, JGS Recycling,

Cascade Recovery and 3N Document Destruction.

"We had over three dozen community volunteers again this year including many students from BCSD, representatives from each of our event partners, and additional community volunteers, including new this year—American National/Farm Family Insurance Company employees and their families (the company also held an employee collection just prior to the festival, which was included in event totals.) Collaborating with each of these community organizations and volunteers allows us to save an amazing amount of valuable materials from the landfill in just a few hours, with very minimal Town costs," said Town of Bethlehem Recycling

Continued on 8

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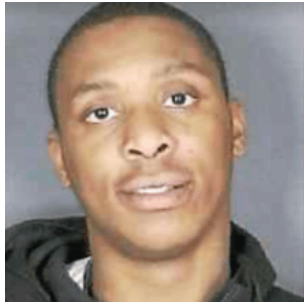
■ POLICE, COURTS AND EMERGENCY CALLS

Split verdict in mall shooting

ALBANY — A jury convicted 20-year-old Tasheem Maeweather of reckless endangerment but acquitted him of the more serious charges of attempted murder, attempted assault and possession of a weapon.

Maeweather was arrested for firing a gun in a crowded Crossgates Mall on Nov. 12, 2016.

Assistant District Attorney Steve Sharp called more than two dozen witnesses including mall patrons and employees — including the man who was playing Santa Claus — law enforcement, ballistic and laboratory professionals and gang activity analysts.



MAEWEATHER

Maeweather's attorney, Lee Kindlon, called just one witness, an employee at Foot Locker who said he saw a man run by just prior to the shooting who looked suspicious and who was reaching into the waistband of his pants.

He also showed a video of Maeweather doodling with his left hand to

counter the testimony of an off duty law enforcement official who said he saw Maeweather with the gun in his right hand.

"Citizens of Albany County should always expect to be safe when visiting public spaces," District Attorney David Soares said in a statement. "This defendant violated our sense of safety and has left a traumatic and indelible memory for those who were present that day. This incident is also a reminder that illegal guns are a problem for all communities and we must continue to remove them from the hands of people who place their own needs above the rest of ours."

Maeweather was on felony probation at the time of the Crossgates incident and was being monitored by a GPS ankle bracelet. On Sept. 25, 2015 he was convicted of one count of criminal possession of a controlled substance.

Judge Peter Lynch determined Maeweather violated the terms of his probation and imposed a nine-year sentence for the drug conviction and violation of probation.

When he is sentenced on June 23 for the reckless endangerment conviction, he is looking at up to seven years in prison as a predicate felon.

— Jim Franco

Woman attempts suicide in Bethlehem cop car

COLONIE — A 46-year-old inmate sitting in a Bethlehem police car attempted to strangle herself with a shoelace outside the Albany County Jail, according to Sheriff Craig D. Apple, Sr.

At around 10:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 3, Barbara Kubisek, of Albany, had just been arraigned on petit larceny charges for allegedly shoplifting at the Delmar Hannaford store.

She was being transported to the Albany County Jail while restrained with leg shackles, belly chain and seatbelt, which, according to Deputy Chief Thomas Heffernan were in place upon arrival at the jail.

When officers pulled into a secure admitting area at the jail, they noticed Kubisek had shoelaces, still attached to her shoes, around her neck.

They removed her from the vehicle, took the laces off her neck and alerted jail personnel who contacted medical staff.

At no time was she left alone in the vehicle, Heffernan said, adding the incident remains under investigation.

She was transported to Albany Medical Center Hospital for evaluation and returned to the correctional facility at 5:45 a.m. on Thursday, May 4.

— Jim Franco

Traffic stop leads to DWI

GUILDERLAND — On May 2, at approximately 10 p.m., State Police stopped a vehicle on I-90 for a vehicle and traffic violation.

The driver of the vehicle, Kingsley Ukpabi, 35, of Troy, was found to be impaired by alcohol while in possession of cocaine.

It was determined he had a BAC of 0.11 percent and he was charged with felony criminal possession of a controlled substance, misdemeanor DWI and vehicle and traffic violations.

He was arraigned before in Guilderland Town Court and remanded to the Albany County Jail in lieu of \$15,000 bail.

Guilderland man arrested for sex abuse

On Thursday, May 4, the New York State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation in Clifton Park arrested

Jermaine Staley, 34, for first degree sexual abuse.

On April 29, Clifton Park state troopers reportedly received a complaint of possible sex abuse to a person under the age of 11. Subsequent to the investigation and interviews of persons involved in the incident, Staley was arrested and charged with two counts of felony first degree sex abuse and the misdemeanor of criminal possession of a controlled substance.

He was arraigned in the Town of Clifton Park Court and remanded to Saratoga County Jail with no bail.

Man brings drugs to jail

COLONIE — A 48-year-old Albany man visiting the Albany County Jail ended up staying a little longer after deputies found him in possession of drugs.

Sheriff Craig D. Apple Sr. said deputies were conducting a random traffic safety checkpoint at the jail on May 4 and noticed the odor of marijuana coming from a vehicle driven by Keith L. Payne.

A subsequent search of his vehicle uncovered 7.8 grams of crack cocaine.

He was charged with two felonies of criminal possession of a controlled substance, the violation of unlawful possession of marijuana and numerous vehicle and traffic violations.

He was incarcerated at the jail pending an arraignment on Friday, May 5.

Other arrests made during the checkpoint include:

- Jolanda Murphy, 24, of Cohoes, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana.

- Helen Maeweather, 48, of Albany, was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

- Margaret Schellenberger, 49, of Albany, was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation.

- Veronica Mitchell, 20, of Mechanicville, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana.

- Jamie Sanchez, 24, of Rensselaer, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana and aggravated unlicensed



PAYNE

operation of a motor vehicle.

- Lakaya Pinkney, 32, of Albany, was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and uninspected motor vehicle.

- Aireonna McCall, 32, of Troy, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Man arrested for hiding camera at Starbucks

COLONIE — A 32-year-old Albany man turned himself in to answer questions about a camera hidden in a Starbucks bathroom after he saw his photo on various media outlets.

Jonathan Waters, of 60 New Shaker Road, now faces a felony of unlawful surveillance, according to Lt. Robert Winn.

The camera, hidden in a USB wall charger, was found on March 18 by an employee of the Wolf Road coffee shop.

Waters was arraigned on Thursday, May 4, at 4 a.m. and sent to the Albany County Jail.

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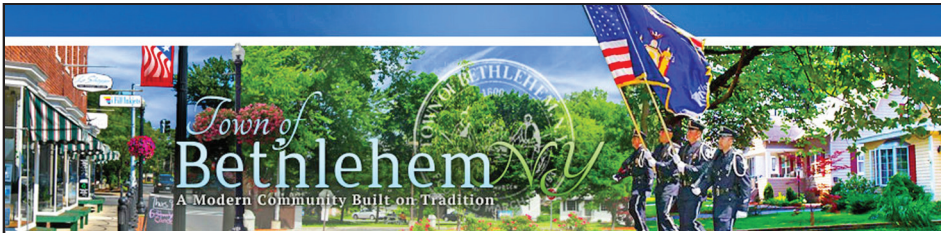
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Employment Opportunities

Planning Board Member

The Bethlehem Town Board will be considering candidates for a Planning Board appointment. Compensation is currently \$5,696 per year.

Board members must be town residents and should have general knowledge of Bethlehem's Comprehensive Plan, major land use and planning issues, zoning and subdivision processes, SEQRA requirements and procedures, site plan and subdivision evaluation, and best practices in land use planning and development.

Community involvement and other information, which applicants believe is relevant for consideration, should also be submitted.

Further information on land use and planning in Bethlehem is available on the Town Website (www.townofbethlehem.org), especially the following links:

Citizen's Guide to Land Use Planning and Development:
<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/DocumentCenter/View/3147>

Town Planning Board:
<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/141/Planning-Board>

Comprehensive Plan Assessment Committee
<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/132/Comprehensive-Plan-Assessment-Committee->

Zoning Board of Appeals Member

The Bethlehem Town Board is considering candidates for a Zoning Board of Appeals appointment. Compensation is currently \$5,696 per year.

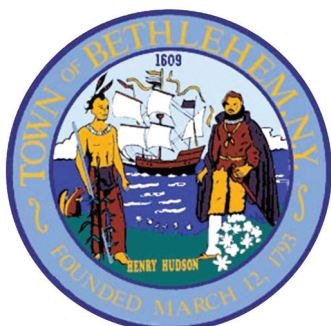
Board members must be town residents and should have general knowledge of planning and land use in the town, zoning and subdivision processes, use and area variances and applicable procedures, SEQRA requirements and procedures.

Community involvement and other information, which applicants believe is relevant for consideration, should also be submitted.

Further information on land use, planning and zoning in Bethlehem is available on the Town Website (www.townofbethlehem.org).

Citizen's Guide to Land Use Planning and Development:
<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/DocumentCenter/View/3147>

Town Zoning Board of Appeals:
<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/158/Zoning-Board-of-Appeals>



Please e-mail your cover letter and resume by May 18, 2017, to **Robin Nagengast, Confidential Secretary** to the Town Supervisor at: rnagengast@townofbethlehem.org

COMMUNITY

YMCA recognizes students, educators for community leadership

BY ALI HIBBS
hibbsa@spotlightnews.com

ALTAMONT — Students and educators from Bethlehem, Guiderland, Voorheesville and Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk (RCS) central school districts were honored on Tuesday, April 25, by the Capital District YMCA for their exceptional service to the community during the organization's 20th Annual Student and Educator Awards Breakfast. The group was treated to a catered breakfast at the Appel Inn in Altamont.

The event was hosted by the Bethlehem, Guiderland and Albany YMCA branches. Three other Capital District schools also participated in the awards ceremony. Students and educators could apply or were nominated, and recipients were chosen for their leadership and dedication in service to their schools, communities and/or YMCA, including exhibiting "behavior which is 'socially courageous'" and a character that "embraces the values of the YMCA: Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility."

This year's honorees are:
From Guiderland Central High School
Educators: Lauren Anderson and Dan Penna

Students: Michael Ardito, Leah Bonnanno, Hannah Gallagher, Eric Hoffman, Ved Kumar, Travis Mauro, Amanda Rice, Ella Sabatino, Skylar Spanbauer and Elena Toscano.

From Bethlehem Central High School
Educator: Michael Mitchell

Students: Jennifer Ansong, Corbin Balzan, Eve Castagna, Dahlia Earleywine, Joshua Hauser, Olivia Poust, Lindsey Stento, Margaret Sul and Emily Weinert.

From Clayton A. Bouton High School in Voorheesville

Students: Sarah Bracken, Julia Conroy, Daniel Monaghan, Jack Murray and Emily Rose.

From Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High School

Students: Laya Mathai and Lauren Miller

Learn more about each of the honorees at spotlightnews.com.



Top: Guiderland CSD award recipients. Above: Voorheesville CSD award recipients.

Submitted photos

EDUCATION

Final 2016-17 BCMS Character Awards Breakfast

SPOTLIGHT NEWSROOM

news@spotlightnews.com

BETHLEHEM — Brave. Funny. Inspiring. Enlightened. These are just some of the words used to describe the more than 50 Bethlehem Central Middle School students who were honored Thursday, April 27, during the school's third, and final, Character Awards Breakfast of the 2016-17 academic year.

After being greeted by school and district administrators along with members of the Board of Education, the students were treated to a breakfast by the local Kiwanis Organization. Representing the Board of Education were Matt Downey, outgoing board president, Michael Cooper and Dr. Charmaine Wijeyesinghe. Every student was presented with a certificate and a keepsake magnet for their exemplary behavior and service as role models at school.

The April event recognized students who consistently demonstrated good behavior throughout the third grading period. Students are nominated by their team teachers and staff for the awards program, which has been an integral part of the BCMS Character Education program for ten years.

BCMS interim Principal David Doemel, an enthusiastic proponent of the character program, has expressed interest in implementing it at the high school, where he will be taking over as principal in September.

Third marking period winners are:

MOHAWK HOUSE

Grade 6

- Nora Murphy
- Jack Newell
- Zach Price
- Madison Mutziger
- Shreya Raghu
- Tyler Sagendorph

Grade 7

- Ruth Hotaling
- Claudia Grimaldi
- Megan Whitbeck
- Ryan Reynolds
- Patrick Fitzsimmons
- Sara Giacone
- Aimee Lewis

Grade 8

- Rory McFerran
- Tyler Salisbury
- Will Connors
- Lucas Feltman
- Owen Naef
- Brianna Doran
- Eliana Cromling
- Regan Leary
- Tori Pistilli

PATROON HOUSE

Grade 6

- Henry Reichman
- Dylan Vuille
- Marissa Gourd
- Peyton Roach
- Maggie Tromp
- Quinn Lesperance

Grade 7

- Anushka Patel
- Caleb Ells
- Spencer Dodge
- Rachel Drew
- Gavin Follos
- Kalin Oelkers

Grade 8

- Anish Deshpande
- Derek Strosahl
- Michael Bryant
- Ally Melendez
- Ali Orellana-Rinaldi
- Maia Lemov

PATROON HOUSE 2

Grade 6

- Leah Gornstein
- Matthew Collins
- Norah McCaffrey
- Orin Carlson-Lee

Grade 7

- Paige Doherty
- Emma Henn
- Christa Burger
- Erin Hornbeck
- Griffin Roeder

Grade 8

- Mya Thibault
- Christina Grigas
- Billy Frost
- Logan Bardin
- Drew Klugman
- Kiara Seavey



BCMS Interim Principal David Doemel congratulates Character Award recipient, 7th grader Anushka Patel. Submitted photo



Top: 6th grade winners. Center: 7th grade winners. Above: 8th grade winners.

Submitted photos

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■ AT A GLANCE: 2017 SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE

Bethlehem Central School District

When/where to vote: Tuesday, May 16, Bethlehem Central High School (Upper Gym) from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

What's at stake: • Budget for 2017-18 school year: \$97.1 million
• Tax levy increase: 0.43 percent
• Spending increase: \$583,000

Propositions: A bus replacement proposition would enable the district to replace aging vehicles in its fleet for a cost not to exceed \$1.6 million.

School Board candidates: Eight candidates are running to fill three vacant seats.

Additional information: The proposed budget includes \$78,000 to add two bus routes to shorten long commutes for the district's elementary students who are transported to either Eagle or Slingerlands elementary schools following Clarksville Elementary's closing in 2012.



Guilderland Central School District

When/where to vote: Tuesday, May 16, district's elementary schools from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

What's at stake: • Budget for 2017-18 school year: \$98.5 million
• Tax levy increase: 2.11 percent
• Spending increase: \$1.9 million

Propositions: None.

School Board candidates: Five candidates are running to fill three vacant seats on the Board of Education.

Additional information: After some public outcry from both district residents and elected officials, board members restored \$35,000 worth funding to restore, stabilize, and protect the historic Cobblestone School House at 479 Main St. in Guilderland Center, against the elements and wildlife. Due to projected assessment growth within the district, tax rates are expected to increase by less than 1 percent for residents of the school district.



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A note about Board of Education Candidates:

Spotlight Newspapers staff reached out to all Board of Education candidates in the Bethlehem, Guilderland, Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk and Voorheesville Central School Districts via e-mail between Monday, May 1, and Friday, May 5.

Both incumbent and first-time candidates were asked to complete a short, online questionnaire. Each was asked why he or she decided to run for their district's school board, how his or her personal and professional experiences have prepared him or her for the position, what he or she feels are the biggest challenges facing his or her school district and how he or she plans to address these challenges if elected.

As of press deadline, while staff had received responses from the majority of candidates from these four school districts, it was determined that there was not enough room in this print edition to run their full answers.

To learn more about your school district's Board of Education candidates, visit www.spotlightnews.com and search using the keywords 2017 School Board Candidates.

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■ AT A GLANCE: 2017 SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE

R-C-S Central School District

When/where to vote: Tuesday, May 16, Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High School gymnasium, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

What's at stake: • Budget for 2017-18 school year: \$45.8 million
• Tax levy increase: 1.25 percent
• Spending increase: \$1.33 million

Propositions: None

School Board candidates: Three candidates are running uncontested for three open seats.

Additional information: Tax rates increased for 2017-18, due to a lowered tax assessment for Selkirk Cogen. While the district does not control home or business assessments, taxes collected from those assessments do act as revenue for the district. According to officials, the budget is comparable to those passed in recent years. Extra funding approved by the state Legislature, in addition to that proposed in Gov. Andrew Cuomo's Executive Budget, will go toward paying employee retirement benefits.



Voorheesville Central School District

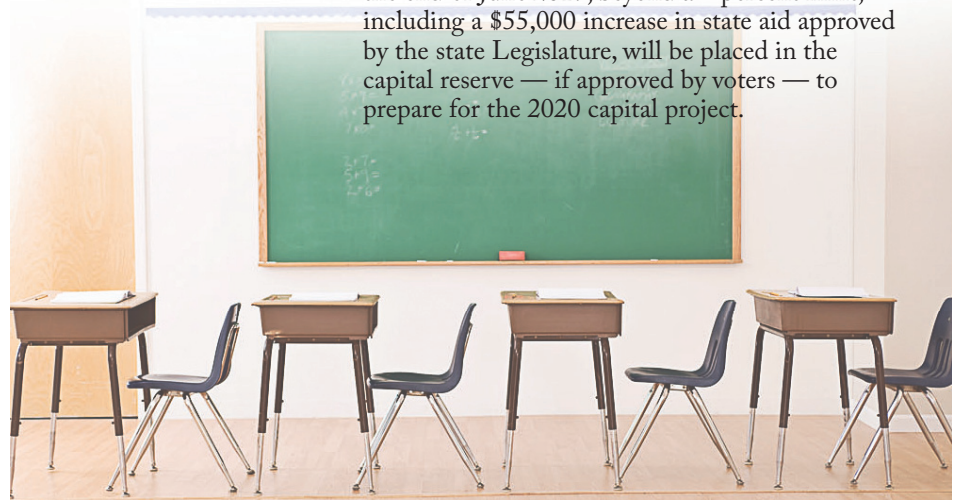
When/where to vote: Tuesday, May 16, Voorheesville Middle School from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

What's at stake: • Budget for 2017-18 school year: \$24.2 million
• Tax levy increase: 2.0 percent
• Spending increase: \$391,189

Propositions: Ballot proposition to begin saving \$2 million for a 2020 capital improvements plan. Voters to decide on a proposition to purchase two 60-passenger school buses for no more than \$230,000.

School Board candidates: Two candidates are running for two open seats.

Additional information: Proposed budget uses \$300,000 from the general fund balance, it preserves all current programs and services. It also adds two new full-time and two part-time educational positions and an educational coordinator position. Any surplus fund balance at the end of June 2017, beyond a 4 percent limit, including a \$55,000 increase in state aid approved by the state Legislature, will be placed in the capital reserve — if approved by voters — to prepare for the 2020 capital project.



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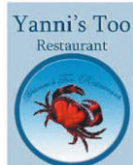


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From page 2 ... Recycle Fest

Coordinator Dan Lilkas-Rain.

"I'd like to thank these volunteers and each of our partner organizations, the hundreds of residents who helped celebrate Earth Day (a bit early) by participating, Highway Superintendent Brent Meredith and Director of Senior Services Jane Sanders, and especially BCSD Green Team coordinator Mark Warford and members Erin Engleson and Kate Kloss for their support and hours of hands-on volunteering," Lilkas-Rain added.

Residents can continue to donate clothing, footwear and other textiles for reuse or recycling throughout the year (such as linens, stuffed animals, loose fabric, backpacks, and even ripped, stained or damaged items like missing buttons or a broken zipper—as long as they are not wet or contaminated) as part of "Re-Clothe NY," a statewide campaign to promote clothing and textile recycling; visit www.nytextiles.org. Collection bins are located throughout town, including the bins at the Elm Ave CDTA Park and Ride, the Kenwood Avenue Municipal Parking Lot near Four Corners (next to Hughes Opticians), and the Town's Rupert Road Transfer Station. Proceeds from these locations benefit the town. There is an additional blue bin at the Bethlehem

Central Middle School parking lot that benefits the school's green initiatives.

For more information about recycling in the town of Bethlehem, visit www.townofbethlehem.org or

contact Dan Rain,; email recycle@townofbethlehem.org or call 439-4955 ext. 1510. For more details about the BCSD Green Team, visit www.bethlehemschools.org/green-team/.



In addition to 7,560 pounds of books and cardboard gathered for recycling by Cascade Recovery, Grassroot Givers sorted out three van-loads full of high quality titles with reuse value, an estimated total of 3,000 pounds.

Submitted photo

IN BRIEF

Next meeting to focus on Catskill

COLONIE — The Capital District Genealogical Society invites the public to its monthly meeting featuring "Catskill: Gateway to Western New York" author Sylvia Hasenkopf on Saturday, May 20, at 1 p.m. at the William K. Sanford Town Library.

Hasenkopf, a noted Hudson and Mohawk Valley historian and genealogist, will share the story of the founding and growth of Catskill, often seen as the gateway to western New York before the construction of the Erie Canal.

Visit capitaldistrictgenealogicalsociety.com for additional details.

OGS announces Plaza, Harriman Campus farmers markets

ALBANY — The Empire State Plaza Farmers Market is held each Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This summer's market will feature more than 25 farmers and other vendors selling fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, cheeses, yogurt, wine, cider, baked goods, flowers, pesto, nuts, granola, and much more.

The farmers market at the Harriman Campus will be held in the courtyard by buildings 4, 5, and 8 every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will feature vendors selling fresh fruits and vegetables, plants, flowers, and baked goods.

The Empire State Plaza Farmers Market is part of the New York State FreshConnect program, which is designed to meet the needs of communities by bringing fresh food to underserved areas, improving nutrition education, and helping create local jobs.

For more information about either market, contact the OGS Special Events Office at (518) 408-1811 or emailvendors@empirestateplaza.org.

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■ HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

BC qualifies for sectionals

BETHLEHEM — The Eagles got by Ballston Spa 5-3 on Thursday, May 4, and have earned a spot in the Class AA sectionals.

Thomas Salamida and Matt Wise teamed up for a three hitter for Bethlehem while walking two and striking out eight.

The bottom of the order came through big for the Eagles. Andrew Hicks, Sean Turner, Nick Mosier and David Garcia — who batted in the 7, 8 and 9 slots — went a combined 4 for 8 with a walk and scored three runs.

The leadoff hitter, center fielder Steve Mendleson, went 2 for 4 with a double, a stolen base and a run scored. Dylan Rodriguez went 2 for 3 with a run scored. Colby Nash added a hit to round out the offense for Bethlehem.

Wise, who came in in the third inning, gave up a single to Joshua Hipwell in the top of the sixth and then a two run shot over the wall in left center to Luke Gold, who also had a single.

The Scotties other run was scored by Jared Winkle, who reached base on an error to start the game.



Upper left: Thomas Salamida.
Lower Left: Matt Wise.
Left: First baseman Nick Mosier.
Below: The 2017 Bethlehem varsity baseball squad.

Photos by Jim Franco /
Spotlight News



Keeps rolling

Conor Brandon, the No. 1 seed for the 12-0 Bethlehem Eagles tennis team, during a match against Mohonasen High School.

Photo by Jim Franco/Spotlight News

Voorheesville drops one



Left: Aiden Crouse battles for the ball.
Top: Goalie Evan O'Connor.

Photos by Jim Franco/Spotlight News

VOORHEESVILLE — The Blackbirds dropped a non-conference game to Greenwich, 15-4, on Thursday, May 4.

Aiden Crouse had two goals for Voorheesville (1-1 in the Colonial Conference and 1-4 overall) and Jake Palmer and Ian Owens added a goal each. Christian Tomlin had an assist to round out the Voorheesville offense.

Greenwich (4-0 in Wasaren League play and 7-1 overall) scored 7 goals in the first period and never looked back.

Bryce Wilbur had four goals for the Witches, Henry Gartner had three and Hayden Stalter had a goal and four assists.

In goal, Gage Beddery and Ian Merull combined for seven saves and Evan O'Connor had six for the Blackbirds.



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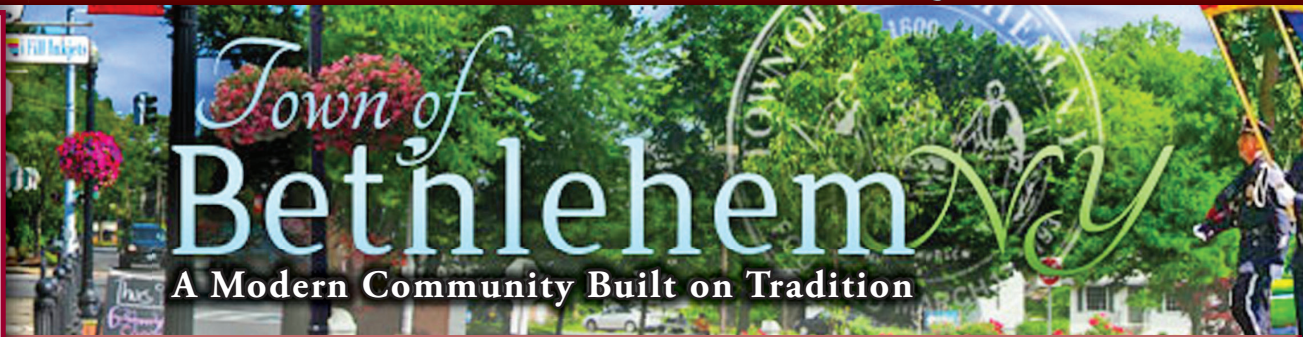
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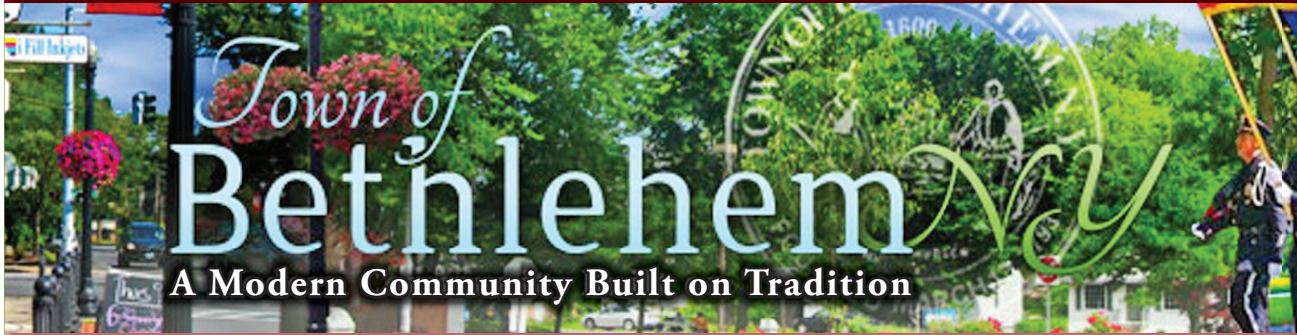


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COMMUNITY

Art Lab Saturday

Spring is all about that watercolor fun! Create your own bright art using watercolors masking tape and more. No need to register! Saturday, May 13, at 10:30 a.m.

RCS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Library Vote May 16

The vote on the 2017-2018 Library Budget will be from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16 at the RCS High School. You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 years old or older and a resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the vote.

conversation with your teen? Join Tracy Mance from the Albany County Sheriff's office for a program for you (and your teen) that will include photos and valuable information about what the drugs do and the dangers of using them. Wednesday, May 17, at 7 p.m.

Job Skill Building

Interested in leveling up some skills for your new job? Join us on Tuesday, May 23, at 6 p.m. This class will show you free resources for sharpening your skills with Microsoft Office, coding, social media, and more. Presented by Sarah McFadden, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County. Registration appreciated.

Substance Abuse Prevention

Eight out of ten teens say they've had the opportunity to use illicit substances, and four out of ten have actually tried them. Do you know enough to have a

— Carol Melewski

IN BRIEF

Q.U.I.L.T. Inc. meets Friday

DELMAR — Q.U.I.L.T. Inc. will meet on Friday, May 12, 2017 at the Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave.

The general meeting starts at 9:45 a.m.; doors open at 9:15 a.m. The general meeting will be followed by a lecture; "Quilting Modern - Honoring Tradition with Jacquie Gering."

For information, visit www.quiltinc.org.

Helderview Garden Club Plant Sale

VOORHEESVILLE — Join the Helderview Garden Club as it holds its annual plant sale on Saturday, May 13, at the Vooheesville Elementary School, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The sale goes on, rain or shine, at the elementary school's lower parking lot, across the street from Smith's Tavern on Route 85a.

Donations wanted

SELKIRK — The Bethlehem Grange Hall is preparing for its Annual Spring Giant Rummage Sale.

We're looking for craft items, collectibles, linens, toys, books, music, housewares, tools, small appliances, small furniture and more.

The rummage sale is Friday and Saturday, May 19 and May 20, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To arrange delivery or pick-up, call Carol Carpenter at (518) 438-8862, Caroline Wirth at (518) 424-4953 or Jo Downey at (518) 767-2985.

■ IN BRIEF

'Get Your Rack Back' cocktail gala

SARATOGA SPRINGS — Enjoy an evening of great food and entertainment hosted by actor/comedian Greg Aidala on Saturday, June 10, at the Excelsior Springs at the Marriott, from 7 to 11:30 p.m.

The cocktail gala is annual fundraiser to provide meal delivery, gas, groceries and restaurant gift cards to area cancer patients. There will also be an opportunity to win a week's vacation in Cape May, N.J.

Early Bird tickets range from \$100 per person to \$1,000 for a table of eight. Evening includes a champagne reception, food, drink and entertainment.

For information, visit <http://getyourrackback.com>.

Need a place to hold a party?

SELKIRK — Need to host a graduation party, class reunion, birthday party, large meeting, family dinner, bridal or baby shower?

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The Hall provides seating for nearly 100 occupants for sit down eating. There's air conditioning, plenty of parking and it's handicap accessible. A full kitchen is also available for additional charge.

The Bethlehem Grange Hall is located 1/10th of a mile from Route 9W in Selkirk For more information, call Jo Downey at (518) 767-2985, or Carol Carpenter at (518) 438-8862 or Caroline Wirth at (518) 424-4953.

Master Gardeners of Schenectady to hold annual plant sale

SCHENECTADY — The Master Gardeners of Schenectady County will hold its annual plant sale on Saturday, May 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Central Park Greenhouse and Sustainable Living Center.

Vegetable seedlings and organically-grown tomato plants, including well-known favorites and specialty heirloom and disease-resistant varieties, will be sold along with herb containers, perennial plant divisions and annuals.

The Friends of the Greenhouse will be selling a variety of geraniums as well as holding a raffle.

■ COMMUNITY

Going green globally

UAlbany team employed to help shrink Bethlehem Public Library's bottom line

DELMAR — As part of an ongoing effort to seek sustainable solutions, Bethlehem Public Library is teaming up with students in the UAlbany G3: Going Green Globally initiative to identify green practices that also benefit the library's bottom line.

The students, who are wrapping up their first year of the full-time MBA program at UAlbany, recently toured the library to get a preliminary sense of the space and the library's sustainability goals. They will be returning the second week in May for an intensive look at ways to make green practices an economically viable part of the library's future.

The G3 team will prepare white papers with research and global benchmarking of sustainability issues relevant to the library and follow up with a final presentation on May 17 outlining their findings, along with best practices suggestions resulting in an expected \$50,000 to \$100,000 in savings.

Bethlehem Library Director Geoffrey Kirkpatrick said he is looking forward to hearing the team's sustainability recommendations.

"They are an enthusiastic group of highly motivated students," said Kirkpatrick. "Bethlehem library is always seeking best practices to reduce our carbon footprint, but as a public entity, we have to be mindful of the cost to taxpayers. Our G3 team is going to provide a fresh perspective



UAlbany MBA students toured Bethlehem Public Library Tuesday, April 18, in advance of their G3: Going Green Globally evaluation of the library, which will highlight sustainable practices.

Photo by Kristen Roberts/special to the Spotlight

on finding that balance. We can't wait to see what they come up with."

Last year, the New York State Library Association took part in a G3 evaluation, but Bethlehem Public Library's participation marks the first time an individual public library has done so. Additional G3 clients this year include Adirondack Beverage, City of Saratoga Springs, Hilton Albany, Mazzone Hospitality, New York Power Authority, Palace Theatre and Proctors.

G3 student teams work with experienced executives and university faculty coaches. The program was

developed in 2007 and received the UAlbany President's Award for Exemplary Community Engagement in the spring of 2013.

Located in Delmar, Bethlehem Public Library serves a community of more than 26,000 in the Bethlehem Central School District. It provides access to the collections of all 29 libraries in the Upper Hudson Library System, as well as meeting room space, Internet access, technology and a variety of programs and services for all ages.

— Kristen Roberts

LEGALS

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LEGALS

payable. The following amounts are now due and owing on said mortgage and the said instrument secured by said mortgage, no part of any of which has been paid although duly demanded: Entire Principal Balance in the amount of \$70,179.75 with interest from March 1, 2011 at the current interest rate of 5.54400%. UNLESS YOU DISPUTE THE VALIDITY OF THE DEBT, OR ANY PORTION THEREOF, WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER YOUR RECEIPT HEREOF THAT THE DEBT, OR ANY PORTION THEREOF, IS DISPUTED, THE DEBTOR JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU AND A COPY OF SUCH VERIFICATION OR JUDGMENT WILL BE MAILED TO YOU BY THE HEREIN DEBT COLLECTOR. IF APPLICABLE, UPON YOUR WRITTEN REQUEST, WITHIN SAID THIRTY (30) DAY PERIOD, THE HEREIN DEBT COLLECTOR WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED A DIS-

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CHARGE FROM THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT, YOU ARE NOT PERSONALLY LIABLE FOR THE UNDERLYING INDEBTEDNESS OWED TO PLAINTIFF/CREDITOR AND THIS NOTICE/DISCLOSURE IS FOR COMPLIANCE AND INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS IN FORECLOSURE New York State requires that we send you this notice about the foreclosure process. Please read it carefully. SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT You are in danger of losing your home. If you fail to respond to the Summons and Complaint in this foreclosure action, you may lose your home. Please read the Summons and Complaint carefully. You should immediately contact an attorney or your local legal aid office to obtain advice on how to protect yourself. SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE The State encourages you to become informed about your options in foreclosure. In addition

LEGALS

to seeking assistance from an attorney or legal aid, there are government agencies, and non-profit organizations that you may contact for information about possible options, including trying to work with your lender during this process. To locate an entity near you, you may call the toll-free helpline maintained by New York State Department of Financial Services' at 1-800-269-0990 or visit the Department's website at <http://www.dfs.ny.gov> FORECLOSURE RESCUE SCAMS Be careful of people who approach you with offers to [save] your home. There are individuals who watch for notices of foreclosure actions in order to unfairly profit from a homeowner's distress. You should be extremely careful about any such promises and any suggestions that you pay them a fee or sign over your deed. State law requires anyone offering such services for profit to enter into a contract which fully describes the services they will perform

LEGALS

and fees they will charge, and which prohibits them from taking any money from you until they have completed all such promised services. Section 1303 NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this Summons and Complaint by serving the copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you may lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the Summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING AN ANSWER WITH THE COURT. SHELDON MAY & ASSOCIATES, Attor-

LEGALS

neys at Law, 255 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, NY 11570 Our File 27932 D-151202
Notice of formation of Ten Utica Avenue LLC, a NYS Ltd. Liability Co. (LLC). Formation filed with SSNY on 3/30/2017. Off. Loc: Albany Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC, upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Vinciguerra Law Firm, 10 Utica Ave., Latham, NY 12110. Purpose: all lawful purposes. D-149249
Notice of formation of The Stop at Tint Star 2 LLC, a domestic LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 4/12/17. Office location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served and the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: The LLC, 101 Citation Way, Ballston Spa, New York 12020. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. D-149698

LEGALS

NOTICE OF FILING OF ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION IN NEW YORK BY A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
Name: TJAS017, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with sec. of state of NY(SOS) on 5/3/17. Office location: Albany County. SOS is designated as agent of LLC for service of process. SOS shall mail copy of process to c/o Hugh Johnson Advisors LLC, 80 State St., 4th Floor, Albany, NY 12207, Attn: Daniel P. Nolan. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity. D-151647
NOTICE OF FORMATION DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC).
Name: WSA WILTON LLC. Articles of Organization filed with NY Secretary of State, April 6, 2017. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act or activity. Office: Albany County. Secretary of State is agent for process against LLC and shall mail copy to 255 Washington Ave Ext, Albany, NY 12205. D-148749

LEGALS

YALLA LABS LLC
Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 4/26/17 as: YELLA LABS LLC Office in Albany Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to c/o Corporate Service Bureau Inc, 283 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12206, which is also the registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. D-151190
NOTICE OF FORMATION DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC).
Name: ZING CP LLC. Articles of Organization filed with NY Secretary of State, April 4, 2017. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act or activity. Office: Albany County. Secretary of State is agent for process against LLC and shall mail copy to c/o Goldman Attorneys PLLC, 210 Washington Ave Ext, Albany, NY 12203. D-148748

COMMUNITY

Budget talk Thursday

GUILDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
www.guilpl.org

The community is invited to a Public Comment Session on the Library's proposed 2017-18 budget, on Thursday, May 11, at 6:30 p.m., in the library's Tawasentha Room.

The Library's Board of Trustees has approved an operating budget of \$4,038,583. This is based upon a tax-levy of \$3,689,217. Details of the budget are available at www.guilpl.org/budget.

The vote is on Tuesday, May 16, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., at neighborhood elementary schools. Voters will also select three trustees to serve on the library's board.

Mother's Day Concert: Josée Vachon

Singer-songwriter Josée Vachon will perform a free Mothers' Day concert of beloved French songs at GPL on Sunday, May 14, at 2 p.m.

Enjoy Josée's lovely voice and engaging style as she takes you on a journey through French North America. Vachon has recorded 12 solo albums in French, and two with Franco-American folk group Chanterelle.

Born in Québec and raised in Maine, Josée Vachon has been sharing her Franco-American upbringing for more than 25 years through traditional and contemporary folksongs from Québec and Acadia, and through her own compositions. She has performed throughout North America and France.

GPL Pops-Up All Over the Place!

@ Little League
Opening Day!

The 2017 Little

League season kicks off at Keenholts Park on Friday, May 12, at 5:30 p.m. – and GPL will be there! Be sure to stop by our Pop-Up tent; we'll have books to check out, crafts to take, and, of course – fun! See you there!

@ Albany Tulip Festival!

Come celebrate our area's Dutch history! On Saturday, May 13, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., GPL and our friends from neighboring UHLS libraries will be at this year's Tulip Festival at Washington Park in Albany! Find us by the Kids Zone near the playground! We'll have crafts and fun activities for kids – including a life size board game! Get a library card on the spot, learn how to download library e-books, and more!

3 Little Birds!

Join local librarian and former Kindermusik teacher Josalyn Wilder for "3 Little Birds: Music, Movement, & Storytime" on Monday, May 15, at 10:30 a.m.. This fun-filled early literacy class features music and activities geared toward children age 5 and under. No registration necessary. Children must be accompanied by an adult caregiver.

About GPL

The Guilderland Public Library is located at 2228 Western Avenue, Guilderland. Visit the Library's website at www.guilpl.org to get information on upcoming programs, and to register online via the homepage's "Events & Registration Calendar." Check out the "unofficial" Library updates at facebook.com/Guilderland. Library and follow the Library on Twitter (@GuilderlandLib).

— Mark Curiale

Take part in Bike Month

We'll help you get ready to ride

May is National Bike Month. Are you ready to ride? The library has a public-use bicycle service station near the entrance closest to the parking lot. The Dero Fixit device features hanger arms that bring the bike off the ground and allow the pedals and wheels to move freely. It also includes all of the tools needed to perform basic bike repairs and maintenance on the spot. Change a flat, adjust the brakes and derailleurs, or fix a wobbly seat – all at the library. Attached to the Fixit station by cables are Philips and flat-head screwdrivers, six sizes of Allen wrenches, six sizes of box wrenches, and two tire levers. Adjacent to the station is a heavy-duty air pump with a universal pump head that accommodates all valve stem types. The library's



bicycle service station is free for anyone to use, 24 hours a day.

Budget vote and candidate information The proposed 2017-18 budget is available to view online and at the library. On the ballot this year is a library levy 2.07 percent higher than last year, within the limit specified by New York State. The trustee election and budget vote will take place Tuesday, May 16, at Bethlehem Central High School from 7am-9pm.

Board President Mary Redmond is running unopposed for a second five-year term on the board. A Delmar resident of 30 years, she is retired from the state Dormitory Authority. She has served as a trustee since 2012 and

president of the board since 2015, and is a member of the Bethlehem Business Women's Club and Bethlehem Garden Club.

The following are May's thoughts and goals as a library trustee:

What skills do you bring to the board?

I believe I possess a strong working knowledge of the Board. I am also focused on the most recent Long Range Plan for the Library, which was last updated in 2015.

What are your goals as a library board member?

I'd like to continue to address much-needed building maintenance projects to replace the aging HVAC system, and upgrade building security and fire protection systems, as well as support staff efforts to deliver quality programs and services throughout the community.

How does a public library best serve its

community?

BPL is lucky to have a dynamic management staff. The staff is continually encouraged to bring new ideas to the workplace. The library works very hard to find ways to "yes" as often as possible.

What are the most important issues facing public libraries today?

Libraries are no longer just a collection of books. Each library has to find ways to serve their community in new and expanding roles. A library should evolve based upon changing dynamics within the community.

What do you like best about Bethlehem Public Library?

There is something new every month at the library. Artwork, discussion groups, children's programs, mobile hotspots, GoPro cameras, telescopes ... the list goes on and on!

— Kristen Roberts

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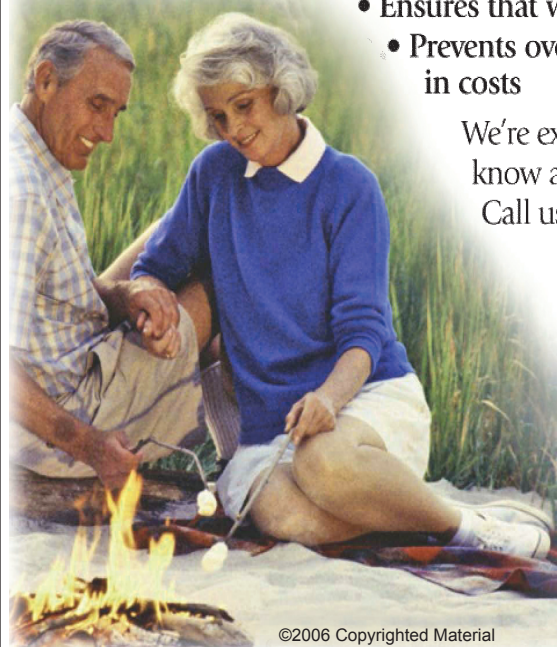
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Jim Franco @francospotlight

EDITORS: Michael Hallisey@mh_Spotlight

May 10, 2017

Spotlight on Opinion

www.spotlightnews.com PAGE 18

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

No backsies

This week marks the culmination of months of hard work by area school districts, mulling over department needs and formulating district budgets that are now in the hands of residents. Today, we look at our respective districts. A yes vote for the budget is yet another vote of confidence and trust in our area teachers and administrators that they are doing the right job. Keep in mind, the majority of the public schools here in the Capital District rank among the best in the entire state and that only benefits our children as they prepare themselves for a future we never could have imagined at their age.

But, as technology advances and professional opportunities evolve, there are fundamental life lessons that have not changed throughout each generation.

"All I Really Need to Know I Learned In Kindergarten," is a credo penned by *New York Times* Best Selling Author

Robert Fulghum. It's the title of his 1986 book of short essays. More than 20 years later, it still lends merit to how adults should look back to the basic lessons we all learned on how to behave. Because, as we look at recent headlines, some of us need to stick our noses in the corner.

At the end of every sandlot deal, both sides should walk away happy with a trade. Tommy wanted Billy's Captain America Trans Am. Billy liked Tommy's Hot Wheels van that, when you peaked into the rear window, you could see The Incredible Hulk smashing at the insides. Before Tommy and Billy exchanged cars, "no backsies" was declared — meaning, no returns were allowed on the trade. Kids understand this. Airline corporations, not so much.

United and Delta airlines, both of which fly out of Albany International Airport, recently made headlines for how poorly each respectively handled

customers. Each incident took place after a customer boarded a flight and sat down in the seat he purchased. But, airlines have always reserved the right to bump passengers, even though their tickets — often purchased weeks in advance — specifically state a specific time and flight. Tommy needed a flight back home. Delta wants Tommy's money. The trade took place weeks ago. Seriously? Strong-arming a doctor from a United flight because he wouldn't volunteer his seat? And Delta? Lying to a family to say that a two-year-old in a car seat is against FAA regulations, when your website suggests families do so for safe travel. In kindergarten, we learned both not to lie and to keep our hands to ourselves.

We're not sure where Oscar Munoz (CEO of United Airlines) or Edward Bastian (CEO of Delta Airlines) went to school, but we're fairly certain neither one went to any of the fine public schools we

have here in the Capital District. Because, had they, their respective company policies would have reflected the most elementary lesson of trade. With no regard to good customer service or human dignity, these airlines traded that all away for profits. With public shares in their stock falling down in value, they're now learning the hard way about what happens when you're on the wrong end of a bad deal.

No backsies.

TALK BACK

The *Spotlight* welcomes feedback on this editorial or any other hot topics in the news. Email us at news@spotlightnews.com.

REMEMBER WHEN

2011: County Leg Chair Dan McCoy announced run for office

ALBANY— With the tulips in Washington Park as a backdrop, Albany County Legislature Chairman Dan McCoy announced Thursday, May 12, 2011, he would run for county executive.

Surrounded by a number of county Democrats and his family, McCoy talked about the importance of unity and the thought process he went through to come to the decision to run.

McCoy said the need for a better and more effective government played into his decision to seek the county executive position.

"When I look at my children, I try to imagine what the Capital Region will look like in the next 20 or 30 years," he

said. "Is our government doing all that it can to ensure their economic future? Is our government providing a quality of service that is effective as possible? Is our government open and rising above petty politics?"

McCoy placed some of the focus on area municipalities and said local governments should be aware of what is going on in other towns and work together. He said he would look to work with those local leaders in providing shared services among the county. He said it could bring in millions in savings.

"One way I plan to make government more effective is to pursue shared services agreements," he said. "We

can share services within counties and in departments across local borders. From snowplowing to emergency communications, we can do more."

"Great leaders understand personal sacrifice, they also understand compassion; great leaders they also understand how to cooperate," said McCoy in 2011.

In May 2017, five years after taking office, McCoy told *Spotlight News*, "It's ironic that we are still talking about shared services. We have worked with our local government partners to find ways to share costs and to maximize savings for county residents. This is especially timely since the state has required us to participate in the new Countywide Shared Services

Initiative, which builds on the work we've done to explore local partnerships and opportunities."

The initiative, built into the 2018 state budget, requires county executives to establish a Shared Services Panel that includes the mayor of each city or village and the supervisor of each town. A representative of a school district, board of cooperative education services, and/or special improvement district may also be invited to participate. The panel will then develop a Shared Service Property Tax Savings Plan "to identify, propose and implement new actions to save taxpayers money through shared, coordinated and more efficient services between local governments within the county."

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SUBSCRIPTIONS | circulation@spotlightnews.com

Managing Editor | Michael Hallisey

Copy Editor | Lianne Webster-Kim

Online Editor | Jim Franco

Reporter | Ali Hibbs

Publisher | John A. McIntyre Jr.

VP of Advertising | Bo Berezansky

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POINT OF VIEW

Somehow, I'm old enough now

I was talking to a guy I used to work with about the recent Michael Carr arraignment and the latest complications Niko DiNovo had while fighting for his life at the Westchester Hospital Burn unit and we agreed it could have been either one of us - in either boys' shoes.

Carr is the 18-year-old who is charged with seven felonies including driving under the influence of marijuana and alcohol, speeding and nearly killing his 16-year-old friend DiNovo, who is still at Westchester six months after the accident. He is looking at a ton of time behind bars and the charges and the potential sentence will just increase if DiNovo doesn't make it.

It's all relative, though. As my brother says, he

Commentary:

Frankly Speaking



already has a life sentence, waking up every day knowing what he did to his buddy.

Last week, word ripped around town that DiNovo's heart stopped for some 18 minutes before doctors were able to get it beating again. Every couple weeks word comes out of Westchester about another bump in what is a rocky road. It's really a miracle he is still alive with third degree burns over 95 percent of his body.

To restart his heart must have taken quite an effort. Not for any medical complexities, but because it must be huge.

When I say it could have been me. In either spot, staring at a judge or the maker, I mean it quite literally.

In 1984, I was 18. I was driving my friend's speedy Volkswagen GTI five-speed with three or four guys in the little hatchback on Route 9 in Lake George and for some reason decided I was going to try to pass a few cars on the double yellow line.

Downshifted, I did, and took off like a rocket into the left lane. I didn't get far before the flashing lights of a trooper appeared in the rearview mirror and pulled me over. I was charged with a DWI - my first - and other charges. I don't know if I was tested for marijuana or not, but it's a pretty safe bet it was in my system.

Yes, mom and dad, I did

smoke pot in my youth. Shocking, I know.

Looking back now, while into the second half of my life, I realize what could have happened on that night if the timing was a little different. If there was another vehicle coming in the other direction, or if I had really gotten the GTI up to speed and, in an altered state of mind I was in, simply lost control of the car ... with three or four buddies in it and other cars on the road.

I guess you don't realize how fragile life is when you're 18.

I remember having the same types of thoughts a few years ago when I covered the trial of a man (not much older than a kid, really) who was charged with killing his buddy in a motorcycle accident after

the two left a party.

I don't remember the kid's name, but at issue was whether or not gravel on the road caused him to lose control of his bike or if it was the couple beers he drank at the party. There was no question about the condition of his buddy. He was pronounced dead at the scene after getting thrown from the bike and into a tree.

I wrote a column after the trial that ended - with the kid getting convicted of DWAI but not guilty of vehicular homicide and him going home with his pregnant wife - praising the judge and the jury for doing the right thing and not punishing the kid more than he deserves.

Again, he already has a life sentence.

I write this as a jury begins deliberating the

fate of Alexander West, the 25-year-old on trial for killing an 8-year-old girl while driving a boat under the influence of drugs and alcohol on Lake George.

His case is a little different in that he killed an innocent kid whereas the DiNovo and the kid on the back of the motorcycle were there voluntarily but it does reinforce my point - a family with kids could have been coming the other way on Route 9 when I was a dumb kid driving drunk.

By the grace of God or dumb luck - or a combination of the two, - I am now old enough to know how fragile life really is and how fast it can all go wrong.

Jim Franco can be reached at francoj@spotlightnews.com or at (518)-878-1000.

COMMUNITY

Friendship Singers' 35th anniversary concert

Enjoy the Friendship Singers' 35th anniversary concert on Saturday, May 20, at 7:30 p.m. at the Delmar Reformed Church. There will be refreshments and a free will offering will be taken for Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc. We'll have dinner beforehand at Panera Bread, cost on your own.

Coffee and Conversation, at the Bethlehem Public Library on Friday, May 19, at 1:00 p.m., will feature "JFK and Camelot, 100th Birthday," presented by Professor Eric Martell. We'll have lunch before the program at Tool's Restaurant.

The Bethlehem Central School District budget vote will take place on Tuesday,



May 16 from 7 a.m. To 9 p.m. at Bethlehem Central High School. Transportation is available in the morning, Call 439-4955, ext. 1176, to register for the above events.

Second Milers

Join the Second Milers, a retired men's club, for lunch on June 14, at Normanside Country Club. Learn about the history of banjos in America as Tom Smith presents "Banjos I've Got'em". Call Bob Mulligan at 439-3802

The following support services are available:

- Home Energy Assistance Program, HEAP, by appointment.

- Senior Legal Services Program, by appointment.

- Breakfast at Tool's, Wed., May 17, 10 a.m.

- Current Events Discussion Group, Wed., May 17, 10:30 a.m.

- Alzheimer's Disease Caregiver Support Group, Wed., May 24.

- Medicare Basics, for those turning 65, Wed., May 24, 12:30

- Community Loan Closet: wheelchairs, canes, shower seats, etc.

Call 439-4955, ext. 1176, for more information or appointments.

Seniors Club

The Bethlehem Senior Citizens Club meets weekly on Thursdays for an enjoyable afternoon of games and socializing at the Bethlehem Town Hall auditorium, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, from 11 a.m. To 4 p.m. Bring a lunch and play pinochle, bingo, or mah jongg. Instructions can be arranged or just come for a chat with friends. Call Yvonne Mendleson at 472-0202 for more information.

Outreach available

Outreach Workers are available to assist with health insurance, housing issues, food stamps, Meals on Wheels, Food Pantry, and health and income

related programs. Make an appointment by calling 439-4955, ext. 1176.

Books to People

Books to People is a free library program that delivers books to those who are unable to visit the library. Request books, magazines, DVD's, CD's and audiobooks. Call 439-9314, and press 2.

Supplies needed

The Food Pantry is in need of cleaning supplies, deodorant, toilet paper, coffee, mustard, and canned vegetables and fruit. Bring your items to the pantry at Town Hall. If you would like to access the food pantry, call 439-4955, ext. 1176, to make an appointment.

Transportation available

Bethlehem Senior Transportation Service provides rides to medical, dental, therapy, and clinic appointments, grocery stores, and a variety of social and recreational programs. Come to the Senior Office in Town Hall for a copy of our newsletter or visit the Senior Services website at www.townofbethlehem.org.

Donations

Donations can be made to Bethlehem Senior Projects online at bethlehemsenioproject.org, or via check payable to Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc., 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY 12054.

— Wilma DeLucco

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■ COMMUNITY

YMCA annual campaign a success — thank you!



In one way or another, we are all connected to the YMCA. Maybe it's where you or your children learned to swim, skate, or play basketball. Maybe it's where you went to summer camp and made new friends. Perhaps it's where you joined a wellness class and got in the best shape of your life, or where your kids go to childcare to learn, grow, and thrive.

For the past three months, so many members, volunteers, staff, and community supporters made a very special connection to the Bethlehem YMCA by donating to our Annual Campaign.

Our 2017 Annual Campaign was, once again, a rousing success, raising well over \$112,000! The Bethlehem YMCA thanks everyone for their generosity.

One hundred percent of your donations stay in Bethlehem to provide financial assistance for individuals and families who otherwise could not afford to use the programs and services of the YMCA.

Remember, the Y never turns anyone away because of an inability to pay. It's only because of your contributions to our Annual Campaign scholarship program that we can make, and keep,

that commitment.

The Y changes lives, ignites spirits, and strengthens our community by delivering innovative programs that improve our quality of life in Bethlehem well beyond the people who participate in them. Your donations to the Annual Campaign ensure that the YMCA can take on the challenges facing our youth, our health, and our community.

In particular, the Bethlehem YMCA would like to thank the following businesses and organizations for their generous support of our Annual Campaign: Stewarts Foundation, Delmar Rotary Foundation, Adirondack Beverage, The Allstate Foundation, Bank of America, Momentive Performance Materials, National Union Bank of Kinderhook, Maynard, O'Connor, Smith & Catalinotto, Edward Jones Investments, Roux, Hill and Markes, Christmas Wish Foundation, SABIC, Roofing Innovations, Bonded Concrete Hockey Team, CL King, Bethlehem Youth Hockey,

Girvin & Ferlazzo PC, Tobin and Dempf, O'Connor, O'Connor, Bresee & First.

In addition, we would like to thank the volunteer members of the Bethlehem YMCA Advisory Council and the wonderful staff of the Y for spreading the good word about the Y's charitable mission and raising funds for the campaign.

In a speech to the national YMCA, President Theodore Roosevelt once said that "the best form of philanthropic endeavor is where we all do good to ourselves by all joining together to do good for one another. This is exactly what is done in your associations."

Your dues pay to operate the facility. Your gift changes lives. Thank you for donating so we can continue to help young people achieve their potential, empower people of all ages to lead healthier lives, and strengthen the bonds of community in our town.

In conclusion, a YMCA Annual Campaign Haiku:

Friends helping
 neighbors
 We are much more than
 a gym
 The Y is a cause

— Mark Hansen



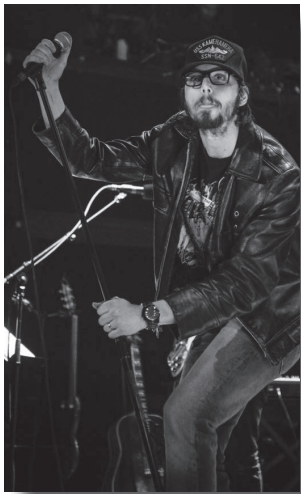
Whoops, a daisy!

Families throughout the region flocked to Indian Ladder Farms in Altamont on Saturday, May 6. The family farm opened its doors with a petting zoo featuring baby animals. There were pony rides, hay rides and fun in the sand, too. This weekend also marked the first anniversary for Indian Ladder's brewery and cidery. Flip to TheSpot518 for more pictures from the weekend.

Photos by Michael Hallisey / Spotlight



PICK OF THE WEEK



Hollis Brown
The edgy, roots-rock band out of Queens returns to the Capital District with a show at The Hollow Bar + Kitchen on Saturday, May 13.

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Urban forestry
A community with a green thumb plants trees in the Spa City.
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ENTERTAINMENT



Hit the gas already!



Holly & Evan is one of several acts slated to play at Albany's Tulip Festival this weekend.

Photo by Michael Hallisey / TheSpot518

Juggling day jobs takes time away from the music, but Holly & Evan keeps an eye on the big picture

By **MICHAEL HALLISEY**
halliseym@spotlightnews.com

ALBANY — Holly Taormina rushes into the quaint side room set behind the bar at The Orchard Tavern where her bandmates are waiting to order lunch.

"Words cannot describe how much I hate driving a car," she exclaims through clinched teeth, as she takes her seat. The Holly to Holly and Evan can be as tempestuous as the energy she exhibits on stage. Especially if she's caught behind someone driving too slowly. "I have no tolerance or patience for people who don't know how to put their foot on the gas pedal."

Between raising a family, logging in 40-plus hours at the U.S. Postal Service where she works, and the precious little time spent

with the band, Taormina is a woman with places to go and too much in her way. It's feeling shared by the rest of the band. There are obstacles standing in the way, and they're itching to move past. A local radio station continues to play a single the band released a few years ago. It's the only one they have. Despite having enough songs to cut a CD, finding the money and time to get together to record is a challenge in itself — something to which all bands juggling day jobs can relate.

"It's one of those things we want to get to," said Evan Conway. "It's tough to get everybody together to get this thing out. It's been like that for awhile." As with most bands, musicians juggle their time between the day jobs that pay the bills, and the nightlife that satiates their dreams to play music. No one is living off music alone. Except, maybe, Josh Greenberg, the band's sax player. He's a retired music teacher.

Continues on page B23
Music line-up on page B26

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▶ quote of the week

"I look at The Beatles, and Led Zeppelin and Jimi Hendrix, and I look at them as artwork. The way they dressed and the way they performed. Nowadays it's just plastic. Not to put anybody down. It's just not visually stimulating. It doesn't do anything for me visually or mentally. The clothes, you know? Fashion and music, it all goes together. Nobody is grasping that now.."

COLOR SPLASH

There's no mistaking spring when all is in bloom.

cpgettys / Instagram




— Holly Taormina, of Holly & Evan



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RECENTLY ANNOUNCED

'Ambitious' festival for ASO maestro

Albany Symphony's signature American Music Festival serves grand finale for music director's 25th anniversary season

TROY — The Albany Symphony plans to conclude David Alan Miller's 25th anniversary season with an "ambitious" arrangement for this year's American Music Festival.

The American Music Festival includes more than 15 concerts and events between Wednesday, May 31 and Sunday, June 4.

"The 2017 American Music Festival will be the our most ambitious and exciting festival yet," said Albany Symphony Orchestra's Music Director David Alan Miller. "It will celebrate the uniqueness of our Capital Region as the gateway to the Erie Canal, as we prepare to kick off the Erie Canal Bicentennial with our magnificent orchestral barge trip from Albany to Buffalo during the first week of July. Even more, it will celebrate the magnificent diversity and richness of living American composers and their music through a myriad of extraordinary and diverse concerts and related activities. We hope our friends and music lovers

everywhere will join us for lots of the events to experience the incredible breadth of contemporary musical art being created today. It's so much fun to just hang out with us and with all our amazing featured creative artists all weekend long."

This year's festival, "Water Music," will include more than 40 new works, including compositions by 2016 Grammy Award-winning composer Michael Daugherty, Christopher Theofanidis, Reena Esmail, Viet Cuong, Saad Haddad, and winners of the "Composer to Center Stage Reading Session" call-for-scores competition.

Many of the works amplify the festival's theme, which celebrates the waters that surround us, and advance the ASO's mission of giving voice to innovative new works, with a particular emphasis on young and emerging composers. Viet Cuong's newly commissioned work, which will be premiered by the ASO's new music ensemble, Dogs of Desire, is a programmatic concerto for the percussion quartet inspired by the limitless power of wind, water, and sun, and the technologies that are transforming the way communities generate sustainable energy. Cuong's premiere is part of the ASO's continuing partnership with GE Renewable Energy to explore the ways in which the arts, business, and technology can intersect and influence each other.

In addition to the Dogs of Desire performance on Friday, June 2 and the full orchestra's signature festival concert on Saturday, June 3, Festival highlights include 16 world premiere performances, "This Land Sings," a song-cycle by Michael Daugherty inspired by the life and times of Woody Guthrie, a recital by Sandbox Percussion, and the Argus Quartet, performing works by Christopher Theofanidis and Sleeping Giant's Rob Honstein and Chris Cerrone. T

The festival will also feature a special preview concert of seven newly commissioned works for "Water Music

NY," the orchestra's seven-day barge tour and cross-cultural celebration of the bicentennial of New York's Erie Canal to take place from July 2 to July 8 across New York state. Community events beyond the concert hall include a guided River Walk with the Rensselaer County Historical Society, and a curated poetry reading at Troy Kitchen.

For information, including how to purchase tickets and festival passes to the American Music Festival, visit albansymphony.com or call the Albany Symphony Box Office at (518) 694-3300.

'Dancing With The Stars: LIVE! — Hot Summer Nights' at The Palace

ALBANY — The hottest dance show on television comes to the Palace Theatre on Friday, June 23.

"Dancing With The Stars: LIVE! — Hot Summer Nights" features dancers Lindsay Arnold, Sharna Burgess, Artem Chigvintsev, Sasha Farber, Keo Motsepe, Gleb Savchenko, Emma Slater and more.

The production showcases every type of ballroom and modern dance seen on the hit television show, including sizzling group numbers, steamy duets and over the top original pieces choreographed and creative directed by four-time Emmy nominee Mandy Moore.

For tickets and information, call 800-745-300 or visit ticketmaster.com.

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Hollis Brown / Facebook

■ PICK OF THE WEEK

Hollis Brown in the Kitchen

Queens quintet to serve
a rootsy, edgy dish
of rock to Albany

By **MICHAEL HALLISEY**
halliseym@spotlightnews.com

ALBANY — Hollis Brown markets itself as an American rock band which, lately, is the best way to describe groups that lean towards the origins of rock and roll — a little bit of blues, a little bit of soul and a splash of funk.

Listen to Hollis Brown's latest single, "Run Right To You," off its October release "Velvet Elk," and you'll hear nothing that resembles the fabricated sound of Top 40 radio, or anything that would remind you of their home. The band takes its name from Bob Dylan's "Ballad of Hollis Brown," which opens with "He lived on the outside of town." Vocalist Mike Montali said the homage pays respect to what he perceives to be the song's message of redemption and rebirth. He and band co-founder Jonathan Bonilla call Queens home. Along with drummer Andrew Zehnal, from Cleveland, keyboardist Adam Bock, from St. Louis, and bass player Brian Courage, from Long Island, they play a sound that's more in place at a roadhouse in rural America than your coffeehouse in neighboring Brooklyn. "We somehow fit in though," said

Montali, who admits the roots-edge sound of Hollis Brown clashes against any dance scene perceived to come out of Manhattan or Long Island. "New York, historically, has had a lot of great bands come out from all different styles and great songwriting. So eclectic, that it's hard to really define.

"In particular with the New York scene, and the press, we're outsiders for sure, in a way," he said. The perception, however, is only reality to those expecting a band with "a couple of iPads and some synth."

"We do really well in New York," said Montali. "It's home, and it's been good to us."

Since forming in 2009, Hollis Brown has attached its name to Lou Reed, Bo Diddley and the Counting Crows. Its 2013 debut album "Ride On The Train," garnered song and video premieres from *Rolling Stone*, *Paste* and *American Songwriter*, along with placement in several movie trailers and an online ad campaign for Abercrombie & Fitch. Following a Reed tribute concert in New York City, Alive Naturalsound asked the band to record a tribute to the Velvet Underground's "Loaded," as a limited-edition vinyl release for Record Store Day 2014. "Hollis Brown Gets Loaded" took on a life of its own, with airplay on influential radio stations, resulting in a full CD and digital release.

Locals who didn't catch Hollis Brown's music through the above likely caught

on when the band tagged along with Counting Crows and Citizen Cope when the three played the Saratoga Performing Arts Center in the summer of 2015. Still relative no-names, the band that sounds nothing like New Amsterdam garnered the admiration of Crows' frontman Adam Duritz. Duritz, who updates Twitter more often than President Trump, constantly expressed praise towards Montali and his crew.

"I think that's pretty rare for a guy with his level of success," said Montali of Duritz. "He's a fan first. He always has been, more than a musician, himself. He loves music and he loves the process of seeing bands starting out in their hometowns to become national acts. ... We're fortunate that we got on his radar and made good friends with him."

Flash forward to 2017, Hollis Brown will tour across the country with stops at Mountain Jam, Karoondinha Festival and more. "Steady Ground" is a featured-exclusive on Amazon's playlist Amazon Acoustics. The band's vinyl EP, "Cluster of Pearls," was chosen as one of the 300 select releases throughout the world for Record Store Day last year. "Cluster of Pearls" followed the 2015 release "3 Shots," which featured Diddley's collaboration "Rain Dance," and the duet "Highway 1" with acclaimed alt-country songstress Nikki Lane.

Hollis Brown is home now, hitting gigs that are in driving distance, including a stop at The Hollow Bar + Kitchen on Saturday, May 13, in Albany.

"Hopefully we'll get some people out and have some fun," said Montali.

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NIGHT — State Champs

CLIFTON PARK — State Champs, Albany's red hot pop punk band, is drawing its domestic tour to a close with a show at Upstate Concert Hall on Saturday, May 13, before a final show in Boston.

The five-piece band has been busy. Last week the band dropped a deluxe version of "Around the World and Back" while relentlessly touring. The boys closed out a European tour back in March, quickly followed by a 28-stop jaunt across the United States. Once done with Saturday's homecoming, the band plays the Royale in Boston on Sunday, May 14.

For tickets and information, visit the band's Facebook page.

DAY — Tulip Fest

ALBANY — The City of Albany will host the 69th Annual Albany Tulip Festival on Saturday, May 13 and Sunday, May 14 in Washington Park.

The event includes nearly one hundred artisans selling handmade crafts, a fine arts show, a variety of food, a KidZone family fun destination, two stages of live entertainment and more than 140,000 tulips in 150 different varieties.

For the full schedule of events view online at www.albanyevents.org.



State Champs / Facebook



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Fri: **Scott Bassinson Quartet** | 9 p.m.
Sat: **Pete Sweeney Quartet** | 9 p.m.
- Albany Rail Yard**
1118 Central Ave., Albany. (518) 489-2990
Every Wed: **Salsa Night** | 8:30 p.m.
- Aperitivo**
426 State St., Schenectady.
(518) 579-3371
Tue: **Jecco** | 5:30 p.m.
- Arthur's Market**
35 N. Ferry St., Schenectady.
(518) 382-1938
Thur: **Dave Kitchen & Friends** | 7 p.m.
Fri: **Kitchen Jazz** | 7 p.m.
Sat: **Dan Eddo** | 7 p.m.
Sun: **Mike Kailas & the Buttercups** | 2 p.m.
Mon: **John Slovacek** | 7 p.m.
Tue: **Real Book Jazz Jam** | 7 p.m.
- Athos**
1814 Western Ave., Albany.
(518) 608-6400
Fri: **Tom DePetris Duo** | 7 p.m.
- Bier Abbey**
613 Union St., Schenectady.
(518) 388-3597
Sun: **Giroux Brothers** | 11 a.m.
- Black Cat Ale House**
25 White St., Cohoes. (518) 238-3445
Every Fri: **DJ** | 8 p.m.
- Caffè Lena**
47 Phila St., Saratoga Springs.
(518) 225-0882
Thur: **Sarah Lee Guthrie** | 7 p.m.
Fri: **Tom Chapin** | 8 p.m.
Sat: **John Craigie, Applesed Collective** | 8 p.m.
Sun: **NY Women Singing for Suffrage** (Mother's Day concert) | 7 p.m.
Every Mon: **Open Mic** | 7 p.m.
- Carney's Tavern**
17 Main St., Ballston Lake. (518) 280-7959
Every Thur: **Matty Finn** | 6 p.m.
Fri: **Winchester & Young** | 7:15 p.m.
Sat: **Jeff Brisbin** | 7:15 p.m.
- Carson's Woodside Tavern**
57 NY-9P, Malta. (518) 584-9791
Thur: **Russ Kennedy** | 7 p.m.
Fri: **John Stack** | 7 p.m.
Sat: **Jeff Walton** | 7 p.m.
- Castle Street Café**
10 Castle St., Great Barrington, Mass.
(413) 528-5244
Fri: **Fred Shehadi Trio** | 7:30 p.m.
Sat: **Ben Kohn Trio** | 7:30 p.m.
- Centre Street Pub**
308 Union St., Schenectady.
(518) 393-2337
Thur: **Steve Cowles** | 7 p.m.
Fri: **Up-Rooted** | 5 p.m.
Joel Fisher Band | 9 p.m.

ARTS CALENDAR



Low-key celebration of major milestone

Thirty years after hitting it big with chart toppers "Fadeaway," "Only Love," and "Dreams," the BoDeans have survived the ups and downs of the music industry, while remaining true to their sound and style. They'll be at The Egg Saturday night getting to the soul of their repertoire during their new show, "Stripped Down: Beautiful Renditions of BoDeans Classics." For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.theegg.org.

Photo courtesy Northstar Artists

- Chrome Food & Spirits**
405 Hudson River Rd., Waterford.
(518) 326-2725
Sat: **ROKKEN, Hungry Dingo, Wasteland Junction, Within the Fire** | 7 p.m.
- City Beer Hall**
42 Howard St., Albany.
(518) 449-2337
Every Sat: **90s Dance Party** | 11 p.m.
- Club Helsinki**
405 Columbia St., Hudson.
(518) 828-4800 or helsinki.hudson.com
Sat: **Shannon McNally** | 9 p.m.
- Daily Grind**
46 Third St., Troy.
(518) 272-8658
Every Sun: **Sheiks of Third Street** | noon
- Diamond Club Grill**
Embassy Suites, 88 Congress St., Saratoga Springs. (518) 886-1111
Sat: **Colaberayshen** | 7:30 p.m.
- Dolce Vita**
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- Dukes Chophouse**
Rivers Casino, 1 Rush St., Schenectady.
(518) 579-8850
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Fri: **David Gleason** | 5:30 p.m.
Sat: **Lecco** | 5:30 p.m.
- Eden Cafe**
269 Osborne Rd., Loudonville.
(518) 977-3771
Sat: **Everest Rising** | 7:30 p.m.
- Emack & Bolio's**
366 Delaware Ave., Albany.
(518) 512-5100
Fri: **Randall Mauger** | 7 p.m.
Sat: **Deb Cavanaugh** | 7 p.m.
Every Tue: **Open Mic** | 7 p.m.
- The Fountain Restaurant**
283 New Scotland Ave., Albany.
(518) 482-9898
Fri & Sat: **Skip Parsons' Riverboat Jazz Band** | 9:30 p.m.
- Fuze Box**
12 Central Ave., Albany. (518) 703-8937
Fri: **Selector David Normal, DJ Tall Ass Matt** (soul night) | 9 p.m.
Sat: **80s Night** | 9 p.m.
Mon: **No Zodiac, Tentacles, Scavengers, Burn Book** | 9 p.m.
- Gaffney's**
16 Caroline St., Saratoga Springs.
(518) 587-7359
Thur: **Wheel Decide** | 8 p.m.
Fri: **Megan Houck** | 6 p.m.
Sat: **Bad Chaperones** | 9 p.m.
Sun: **James Hood** | 6 p.m.
- Ginger Man**
234 Western Ave., Albany.
(518) 427-5963
Fri: **Tim Williams** | 7 p.m.
- Grappa '72**
818 Central Ave., Albany. (518) 482-7200
Wed & Thur: **Hamilton Street Jazz Company** | 6:30 p.m.
Fri: **Peg & Bill Delaney with Earl Davis** | 6:30 p.m.
- The Half Moon**
48 S. Front St., Hudson.
thehalfmoonhudson.com
Wed: **Charlie Parr, Lorkin O'Reilly, Brett Miller** | 8 p.m.
Fri: **Landlady, Chaos Chaos** | 8 p.m.
Tue: **Ora Cogan, Jeffrey Lewis** | 8 p.m.
- Hamlet and Ghost**
24 Caroline St., Saratoga Springs.
(518) 450-7287
Wed: **Hot Club of Saratoga Trio** | 7 p.m.
- The Happy Cappuccino**
1 Crossgates Mall Rd., Albany.
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Every Fri: **Jecco** | 12 p.m.
- The Hollow Bar + Kitchen**
79 N. Pearl St., Albany. (518) 426-8550
Wed: **Mona, Flagship** | 9 p.m.
Fri: **Mister F, Teddy Midnight** | 9:30 p.m.
Sat: **Hollis Brown, Lost Leaders** | 9 p.m.
- Hudson River Music Hall**
10 Maple St., Hudson Falls.
(518) 832-3484
Sat: **Hungry Jack & The Schadenfreude Circus** | 8 p.m.
- J.J. Rafferty's**
847 New Loudon Rd., Latham.
(518) 783-6800
Every Fri & Sat: **DJ Billy** | 9 p.m.
- The Low Beat**
335 Central Ave., (518) 432-6572
Wed: **Hamell on Trial** | 7 p.m.
Every Wed: **The Deadbeats** | 10 p.m.
Thur: **Downstairs Work, Charlie Buggie, The Solar Gypsies** | 8 p.m.
Fri: **WCAA Benefit** | 8 p.m.
Sat: **Open Singer/Songwriter Showcase** | 1 p.m.
Taylor Wing | 8 p.m.
- McGeary's**
4 Clinton Square, Albany.
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Every Sun: **Blues Jam** | 7:30 p.m.
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(518) 584-6665
Sun: **Hot Club of Saratoga Trio** | noon
- Moon & River Café**
115 S. Ferry St., Schenectady.
(518) 377-5100
Wed: **Jamie Gilliland** | 7 p.m.
Thur: **Jakera Nelson** | 7 p.m.
Fri: **Arya Chowdhury** | 7 p.m.
Sat: **Tom McWaters** | 2 p.m.
Sun: **Rockstar Open Mic** | 7:30 p.m.
Tue: **Dave Kitchen Trio** | 7 p.m.
- Mouzon House**
1 York St., Saratoga Springs.
(518) 226-0014
Thur: **Hot Club of Saratoga Trio** | 7 p.m.
Fri: **Allen Halstead & 'Azzaam Hameed** | 6 p.m.
Sat: **Joe Gitto & Dan Wancyk** | 6:30 p.m.
- Nanola**
2639 US Rte. 9, Malta.
(518) 587-1300
Fri: **Skeeter Creek** | 8 p.m.
- Newberry Music Hall**
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Sat: **Parsonsfield, Animal Years** | 9 p.m.
- Oh Bar**
304 Lark St., Albany.
(518) 463-9004
Thur: **Karaoke** | 10 p.m.
- One Caroline Street**
1 Caroline St., Saratoga Springs.
(518) 587-2026
Wed: **The Masters of Nostalgia** | 8:30 p.m.
Thur: **Rodeo Barons** | 8:30 p.m.
Fri: **Jill Hughes Band** | 9 p.m.
Sat: **Gobhi, Nick Connors** | 9 p.m.
Sun: **Jazz Jam Session** | 7 p.m.
Mon: **Home Body** | 10 p.m.
- Parish Public House**
388 Broadway, Albany. (518) 365-0444
Fri: **Primal Static, Becoming a Ghost, The Further Unsound, Bendt** | 8 p.m.
- Panza's**
510 NY Rte. 9P (on Saratoga Lake), Saratoga Springs. (518) 584-6882
Sun: **Charles Cornell Trio** | 7 p.m.
- The Parting Glass**
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Wed & Thur: **Irish Celtic Session** | 7 p.m.
Fri: **Black Abby** | 8 p.m.
Sat: **Forthlin Road** | 9 p.m.
- Pauly's Hotel**
337 Central Ave., Albany. paulyshotel.com
Thur: **Open Mic** | 8 p.m.
Fri: **Mark "Porkchop" Holder, The Hard Luck Souls** | 8:30 p.m.

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MAY 27, 2017 8PM \$18

Children's Star Sighting
Interactive program exploring the stars, planets, comets and constellations in the night sky. For families with children ages 3-7. Sat., May 20, 11 a.m. Albany Visitors Center, 25 Quackenbush Square, Albany. \$3 per seat. (518) 434-1217 or www.albany.org/visitors-center.

The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley
Follow Stanley Lipscomb on a trip around the globe in this musical that introduces children to the magic of live theater and our world's many cultures. Sun., May 21, 2 p.m. Palace Theater, 19 Clinton Ave., Albany. Adults, \$20; Children ages 12 and younger admitted for free thanks to GE Kids in Free program. (518) 465-4663 or www.palacealbany.org/events/detail/the-musical-adventures-of-flat-stanley.

FILM

Top Gun
Students at the United States' elite fighter pilot school compete to be the best in the class. However, one daring young pilot learns a few things outside the classroom from a civilian instructor. Rated PG. Part of the Citizen's Bank Movie Series. Mon. May, 15, 7 p.m. Palace Theatre, 19 Clinton Ave., Albany. \$5. (518) 465-4663 or www.palacealbany.org/events/detail/top-gun.

LITERARY

Arthur Levy
Author of "Coda: A Tale of Tchaikovsky's Secret Love," will read, discuss and sign copies of this new historical fiction novel. Fri., May 12, 6 p.m. Northshire Bookstore, 424 Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Free. (518) 682-4200 or www.northshire.com.

Romance Author Spotlight
Conversations, brief readings and book signings with Jean C. Gordon, Laura Heffernan, Tori Knightwood, Morgan Malone and Rachael Miles. Sat., May 13, 6 p.m. Northshire Bookstore, 424 Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Free. (518) 682-4200 or www.northshire.com.

Nitty Gritty Poetry Slam and Open Mic
Albany's official poetry slam. Tues, May 16. Sign up starts at 7 p.m., followed by open mic at 7:30 p.m. and slam at 8 p.m. 18+ only. The Low Beat, 335 Central Ave., Albany. \$3 before 7:30 p.m.; \$5 after 7:30 p.m. www.albanypoets.com/nittygrittyslam.

Writers workshop
Bi-weekly writers' get together. Eat, drink, schmooze and share, but, mostly write. Like mad. Thurs., May 18, at 6 p.m., Tech Valley Center of Gravity, Quackenbush Building, 30 Third St., Troy. Free. www.tvcog.org.

Third Thursday Poetry Night
A reading by featured poet followed by an open mic for community poets. Thurs., May 18, 7 p.m. Albany Social Justice Center, 33 Central Ave., Albany. \$3 donation requested. (518) 482-0262 or dwlx@earthlink.net.

EDUCATION

All God's Creatures: The Shakers and their Animals
Learn about the Shakers relationship with animals. Thurs., May 11, 6 p.m. Eden Cafe, 269 Osborne Rd., Loudonville. Free. (518) 977-3771 or www.edenasc.com.

Gallery Talk
Take a guided walk through the galleries with a member of the Clark's education team. Saturdays at 1 p.m. through May The Clark Art Institute, 225 South St., Williamstown, Mass. www.clarkart.edu.

Women on Wheels
Learn how Gilded age women found freedom through bicycling, fought against people who tried to stop them, and why it matters today with Ellen Gruber Garvey. Sat., May 13, 2 p.m.

Schenectady County Historical Society, 32 Washington St., Schenectady. Free. (518) 374-0263 or schenectadyhistorical.org.

Albany Star Sighting
Interactive program identifies stars, planets, comets and constellations in the night sky and the tools and techniques for becoming an amateur astronomer. Geared for skywatchers 8 and above. Sat., May 20, 1 p.m. Albany Visitors Center, 25 Quackenbush Square, Albany. \$3 per seat. (518) 434-1217 or www.albany.org/visitors-center.

Hooked on Blacksmithing
Learn how to make hooks and adjustable fireplace trammels with resident blacksmith, John Ackner. Sun., May 21, 9 a.m. To 5 p.m. Mabee Farm Historic Site, 1100 Main St. (Route 55), Rotterdam Junction. \$150 (includes materials); registration required at schenectadyhistorical.org/workshops.

MISCELLANEOUS

Schenectady Greenmarket Summer Market
Regional vendors selling groceries, take-away meals and artisanal items. Sundays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., outdoors around City Hall, 105 Jay St., Schenectady. schenectadygreenmarket.org.

Together Tuesday
Tuesday nights in Eden Café are set-aside for groups to have a time of team building. Our groups have found that they often can get more accomplished out of the office than in. Safe, non-alcoholic environment where trust can be fostered. Tuesdays, 4:30 to 9 p.m., 269 Osborne Rd., Loudonville. (518) 977-3771.

Veteran Meet-Up
All veterans welcome to free coffee every Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. Saratoga Coffee Traders, 447 Broadway, Saratoga Springs. (518) 884-4999 or www.VeteransPeerConnection.org.

Social Night Potluck at CoG
Every Tuesday night, we gather with food and conversation. Free. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Tech Valley Center of Gravity, 30 Third St., Troy. (518) 279-7863 or www.tvcog.net.

Geeks Who Drink
A quiz show with eight rounds of eight questions each, including a music round, an audio round and a picture round. Free to play, with prizes for the top two teams and bonus prizes throughout the game. Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Olde English Pub, 683 Broadway, Albany.

Full Moon Frog Watch
Listen to a chorus of frogs and toads while hiking over rolling terrain. Wed., May 10, 7:30 p.m. Ages 10+; limited to 23 participants. Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center, 195 New Karner Rd. Albany. Free. Registration required. (518) 456-0655 or https://www.albanypinebush.org/events/detail.cfm?id=2136

518 Baby Boom & Mother-to-be-Expo
Exhibits, prizes, refreshments, free samples and raffles geared towards expecting parents and their families. Thurs., May 11, 5 to 8 p.m. Empire Room and Terrace, Albany Marriott, 189 Wolf Rd. Albany. Free, registration preferred. https://www.facebook.com/events/1848914852050424/

Garden Treasures and Other Pleasures
Learn about this year's gardening trends during a wine and cheese party to kick off ticket sales for the 2017 Secret Gardens Tour taking place on Sunday, July 9. Presented by the Soroptimists of Saratoga County. Fri., May 12, 5:30 to 8 p.m. Sunnyside Gardens, 345 Church St., Saratoga Springs. Free; RSVP with name and number of guests to secretgardensinfo@gmail.com no later than May 11. (518) 584-1034 or soroptimistsaratoga.org.

Birds and Bagels
Bring an appetite and a pair of binoculars

for a two-hour walk along the trails of Karner Barrens East to see and watch the birds. Sat., May 13, 7:30 a.m. Ages 10+; limited to 23 participants. Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center, 195 New Karner Rd., Albany. \$3/person or \$5/family; pre-registration required. (518) 456-0655 or https://www.albanypinebush.org/events/detail.cfm?id=2137.

Cohoes Proud Car Show
Inaugural classed and judged show featuring cars, motorcycles, vendors and live music will take up a full city block. Proceeds to benefit the Cohoes Veteran Memorial Fund. Sat., May 13. Registration at 9 a.m. Cohoes City Hall, 97 Mohawk St., Cohoes. \$15 to register (\$10 for veterans); spectators free. (518) 514-8193 or CohoesProudCarShow.com.

Social Media: Make Art, Make Friends
Channel your inner Patrick Swayze (again) and learn how to throw on the potter's wheel. The only mudslide you'll be experiencing is the one in your glass. Tues., May 16, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Arts Center of the Capital Region, 265 River St., Troy. \$35 (materials and nibbles; additional cost for cocktails and other beverages); registration required. (518) 273-0552 or artscenonline.org.

SPAC Rock & Run
Enjoy live music from local bands while running through the beautiful grounds of the Saratoga Spa State Park during this annual fundraiser which benefits SPAC's children's education and classical programming. Children's 50-yard dash, 5K, 10K and half marathon (13.1 miles) races available. Sun., May 21, first race steps off at 7:30 a.m. Followed by post race party with live music, refreshments and children's activities. Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Spa State Park, Saratoga Springs. Entry fees range from \$5 to \$50; fees increase from \$10 to \$60 May 16. (518) 584-9330 or www.spac.org/events/2017/05/21/spac-rock-run. Race registration at www.zippyreg.com/online_reg/reg2017.php?e=878.

EXHIBITS

Albany Institute of History and Art
"Captured Moments: 170 Years of Photography from the Albany Institute," through May 21; "Wampum World: An Art Installation by René Ridgeway," and "The Hudson River School," both through June 18; and "Spotlight: Erie Canal" which marks the bicentennial of the project's ground breaking; through Aug. 20. Plus ongoing exhibits. Hours: Wed.: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thurs.: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Fri. and Sat.: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun.: noon to 5 p.m. Admission: Adults, \$10; seniors/ students (w/ID), \$8; children ages 6 to 12, \$6; children 5 and younger, free. 125 Washington Ave., (518) 463-4478 or www.albanyinstitute.org.

Albany International Airport "Cloudlands," featuring structures and images by Naoe Suzuki, Edward Mayer, Julie Evans, Susan Meyer, Dana Filibert, Joshua Field and Gina Ruggeri, through July 31. Open daily: 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Free admission. Gallery, third floor, 737 Albany Shaker Road, Latham. (518) 242-2241 or arts@albanyairport.com.

Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center "National Natural Landmark," New, special show focused on the sand dunes from their formation to their impacts on the current landscape, Through June 30. Open weekdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; weekends/holidays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission. 195 New Karner Rd., Albany. (518) 456-0655 or albanypinebush.org.

Arts Center of the Capital Region
Upcoming: 52nd Annual Fence Show,

featuring more than 500 pieces, including paintings, drawings, photographs, and sculptures along with fiber arts and stained glass works and created by Arts Center members displayed salon style in the galleries. Opens Thurs., May 18. Artists' reception on Fri., May 26, from 5 to 9 p.m. Through Sun., July 2. 265 River St., Troy. Open Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m. To 7:30 p.m., Fri., 9 a.m. To 4 p.m., Sat., 9 a.m. To 5 p.m. and Sun., noon to 4 p.m. Free admission. (518) 273-0552 or artscenteronline.org.

Capital Region BOCES

Arts & Enrichment Services 29th Annual Student Art Show, featuring works created by students in North Colonie, Voorheesville and Watervliet school districts among others. Open weekdays during regular business hours. Through Thurs., May 25. Central Administration, 900 Watervliet-Shaker Rd., Suite 102, Albany. Free. (518) 464-3910.

CapitalRep

"Humanize, Not Militarize," a traveling exhibit of posters from the American Friends Service Committee, which portray the effects of militarism and racism at home and abroad. Presented by the Capital District Women Against War. Access to exhibit opens two hours prior to "Some People Hear Thunder" performances. Through Sun., May 21. 111 North Pearl St., Albany. Free admission. (518) 527-7110 or www.womenagainstar.org.

The Clark Institute

New: **Lauzon Glass Study Gallery**, which showcases the Institute's collection of American glass, most of which has never been on view. Opens Sun., May 14. Continuing: **"Looking North and South: European Prints and Drawings, 1500-1600,"** an exploration of the exchange between artists working in the Netherlands, Germany, and Italy, through May 29; **"An Inner World,"**

features seven exceptional genre paintings by Dutch artists working in or near the city of Leiden in the 17th century, through Sept. 17; and **"Thomas Schutte: Crystal,"** the artist's first full-scale architectural work in the U.S., through Oct. 9. Plus ongoing exhibits. Open Tues. through Sun., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: adults, \$20; children 18 and younger, free. 225 South St., Williamstown, Mass. www.clarkart.edu.

Clement Art Gallery

Earth Day and Mother's Day Show. Celebrate the spring awakening of our beautiful Mother Earth and the annual special day in May when we express our love and appreciation for our beautiful Moms with a diverse selection of works, through May 26. Open weekdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission. 201 Broadway, Troy. (518) 272-6811 or clementart.com.

Collar Works

RPI Electronic Arts Graduate Exhibition. Spring semester show featuring works by students in the School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences' Master of Fine Arts and Ph.D. in Electronic Arts programs. Through Thurs., May 11. Open Wed., May 10, and Thurs., May 11, from 2 to 6 p.m. Free admission. 621 River St., Troy. (518) 285-0765 or www.collarworks.org.

Dan Sekellick Gallery

Oil paintings by Bob Blackmon, featuring still lifes and pieces from his Ireland Collection. Through Mon., May 15. Sand Lake Center for the Arts, 2280 NY Rte. 43, Averill Park. Open by appointment only. Free admission. (518) 674-2007 or info@slca-ctp.org.

510 Warren Street Gallery

"InsideOutThere," a picture assemblage with blinds by George Guarino. Through Sat., May 27. Open: Fri. and Sat., noon to 6; Sun., noon to 5 p.m. 510 Warren St., Hudson. Free admission. (518) 822-0510 or www.510warrenstreetgallery.com

The Hyde Collection

Now open: **The Juried High School Show**, 27th annual show featuring works by students in Warren, Washington, Saratoga, Hamilton and Essex counties. Through Sun., May 28. Ongoing: **"American Artists in Europe,"** featuring selections from the permanent collection that illustrate the lure and influence of European travel on 19th and 20th century American artists. Through June 11. Also, **"Lorna Bieber: Forces of Nature,"** photo murals and montages which reinterpret the natural world as an ethereal and poetic place. Through May 14. Plus permanent exhibitions. Open: Tues. through Sat., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun., noon to 5 p.m. Admission: adults, \$12; seniors (60+), \$10; children/students (w/ID)/active military and families, free. 161 Warren St., Glens Falls. (518) 792-1761 or www.hydecollection.org.

Mandeville Gallery

"Branding the AfroFuture" by Stacey Robinson. Multimedia work discusses "Black Utopias" as spaces of peace away from colonial influence by considering Black protest movements and the art movements that document them. Part of the Art Installation Series, through March 2018 at the Schaffer Library Learning Commons. Also **"Radical Kingdoms,"** through June 18. Union College, 807 Union St., Schenectady. Free. (518) 388-6004 or muse.union.edu/mandeville/home.

miSci

"Tinkering: Bring Out Your Inner Engineer," a hands-on exhibit from the San Francisco Exploratorium, through May 17. Plus ongoing exhibits. 15 Nott Terrace Heights, Schenectady. (518) 382-7890 or www.miSci.org.

National Museum of Dance

"Art in the Foyer," annual fine art series features photographs by Paul Kolnik. Also **"The Dancing Athlete,"** "50 Years

at SPAC, Hall of Fame Inductees

Patricia Wilde and Gregory Hines. Plus ongoing exhibits. 99 South Broadway, Saratoga Springs. (518) 584-2225 or www.dancemuseum.org.

New York Folklore Society

"Farm and Field: The Rural Folk Arts of the Catskill Region," black and white photographs by Benjamin Halpern which document and showcase the rural folk arts rooted in the state's agricultural heritage. 129 Jay St., Schenectady. (518) 346-7008 or www.nyfolklore.org.

New York State Museum

"A Spirit of Sacrifice: New York State in the First World War," featuring artifacts, images, posters and documents from collections at the Museum, State Archives, State Library and other cultural institutions. Through June 3, 2018. Also, **"The People's Art: Selections from the Empire State Plaza Art Collection,"** through Sept. 3; and **"Hudson Valley Ruins,"** through Dec. 31. Plus ongoing exhibits. Empire State Plaza, 222 Madison Ave., Albany. (518) 474-5877 or www.nysm.nysed.gov.

Oakwood Community Center

Final Capital District showing of **"Humanize, Not Militarize,"** (see description under CapitalRep). On view weekdays and Saturdays through May 20. Hours vary; visit the website below for specific viewing times. 313 Tenth St., Troy. Free. (518) 527-7110 or www.womenagainstar.org.

Opalka Gallery

13th Annual Bachelor of Fine Arts Exhibition, featuring student work from the Interior + Spatial Design, Fine Art, Graphic + Media Design, and Photography programs. Through Sat., June 17. The Sage College of Albany, 140 New Scotland Ave., Albany. Free. (518) 292-7742 or opalka.sage.edu.

Photographic Expressions Studio & Gallery

"PHOTO21: We are of time," second annual juried group exhibition featuring works by David Aimone, Jeanne Finley, Alex Nye, Courtney Stannard, Lawrence White and Jennifer Wilkerson. Through June 30. 455 Broadway, Troy. Free. www.photographicexp.com.

Saratoga Arts

Open Spaces (Main Gallery), featuring works by Matt Chinian, Cheryl Horning, Kelly Schoonbeck and Takeyce Walter which explore the observance of beauty and change in our surroundings. Through Sat., June 17. Also **Paintings by Susan Beadle** (Reception Gallery) and **Paintings by Maria Tsai** (Members' Hall Gallery). 320 Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Free. (518) 584-4132 or www.saratoga-arts.org.

Saratoga Auto Museum

"The Gavel: Cars of the Saratoga Auto Auction," which takes a look at the history, process, popularity and potential of automobile collecting along with **"Auto Sketches by Robert Selkowitz,"** and **"Photography by Michael DiPlecco,"** through Sept. 17. Plus ongoing exhibits. 110 Avenue of the Pines, Saratoga Spa State Park, Saratoga Springs. saratogaautomuseum.org.

Schenectady County

Historical Society

"Together Until the End: Schenectady in World War I," through Nov. 2017. Plus ongoing exhibits. Admission: \$5. Weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 32 Washington Ave., Schenectady. (518) 374-0263 or www.schenectadyhistorical.org.

Tang Teaching Museum

"If I Had Possession Over Judgement Day: Collections of Claud Simard," featuring art and objects from across centuries and continents, through Sept. 24. **"Janine Antoni & Stephen Petronio: Entangle,"** collaborative works which combine action, video

and installation: **"Honey Baby,"** May 13 through July 16. Also, **"Elevator Music 33: Up = Out: A Sun Ra Mixtape,"** featuring seven tracks from the artist, through Aug. 27, and **"Liz Collins — Energy Field,"** a long-running installation created as a lounge and social space for visitors and students, through Sept. 10. Skidmore College, 815 North Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Free; donations suggested. tang.skidmore.edu.

University Art Museum

Upcoming: **Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition.** Through Sun., May 21. Uptown Campus, University at Albany, 1400 Washington Ave., Albany. Hours: Tues., 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Wed. through Fri., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat. noon to 4 p.m. Free. (518) 442-4035 or www.albany.edu/museum.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Mabee Farm Historic Site

Seeking artists, crafters and vendors for its CanalFest (July 15), Arts & Crafts Festival (Aug. 26) and Fall Foliage Festival (Oct. 15). (518) 887-5073 or www.schenectadyhistorical.org.

Saratoga Arts

Artists are invited to schedule a month-long exhibit as part of the Art in Public Places program. For details, visit www.saratoga-arts.org/exhibitions/publicplaces. To schedule an exhibit, e-mail Emma Huneck, exhibitions coordinator, at ehuneck@saratoga-arts.org with your top two choices of location and month. Exhibitions are scheduled on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Thursday Musical Club

All women's chorus seeks new members. Rehearsals are Wednesdays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, 603 State St., Schenectady. Info.: email mlekd@verizon.net.

LAKEGEORGE.COM

ELVIS

May 31-June 4, 2017
Lake George, NY
at the Lake George Forum and venues throughout the Village

Starring All ten of Graceland's Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artists: Shawn Klush, Brandon Bennett, Bill Cherry, Justin Shandor, Cody Ray Slaughter, Ben Portsmouth, Dean Z, Jay Dupuis, David Lee and Dwight Icenhower. Plus the Lake George Elvis Festival Champion Tim Hendry and past champion Robert Washington.

- Three nights of concerts with the world's very best Elvis Entertainers on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
- Elvis Gospel Music Celebration on Sunday morning featuring many of our headliners.
- A three-day Elvis Tribute Artist Contest Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
- Elvis entertainers performing throughout the Village of Lake George on Saturday
- Late night After Hours Parties each evening
- Cruises on Lake George
- An Elvis collectibles sale and a whole lot more!

FESTIVAL

Visit our website or call 888-406-5885 for information and tickets.
WWW.ELVISFESTIVAL.COM

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AWARD WINNING BBQ & LIVE MUSIC!
KITCHEN OPEN UNTIL MIDNIGHT.
26 BEERS ON TAP. ★★★★★

FRIDAY
May 12, 2017 | 9 pm
BAD MOTHERS
WITH SHOEBOX DOJO

SATURDAY
May 13, 2017 | 9 pm
THE WHEEL

FRIDAY
May 19, 2017 | 9 pm
KIMONO DRAGONS
& THE RECHORDUROYS

SATURDAY
May 20, 2017 | 9 pm
KRISTEN CAPOLINO

518.308.0400 ★ 377 RIVER ST, TROY, NY ★ DINOBBQ.COM



Food & Vino

Grilled Salmon and Pineapple
with Avocado salsa

By **MICKEY SPELVIN**
news@spotlightnews.com

CULINARY ARTS

Ingredients — Serves four

- 1 1/2 *tbsp extra virgin olive oil*
- 2 *tsp chopped fresh basil leaves (plus some for garnish)*
- 1 1/2 *tsp chopped green onion (or chives)*
- 1 *tsp chopped fresh tarragon leaves (or 1/3 tsp dried tarragon)*
- 1/2 *tsp kosher salt*
- 1/2 *tsp freshly ground black pepper*
- 1 *pound salmon fillets, about 1 inch thick*
- 4 1/2 *inch thick slices of pineapple (round or lengthwise)*
- Avocado Dressing*
- 1 *avocado diced*
- 4 *tbsp chopped fresh basil*
- 2 *tbsp chopped green onion or chives*
- 1 *tbsp finely chopped fresh tarragon or 1 tsp dried tarragon*
- 2 *small garlic cloves, finely chopped*
- 2 *tbsp extra virgin olive oil*
- 1 *tbsp fresh lemon juice*
- 1/4 *tsp anchovy paste*
- 1/4 *tsp kosher salt*
- 1/4 *tsp freshly ground black pepper*

Directions

Combine all of the avocado dressing ingredients in a food processor, add 2 Tbsp of water, and process until smooth. Cover and let stand for 15-60 minutes at room temperature to blend the flavors. Preheat gas grill to medium high. In a small bowl, whisk the basil, oil, green onion, tarragon, salt and pepper to blend. Brush the mixture on the salmon and pineapple slices. Put the salmon and pineapple on the grill and cook both about 4 minutes per side until salmon is just pink in the middle and pineapple is lightly charred. Transfer 1 piece of salmon and pineapple on each plate, spoon two tbsp of avocado dressing over each piece of fish, and garnish with fresh herb sprigs. Put the extra avocado dressing in a small bowl on the table.

Pairing

Woodbridge 'Robert Mondavi' Sauvignon Blanc
Robert Mondavi Winery — California

The winery notes suggest hints of “vibrant citrus, pear and tropical fruit” providing a wonderful pairing to this meal.



HOROSCOPES

May 2017
Week 2

CAPRICORN

December 22 – January 19

Easy come, easy go, Capricorn. You knew it wouldn't last, so try not to be so disappointed. A friend makes an announcement. Oh boy, oh boy!

AQUARIUS

January 20– February 18

Back off, Aquarius. This is not your fight to fight. A message alleviates concerns over the health of a senior. A book continues to mystify.

PISCES

February 19 – March 20

Relax, Pisces. The project is closer to conclusion than you think. An acquaintance makes an uncanny observation and gives you something to ponder.

ARIES

March 21 – April 19

Step up, Aries. Prove your worthiness, and you will earn all that you seek. A loved one waves the white flag. Time to call a truce. An announcement is made.

TAURUS

April 20 – May 20

Trouble in paradise, Taurus? Don't save face. Admit your mistakes and express your regrets. Forgiveness will come, but it won't come easily.

GEMINI

May 21 – June 21

You work hard, too hard, Gemini. Find some time to play this week before you run yourself ragged. An insurance policy is rewritten to your satisfaction.

CANCER

June 22 – July 22

Questions arise when a loved one drops in for a visit. Don't pry too much, Cancer. The less you know, the better. A catty remark gets a conversation started.

LEO

July 23 – August 22

Money matters come to a head, and you must make serious budget cuts in order to succeed, Leo. A deadline is extended, allowing for more wiggle room.

VIRGO

August 23 – September 22

Charge, Virgo. There is no time to waste. You need to finish a project before the next one begins. Enlist some help, professional help if you must.

LIBRA

September 23 – October 22

Up for a walk down memory lane, Libra? You better be, as an old friend drops by. You'll learn a lot you didn't know, including tidbits about an old flame.

SCORPIO

October 23 – November 21

Feeling out of sorts? You are not alone, Scorpio. Find something fun to do to recharge. A craft project takes a different turn. Go with it!

SAGITTARIUS

November 22 – December 21

Wish you could make some headway with a loved one, Sagittarius? Wish no more. A major breakthrough is on the way. An auto issue is resolved.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Coffee lovers are cheated by creamers

“Fat free” products are, indeed, free of fat, but they aren’t necessarily healthier choices

By **DAN ROMAND**
news@spotlightnews.com

Last week, one of the members of our FCFNY Fitness Family asked me about the creamer she used in her coffee. She love the taste of French vanilla, and frankly, who doesn’t?

As we talked about it, she said she opted for the fat free version. While I admire her for making the effort, like many, she got fooled into thinking “fat free” is healthier.

Problem is, while a “fat free” label implies a healthier product, when you look into the details on the other side of the bottle, you learn it’s just the opposite. It’s all a marketing trick to get you to buy something that, if they actually labeled it for what it is, you likely wouldn’t go near it. All of which is perfectly legal I might add.

Let’s look at our French vanilla coffee “friend” mentioned above, and let’s look at the nutritional information.

One tablespoon serving contains the following:

- 25 calories
- 0 grams of fat*
- 5 grams of carbs
- 0 grams of protein

*the “fat free” saves you a “whopping” 1.5 grams of fat, as compared to their regular version.

Now, at first glance, none of this looks too bad. But, here’s the thing: First off, most people pour much more than one tablespoon in their coffee — more like two or three times that much— and, second, most people have more than one cup a day. But, as bad as that is, it’s when you look at the ingredients



that the real nutritional nightmare becomes apparent.

I went to the product’s website to attempt to find the ingredient list. Frankly, I’d have a better chance of finding a unicorn than I would the ingredient list. If that doesn’t scare you, it should certainly concern you. But, perseverance paid off and I was able to find it from another source.

The first ingredient is water. Okay. I think we can agree water isn’t a bad thing. I’d argue most of us need more of it in our diet but that’s where the “good” ends.

The second ingredient is sugar. How much? Well, we don’t exactly know but since there are five grams of carbs, we can assume there’s at least a teaspoon of sugar, because a teaspoon is equivalent to four grams of carbs.

The next ingredient listed is vegetable oil, specifically high oleic soybean or canola oil. Yes, our product is technically fat free, but that doesn’t mean they don’t make this stuff out of oil.

Finally, the list of ingredients that falls below the mandated two percent includes mono and di-glycerides, dipotassium phosphate, artificial flavors and sodium caseinate. Try saying that three times fast! What don’t you see in the ingredients for this CREAMER? Well, for one, there isn’t a lick of cream in it. What else isn’t in the ingredient list of this vanilla flavored Frankenfood? Well, vanilla, of course.

Friends, your coffee creamer this isn’t a natural product. This is something concocted in a lab and is custom tailored to do one thing, get you to use as much of it as possible. On top of all that they have the audacity to list on the package that it’s “dairy free,” “fat free” and “gluten free” all in an attempt to trick you into believing it’s healthier than it actually is. Much like my client, millions of people use this stuff everyday thinking it’s a better alternative than half and half because it doesn’t have fat in it.

So, what should you use? Well, most will say to drink your coffee black, but I just can’t do that, myself. I use half and half, and no not the fat free kind. Yes, it has a few more calories (40), and a bit more fat (three grams), but there is no added sugar. There’s only one gram of sugar, what naturally occurs. And, you even get a gram of

protein.

That also accounts for a serving size of TWO TABLESPOONS, double the suggested serving of the fat free product. Put another way, true half and half actually has fewer calories than the fat free creamer.

How can that be? Half and half contains milk, cream and less than half a percent of sodium citrate and disodium phosphate, which are used to keep it from separating

I think we can agree there’s a significant difference in that ingredient list from the other.

Yet, people will opt for the FrankenCreamer over the real stuff because it’s “non-GMO.” Of course it’s non-GMO, because it isn’t actually food!

Folks, do yourself a favor and stop trying to ‘cut calories’ by buying things that are made in a lab. Take the time to read the labels and educate yourself on what you are actually consuming. Your life and health depend on it.

Oh, and if you want the vanilla flavor, buy some real vanilla pods. Take one and split it in half. Then, add it to your to your carton of half and half. Give it a shake and wait a day or two. The vanilla will infuse into the half and half. You’ll be surprise at just how better the real flavor tastes.

Dan Romand is co-owner and operator of Full Circle Fitness-NY in Colonie (and soon to be Saratoga Springs), where he is also a certified personal trainer. You can often read Romand’s Health and Fitness column here in TheSpot518 and online at TheSpot518.com.

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Answers on Pg. B26

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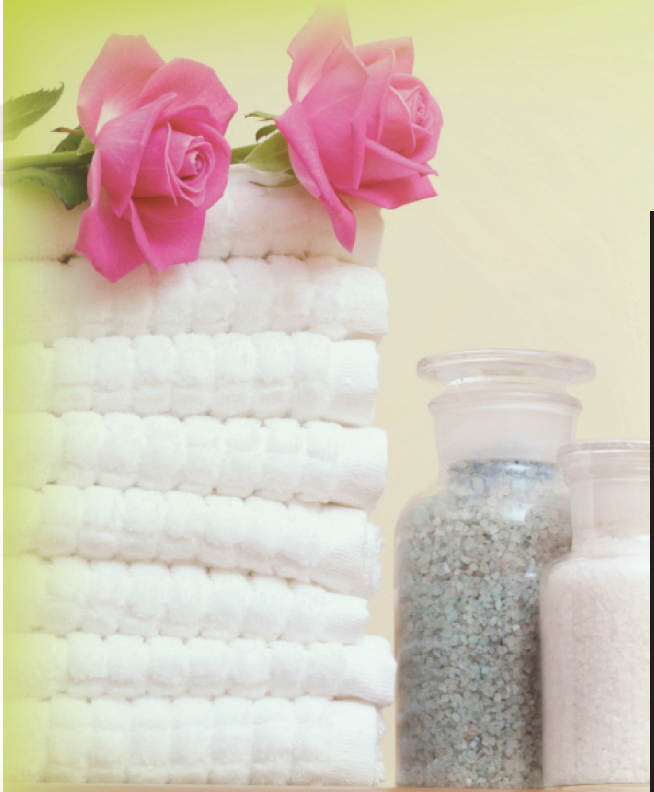
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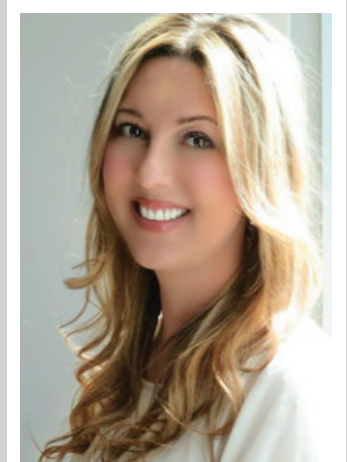
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Over 125 volunteers planted 35 trees across Saratoga Springs

SARATOGA SPRINGS

— More than 125 volunteers dug in and got their hands dirty at Sustainable Saratoga's sixth semi-annual Tree Toga planting effort.

Eager tree planters dispersed across the city on Saturday, April 29 to plant 35 young trees on public and private land.

Tree Toga is the product of an ongoing partnership between non-profit Sustainable Saratoga and the City's Department of Public Works (DPW), which provided 25 of the trees from its annual taxpayer-funded tree planting budget; the remaining ten trees were funded by donor contributions.

"We are proud to be working with our partners on initiatives that make our community a greener, healthier, and more beautiful place to live," said Tom Denny, chairman of Sustainable Saratoga's Urban Forestry Project.

"This work is only possible thanks to the tireless efforts of our volunteers, who are the backbone of Tree Toga."

Sustainable Saratoga organizes two Tree Toga planting events each year: on the last Saturday in April (a great Derby warm-up) and the first Saturday in October. Most of the trees planted during Tree Toga are placed in the city's right-of-way, in front of the private homes of "Tree Hosts." These volunteers play a critical role in the young trees' survival, watering and nurturing street trees during the first two vulnerable years. A few of the trees were also planted on city or school district properties, including some run by the recreation department.

Trees are a critical component of the city's infrastructure that essentially pay for themselves: they increase property values, improve air quality, reduce water pollution and water treatment costs, enhance people's mental and physical health, beautify public spaces, support local wildlife, and provide a living link to Saratoga's

vibrant history. The city committed to expanding and preserving its urban forest when it adopted the Urban & Community Forest Master Plan (UCFMP) in 2013, which was drafted in consultation with Sustainable Saratoga. The resulting public-private partnership on urban forestry initiatives has grown over the years: to date, Sustainable Saratoga has planted 175 new trees across town.

Many residents are surprised to learn that popular tree species like maples are not part of Sustainable Saratoga's Tree Toga planting efforts. A tree inventory conducted in 2012 revealed that over 60 percent of the city's trees were maples — an over-reliance that leaves the urban forest vulnerable to disease and pests. Since a bio-diverse forest is a resilient forest, tree species from the city's official planting list are rotated every year. This latest planting included hackberry, Kentucky yellowwood, ginkgo, honey locust, American elm and oak trees.

Sustainable Saratoga

also prioritizes large-growing species of trees, since large shade trees provide far greater environmental and economic benefits than small ornamental ones.

"We are helping the city to achieve its 'large tree vision'," explained Tom Denny. "Our goal is to envision and plant streetscapes with the kinds of large trees that have historically shaped the Saratoga experience."

This is also the objective of Sustainable Saratoga's Centennial Trees project: a multi-year, public-private campaign that aims to leave a transformative legacy of enhanced streetscapes by planting large-growing trees in high-profile locations.

Sustainable Saratoga is a not-for-profit organization that promotes sustainable practices and the protection of natural resources, through education, advocacy and action, for the benefit of current and future generations in the Saratoga Springs area.

The next planting event will be on Saturday, Oct. 7.

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From page B1 ... Hit the gas already!

“Josh plays with, I don’t know how many different bands, a good number of them. That goes into figuring out when we can play. But, Bob [Morris, the band’s drummer] also plays in a number of different bands. Holly has a job that she works six days a week, [with] overnights...”

Around the table, there is a sense of family. Greenberg helps Taormina’s daughter out with picking from the tavern’s menu. Once the food arrives, everyone gives Morris a hard time for stealing a chicken finger from Taormina’s son. The band’s been together for more than five years. In the case of Morris and Conway, they’ve played together since the two were in high school more than a decade ago. So, when everyone mentions Taormina’s demanding job schedule, it’s all out of respect. On top of her obligations as a mother of two and her pursuit of a supervisor’s position at the post office, she continues to write songs. Some of which, Greenberg describes as “hip-hop” in origin. A description she greets with a smile, though she jokes, her songs sound like that because she’s angry.

“I think the insane work schedule that Holly works has created this situation over the past year, where we play fewer performances, but we knock ‘em dead,” said Greenberg. “I think there is something that is just beginning to change. With Holly being the songwriter, and with Holly and

Evan being the music arrangers. I think the music is brilliant. It’s meaningful, it’s original and it absolutely deserves to get out there.”

Holly and Evan is a self described “blues based Alt Rock” band that’s “tinged with jazz and soul.” The band’s Facebook page lists off Skip James and Robert Johnson among its influences, old-school blues performers with no earthly ties to the Capital District. Johnson died in Mississippi in 1938 at the age of 27. His life story was the inspiration behind the 1986 Ralph Macchio film “Crossroads.” Legend says he sold his soul to the devil. A gifted guitar player, he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1986. Conway, too, is a gifted guitar player. His father, Ed, said he has the unnatural ability to pick up a song by ear and play it. As a kid, he’d play before gatherings at the Hibernian Hall. His first taste at playing in front of a crowd.

“I think this band is poised to have a product and a presence, there’s no doubt about it,” said Greenberg. “I think the live performances have just come alive. I think Holly’s performances are phenomenal. I think all of us are performing at a very high level. We know the material. We’ve been playing together for a number of years, so it’s very intuitive. And, we just absolutely have a great time playing.”

The band works without the aid of a manager to book gigs or maintain social media channels. Some of those duties fall on Evan’s mother, Kathy. Nonetheless, it’s Evan’s responsibility to update Facebook. He admits, months can go by between

posts. Despite the relative quiet internet chatter, the band has gained a larger audience. Gigs outside the Tri-City area have been more frequent, including a near regular appearance at The Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge, Mass. The inn dates back before the American Revolution has hosted Leonard Cohen and James Taylor.

Taormina believes it’s the band’s penchant for original work, instead of a “jukebox full of covers,” the audience appreciates most. She believes musicians are artists, and should obligate themselves to not just the instrument they play, but to apply thought towards stage presence.

“That’s what really bothers me about music nowadays,” said Taormina. “I mean, I look at The Beatles, and Led Zeppelin and Jimi Hendrix, and I look at them as artwork. The way they dressed and the way they performed. Nowadays it’s just plastic. Not to put anybody down. It’s just not visually stimulating. It doesn’t do anything for me visually or mentally. The clothes, you know? Fashion and music, it all goes together. Nobody is grasping that now.”

What about Katy Perry?

[A scornful stare.] “It’s like watching a play. Like a high school play,” said Taormina. “Not to put her down. It’s great for her, but I miss the seriousness of it. I took my kids to see 21 Pilots at the Times Union [Center]. They were unbelievable. One of the best shows I’ve ever seen. I’ve seen a lot of shows. ... Two people on stage. The set was all art. He did a backflip off the drum platform. They lifted the drum platform, and he played the

drums on top of the audience. The coolest thing I’ve ever seen. There’s a band that is innovative, and thinking, and trying to get people to think. That’s important. We can do it on a small scale. I mean, it’s as simple as thinking about what I’m going to wear before I walk on the stage. It’s how I’m going to do my hair.”

This weekend Holly and Evan play the main stage at Albany’s Tulip Fest. That, too, shows another evolution to the band’s growing popularity. It will be the band’s second time at the annual Mother’s Day festival. Its first appearance was relegated to the local stage.

“We’re getting to that point,” said Greenberg. “So, I think that somebody’s got to come along and produce it. Somebody’s got to come in and take care of that business. Promotion. Promotion. Promotion. It would have to be somebody who is willing to invest a lot....”

“Someone willing to work with four cranky people,” said Evan.

As Greenberg said, there appears to be a light at the end of the tunnel. Things are beginning to open up for a band juggling daytime obligations with nighttime dreams. Short of making a deal with the devil, Evan said there’s always a need to strive towards the big picture.

“You have to have the big picture goal,” said Evan. “You have to have that picture where you’re sitting on the beach in Tahiti in the middle of winter. To say, I can afford anything I want. You’ve got that dream.”

“I don’t even care about that,” said Taormina. “I just want my Grammy.”

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BAND PROFILE



Submitted photo

Within the Flames

By **RALPH RENNA**
news@spotlightnews.com

Author Charles Bukowski focused his writing on the plight of ordinary people, drugging through work, alcohol and relationships. In the end, he wrote, "What matters most is how well you walk through the fire"

Some may think Bukowski is referring to the plight of getting through life's drama. Some may live on the dark side, and see it as warning to not get burned by the flames. But, what happens when you step Within the Fire? It opens doors to a whole new world. Pushing the envelope, testing the boundaries and expanding the horizons.

The local metal band Within the Fire pushes that envelope from the inside, leaving the past behind and perfecting years of musical journey into a volcano of sound.

The band was started by guitarist, RJ Pipino (former Cutthroat guitarist) in 2010.

"He is a big fan of classic metal from the '80s," said bassist Joe Paciolla, or Pipino, "ranging from Dokken to Exodus. [And, he] was inspired to start a band with his younger brother, Kyle."

Already an impressive resume of musicians, the brothers wrote several songs and recruited help from friend, drummer

Tim Parent (Section 8). When ready They reached out to vocalist, Scott Featherstone (Attica Enertia), who ended up coming into the studio on the day when vocals for this project were scheduled to be recorded with another singer.

Paciolla adds "The session turned out better than everyone expected and Scott ended up joining the band full time. Our influences range all over the rock spectrum, but a few that were a big influence to the style of Within The Fire are Dokken, Metallica and Exodus." The band has released a full length cd "Still Burning" and was recorded at The Recording Company in Esperance, in the summer-fall of 2015. It was completed in the spring of 2016.

"Tim Lynch is an absolute professional and we were all very happy with his dedication and work on this album," said Paciolla. "RJ was really involved in making sure the songs sounded exactly like he envisioned them and was at the studio every minute of the recording and the mixing."

This Saturday, May 13, Within the Fire headlines Chromes Spring Fling 2, a fundraiser for the Mr. Mo Project, an organization that helps rescue elderly dogs from shelters.

For information visit www.mrmoproject.com and www.facebook.com/WithinTheFire.

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■ TULIP FEST 2017

List of musical acts for Tulip Fest

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Read on for the full schedule of events or view online at www.albanyevents.org.

Saturday, May 13

Tulip Queen Coronation Ceremony
Washington Park Lakehouse Stage

11:30 a.m. — The Mendelssohn Club of Albany highlight of Tulip Fest weekend.

11:45 a.m. — Tulip Queen Procession (Begins at formal Tulip Beds by Moses Statue)

2016 Tulip Queen Adeviah Ward, Mayor Kathy Sheehan and the Dutch Settlers Society lead the 2017 Tulip Queen finalists to the Lakehouse Stage.

12:00 p.m. — Tulip Queen Coronation (Lakehouse Stage)

Mayor Sheehan and MC Chad O'Hara of B95.5 crown the 69th Albany Tulip Queen in this traditional



Live Music

Main Stage:
Washington Park Parade Grounds
4:30 p.m. — Minus The Bear
3:00 p.m. — The Palms
1:30 p.m. — Wild Adriatic
Local 518 Stage:
Washington Park Lakehouse Stage
4:45 p.m. — Dryer
3:30 p.m. — Cannon the Brave
2:15 p.m. — Jasper
1:00 p.m. — Maurizio

Sunday, May 14

Live Music

Main Stage: Washington Park Parade Grounds
4:30 p.m. — The Delfonics
3:00 p.m. — Erin Harkes
1:30 p.m. — Holly and Evan
Local 518 Stage: Washington Park Lakehouse Stage
4:45 p.m. — Ramblin' Jug Stompers
3:30 p.m. — Dyer Switch Band
2:15 p.m. — Sydney Worthley
1:00 p.m. — Andrew Wheeler & Donna Marie Tritico
19th Annual Mother of the Year Award
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7	6	5	9	1	2	4	3	8
3	2	1	4	7	8	9	6	5
5	1	9	2	6	3	8	4	7
8	4	3	1	9	7	2	5	6
2	7	6	5	8	4	1	9	3

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