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Vol. 65, #25

June 22 - June 28, 2022



ALEXANDRA
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FOR ASSEMBLY
See Page 3
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Alexandra Vellella

TOP STORY



NEWS Fire takes garage in Glenmont

No injuries reported in Sunday afternoon fire in Glenmont.

Story on Page 2



Honors continue for WWII hero

Part of Delmar Bypass to be named after war hero.

Story on Page 3



Stop here

Bethlehem Town Board to declare climate emergency amid passage of Comp Plan Update; paving way to prohibit future gas stations, more

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

DELMAR — In step with adopting its anticipated Comprehensive Plan Update, the Bethlehem Town Board is expected to declare a climate emergency once it meets Wednesday, June 22; the resolution will commit the Town to establish zoning laws prohibiting new gas stations and future fossil fuel expansion.

Continues on page 5

◀ State legislation is already in place to significantly wean New York off of fossil fuels by 2050. Bethlehem residents, however, have asked that the Town take a strong stance against further expansion the gas infrastructure before it approves its Comprehensive Plan Update.

Michael Hallisey / Spotlight News

ENTERTAINMENT

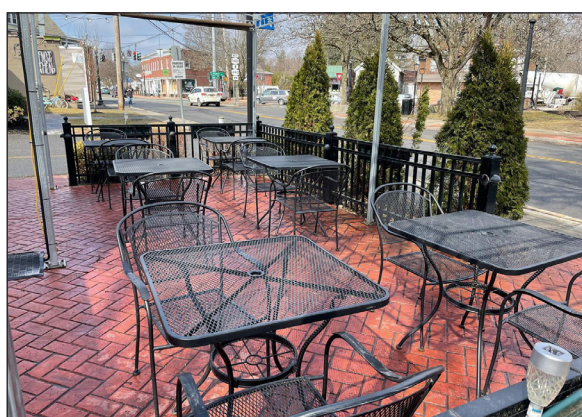


Welcome back to live music

Old Songs Festival comes back before a live audience this week; more shows return to area stages this summer.

Story on Page B1

BUSINESS



Gnarly news

Twisted Vine closes dinner service to support 'sister' biz.

Story on Page 9



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The Spotlight (USPS 396-630) is published each Wednesday by Community Media Group LLC, 341 Delaware Ave., Delmar, N.Y. 12054. Postage paid at Delmar, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: send address changes to The Spotlight, P.O. Box 100, Delmar, N.Y. 12054. Subscription rates: Albany County, one year \$52, two years \$90. Elsewhere, one year \$62, two years \$100. Subscriptions are not refundable.

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Thomas Heffernan Sr. / Special to Spotlight News

Fire takes garage

Police don't suspect foul play

GLENMONT — Multiple fire departments responded to extinguish a garage fully ablaze on Sunday, June 19.

According to a Bethlehem Police Department statement, authorities received a report of a structure fire at 202 Glenmont Road at approximately 2:42 p.m. Upon arrival a detached garage on the rear portion of the property was found to be fully involved.

Residents were able to exit the home without injury. No injuries were reported by emergency crews. First responders from Elsmere, Delmar, Selkirk, Slingerlands and North Bethlehem fire departments were on the scene. They were assisted by Albany County Sheriff Paramedics and Delmar-Bethlehem EMS.

Bethlehem Police detectives and fire investigators are investigating the cause of the fire. Bethlehem Police said it does not appear suspicious.

■ POLICE, FIRE and EMERGENCY CALLS

Another threat at RCS

Student allegedly said: 'I should make a list of my own'

RAVENA — Ravena Coeymans Selkirk administrators are asking families to remind their children to be mindful of what they say — a joking comment can lead to consequences.

Shortly after the district's high school reprimanded a student who allegedly composed a list intending to harm fellow students, it announced a second student reportedly said, "I should make a list of my own," within earshot of other students.

RCS Superintendent Brian Bailey shared information regarding the new case to district families with an emailed statement on Wednesday, June 15.

"It was brought to our attention that a student who was not originally involved in the initial threat made a threatening statement to a small group of students," stated Bailey. "While referencing the threat from earlier in the week, the student said, 'I

"It is imperative that our children understand the consequences of their words and actions. One mistake, one 'joking' comment in person, ... may change the course of our children's lives."

— Brian Bailey,

Ravena Coeymans Selkirk District Superintendent

should make a list of my own.' Although District officials were notified of this after school hours yesterday, Tuesday, June 14, the comment was made during the school day last week.

"To our knowledge, no list was created."

Bailey said the Albany County Sheriff's Office investigated the incident and that the district took disciplinary action based on its Code of Conduct.

"It is imperative that our children understand the consequences of their words and actions," Bailey urged district families. "One mistake, one 'joking' comment in person, in writing, or on social media, that is threatening against one or more persons, may change the course of our children's lives. It may result in criminal charges."

Gov. Kathy Hochul recently signed into law Penal Law, Part 3, Title N, Section 240.78, which prohibits crimes that specifically make threats of mass harm and aggravated threat of mass harm.

Bailey said the high school will gather its crisis response team to discuss how to best support staff, students and families members.

"Our social workers, psychologists and counselors are available for any student or staff member who needs someone to speak with," he stated. "Please remind your students that if they see or hear anything suspicious, concerning, or questionable, including, but not limited to, specific threats or suspicious activity, they should immediately report these concerns to a trusted adult, administration, and/or law enforcement."



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TOWN NEWS

Honors continue for WWII hero

Part of Delmar Bypass to be renamed for WWII hero Francis 'Frank' Currey

By **OLIVIA POUST**
news@spotlightnews.com

DELMAR — As World War II neared its end, Allied forces were attacked by German troops in the Ardennes region of Belgium, Luxembourg and France at the Battle of the Bulge. Among the Allied soldiers in Belgium was Francis S. Currey—a New York native who would move to Selkirk in the later years of his life.

He was awarded the U.S. Medal of Honor, as well as three Purple Hearts, the Belgian Order of Leopold, a Silver Star, and a Bronze Star for his role in the Battle of the Bulge. Now, Currey is being recognized at a local level.

On Monday, June 6, American Legion Post 1040 added Currey's name to accompany that of Nathaniel Addams Blanchard, who the post was originally dedicated to in 1931. Additionally, at the request of the Commander of American Legion Post 1040, Lyle Maddock, this legislative session featured a bill that will ceremonially rename a portion of State Route 32 as "Medal of Honor Recipient Francis S. Currey Memorial Highway." The bill was sponsored by Senator Neil Breslin and Assemblymember Patricia Fahy.

According to the Senate Bill, this designated area will be between Route 32's intersection with Bender Lane and its intersection with Elsmere Avenue in Bethlehem. The bill passed in the House and Senate but has not yet been signed into law by Governor Hochul.

"We are grateful for our veterans' service in defending the liberties and freedoms we all hold dear,"



Francis Currey

said Assemblymember Patricia Fahy. "Francis 'Frank' Currey of Selkirk is one of those who went above and beyond the call of duty — he received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his valor and bravery in WWII's Battle of the Bulge, singlehandedly halting a German advance and rescuing his comrades."

The Senate bill states that Currey enlisted in the U.S. army one week after his high school graduation in 1943. His role in the Battle of the Bulge, as noted by Assemblymember Fahy, resulted in the rescue of five American soldiers who were pinned down by German forces.

According to the National WWII Museum, he accomplished this rescue while under heavy fire from German artillery and an incoming tank, which he took out using a bazooka, though there were more headed his way. Currey then navigated through continual gunfire and managed to singlehandedly disarm the three remaining tanks with grenades.

Following the war, Currey married his wife, Wilma, and took a job with the Veteran's Affairs Hospital in Albany as

a counselor. He died in Selkirk, NY, on Oct. 8, 2019.

"Francis Currey's service to our nation during WWII was remarkable and inspiring," said Bethlehem Town Supervisor David VanLuyen. "It is more than fitting to honor his legacy by naming part of Route 32 for him, and I am grateful to Assembly member Pat Fahy and Senator Neil Breslin for leading this effort."

By sponsoring this bill, Breslin and Fahy said they hope to preserve Currey's legacy so his heroism is not forgotten.

"I was proud to work in tandem with the bill's Assembly sponsor, Assemblymember Patricia Fahy, American Legion Post 1040 in Bethlehem, and Francis Currey's family to pass this bill..." said Senator Breslin. "As a token of our state's appreciation for his service, we have renamed and dedicated a portion of State Route thirty-two as the "Medal of Honor Recipient Francis S. Currey Memorial Highway" so no one ever forgets his name or his contributions to the protection of our nation."

Grange Garage Sale

SELKIRK — Bethlehem Grange No. 137 hosts that last of its annual June Garage Sale this Friday and Saturday, June 25 and 29, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cash or check payments only, no credit or debit cards will be accepted.

A list of acceptable items includes housewares, kitchen items, linens, toys, puzzles, small kitchen appliances, small wooden furniture, records, CDs, DVDs, men's, ladies & children's clothing & shoes, jewelry, decorative items, holiday items, dishes, glassware, pictures, mirrors, outdoor furniture, hand tools, garden tools, power tools, books, collectibles, craft items, yarn, fabric, antiques and pet items.

Items will be on display on tables both inside and outside the Grange. There will be lots of indoor tables of items, and lots of outdoor tables of items.

Donations of new or gently used items are now being accepted. Call Carol Carpenter at 518-421-1384, Jackie Schrom at 518-810-6031 or Charles Ryan at 518-227-8954 to arrange your delivery of items.

The Grange is adding something new to the garage sales: flea market vendors. Vendors are wanted for

outdoors during the garage sale. For more information about becoming a flea market vendor during the garage sale, call Charles Ryan at 518-227-8954.

With the constantly changing guidelines, masks and social distancing will be still requested, especially when indoors or in a crowded area outdoors. This is especially requested if you have not been vaccinated, or you feel more comfortable wearing a mask.

The Bethlehem Grange is located at 24 Bridge St. in Selkirk and is handicap accessible.

Farmer's market open

NEW SCOTLAND — The Voorheesville Farmer's Market is open each Wednesday from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Come and meet familiar faces as well as new vendors.

There will be a Strawberry Social on Wednesday, June 22, and facepainting for the young at heart. It's wonderful to welcome back all our faithful customers and hopefully some new ones.

The Black Sheep Cookie Shed, offering yummy cookies, huge ice cream sandwiches and ice coffees and home made lemonade, is to set up in the front parking lot each Thursday, from 4 to 8 p.m.

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- Inflation and high taxes are making life unaffordable.
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SPOTLIGHT ON FINANCE

Protecting Yourself from Growing Cybersecurity Threats

By FRANCES O'ROURKE,
KeyBank Capital Region
Market President

In recent years, we have witnessed a swift transformation as more and more of our finances have been brought online. Growth in digital banking accelerated during the COVID-19 lockdowns out of necessity—and with this added convenience comes a new set of challenges related to cybersecurity risk. With more at stake, criminals are becoming more and more crafty in their approach to accessing our information.

The ongoing war being waged in Eastern Europe has also raised a new set of questions regarding the influence of state-actors in cyberattacks, and whether we should be thinking about risk differently in these contexts.

Understanding Motivation

The most important psychological principal of cybercrime is human engineering, or the idea that criminals prey on fear and basic human empathy to elicit an emotional response to get us to act. This is why many

criminals impersonate charities requesting donations, a family member in need or a boss requesting a favor—people are generally less skeptical of organizations claiming to do good, and more willing to go out of their way for a person of authority.



Fran O'Rourke

This background helps explain why phishing attacks are the most prevalent ransomware delivery method, since the risk is minimal and the reward can be immense if the right person clicks through to a malicious link, opens a corrupted file or discloses some key component of their personal information. A ransomware

attack of this kind is particularly deadly, because one employee could theoretically open up their entire corporate network to the attacker. This was the case when Colonial Pipeline fell victim to a ransomware attack last year, when the criminals were able to access their network by stealing one password. What this tells us is to always stop before clicking a link to ask yourself, "Is this request in line with what this person has asked of me in the past?"

Despite Russia's invasion and the threats made against the West, data from February shows that nearly three quarters (73%) of cur-

rent security events are related to cybercrime, compared to the 7% of events related to cyber warfare. During this period, there were 16 events targeting finance and insurance, and only one was an act of warfare. All this to say, financially motivated crime is still the most prevalent driver of cyberattacks—and the steps needed to defend against them are consistent, irrespective of whether the attack is financially or politically motivated.

Cybersecurity Checklist

The uncertainty of the past few years has taught us the importance taking precaution and prioritizing preparedness, and the same outlook should be applied to cybersecurity. I recommend taking the following steps to limit the likelihood of falling victim to an attack:

- **Strengthen Passwords** – It goes without saying that using the same password across many accounts would create a major security risk if criminals were to get ahold of it. In addition to employing unique passwords, using longer passphrases is even better. Sequences longer than 15 characters, with very specific words, characters and spaces make it significantly more challenging for criminals to guess. For help managing different passwords/passphrases, you can use a password manager. They are designed to store credentials for you in a secure place. Then,

when you visit a website or open an app where you need to log in, the password manager will automatically fill in your credentials for you. Thus, saving you from having to remember your various passwords.

- **Set-Up Multifactor Authentication** – You've likely experienced using multifactor authentication to access your company's network, but it is equally important for protecting your personal accounts. Setting it up requires you provide two or more verification factors to access an account – this includes something you know (i.e. password), things you have in your possession (i.e. smartphone), or a personal signifying feature (i.e. fingerprint biometrics). The latter two factors present a much greater challenge to criminals, even if they happen to have your password on hand.

- **Update Your Software** – While it sounds simple, updating your com-

puter software as security patches are rolled out is a very easy but important way to stave off cyber threats. When software updates are pushed through, the details about software vulnerabilities are typically disclosed, and criminals can leverage these identified weaknesses to target victims that may not have updated their software yet.

- **Connect to the Internet Safely** – While you shouldn't second-guess connecting to your home internet, accessing the web from public Wi-Fi networks in parks, airports and cafes can present a security risk, as it would be difficult to verify how secure the connection is. If possible, avoid using these networks, especially if what you need to do involving accessing sensitive information like checking a bank account.

- **Leverage Security Tools** – Many tools have been developed in recent years to assist in prioritizing

cybersecurity as more and more important information is held online. Browser reputation tools like Web of Trust, for example, are plug-ins that alert you to the expected safety of each website that populates in a browser search. Likewise, alternative browsers like Mozilla Firefox and Brave Browser have less exposed security vulnerabilities than more commonly used browsers like Google Chrome and are able to promote privacy by limiting data mining.

As digital finance continues to evolve and new technologies emerge to simplify our financial lives, practicing regular cybersecurity "hygiene" to protect our information and assets will ensure bad actors won't succeed.

Frances O'Rourke is KeyBank Capital Region Market President. She can be reached at 518-257-8733 or frances_orourke@keybank.com.

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How to Earn Cash Back on Your Everyday Expenses

If you already have a cashback credit card, then you know how valuable the rewards can be. But do you know how to earn cash back on your everyday expenses? If you use automatic payments for your basic expenses, or if you've been paying them with a debit card or a credit card that doesn't earn you rewards, consider switching them to your cashback credit card. It's a simple way to earn extra money to put toward your financial goals.

Here are six everyday expenses you can pay with a cashback credit card:

Home Utilities

You can earn extra money each month by simply paying your utility bills — from gas and electric to water and internet. Set up automatic payments with your cashback card and watch the rewards roll in while avoiding late fees. Keep in mind that some utilities charge convenience fees for paying your bill via credit card. Be sure that the rewards you earn offset any of the fees you might be charged.

Gas for Your Car

Instead of using a credit or debit card that doesn't offer rewards, use your cashback card at the pump to cut back on your gas spending. Look into increasing your savings by combining your card's cash back rewards with grocery store fuel points.

Trips to the Grocery Store

If you're wondering how to earn cash back on everyday expenses, don't forget your trips to the grocery store. You can even stack savings and lower your grocery bills by combining cashback card benefits with grocery store loyalty card savings and/or digital coupons.

Your Family Phone Plan

Consider paying your cell phone bill with your cashback card so that you can reap more rewards. Plus, thanks to Mastercard's new cell phone insurance program, if you use a cashback card to pay your cell phone bill, you'll get the extra perk of phone insurance. Keep in mind this is a perk specific to a World Mastercard like the Key Cashback Credit Card; ensure that your Mastercard is included in the program. The program also covers you if your phone gets stolen or damaged, with up to \$1,000 in coverage per year.

Your Gym Membership

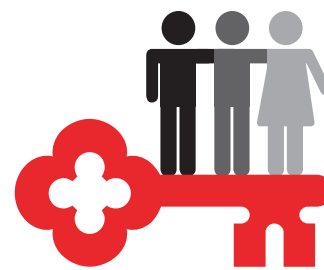
Why not get rewarded for staying fit by paying your gym membership with a cashback card? It's a calorie-free way to reward yourself for showing up and doing the work.

Subscriptions

Anything you buy each month can be a great way to earn additional cashback. Don't forget to review your expenses for items such as meal delivery services, music subscriptions, and all of your streaming network charges that could be earning you more cash back rewards.

When you use a cashback credit card for your everyday purchases, you can earn valuable cash rewards on purchases you would have made anyway. A good way to protect your credit and save on interest charges is to pay your credit card bill in full each month. By doing so, you'll boost your reward earnings while keeping your credit in tip-top shape.

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From page 1 ... Climate emergency

Among other actions, the three-page resolution calls for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty to end new fossil fuel exploration and expansion, and to phase out existing production in the line with the global commitment to mitigate a warming climate.

In tandem with the Comprehensive Plan Update, to which town board members are expected to approve, the Town is announcing its intent to implement prohibitive policies while promoting electrification "because of the inherent dangers to the public's health and safety in extraction, transport, storage, and combustion of fossil fuels."

"Whereas, the scientific consensus is clear that human activities are primarily responsible for accelerating global climate change," reads the first sentence, "and that the climate crisis now represents one of the preeminent threats to global civilization."

The declaration localizes a global effort to curb greenhouse gas emissions. The United Nations released a report from its Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in February warning "the continued installation of unabated fossil fuel infrastructure will 'lock-in' [Greenhouse Gas] emissions." It also stated that an effort to reduce emissions would require a "substantial" reduction in overall use.

In 2019, the state passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act

that mandates emissions be cut by 85 percent over 1990 levels by 2050. The Cuomo era law targets a fossil fuel-free New York by that time.

Bethlehem also cites the state's mandate among several more factors as it establishes its stance, including the state Environmental Rights Amendment passed in 2021. The referendum, guaranteeing all residents the right to clean air, clean water, and a healthful environment, was approved by 70 percent of town voters last year.

The resolution follows just a month after several residents insisted board members express a stronger commitment against fossil fuel energy in its Comprehensive Plan Update, including from Peter Iwanowicz, a town resident and state Climate Action Council member.

The plan had already established several value statements expressing six overarching principles including interwoven equity, livable built environment, harmony with nature, resilient economy, healthy community, and responsible governance and regionalism.

"It's a good and solid document," Iwanowicz said of the draft document in May, but one in which he suggested should outlaw fossil fuels and future installments of gas and diesel pumps.

"Between new state law and market forces, the end of internal combustible engines in passenger and other vehicles is rapidly approaching. Thus, there really is no need for



"Whereas, the scientific consensus is clear that human activities are primarily responsible for accelerating global climate change and that the climate crisis now represents one of the preeminent threats to global civilization."

— First sentence of proposed resolution to have Bethlehem Town Board members declare a climate emergency

additional gasoline and diesel fuel pumps than what we already have."

James A. McGaughan, the Bethlehem Republican Committee Chairman, voiced opposition to the Comprehensive Plan Update process altogether. In an email to board members, he stated that he and the thousands of people he represented "loathe" this plan.

"The residents of Bethlehem are concerned with "kitchen table" issues," he stated. "They want to see their freedom and privacy protected, their family succeed, their town flourish, their economic opportunities expand, their property values increase, and their economic security strengthen. Will the objectives and goals of this

plan do that? No."

Paul Heiser, who ran for town supervisor as a Republican last year, said it's not surprising to see the Town take a "leftward tilt" against new gas stations — but it's not to save the environment, he said.

In a letter to the editor published two weeks ago, Heiser argued that green energy initiatives were just as harmful to the environment as fossil fuels.

"Because moving to a "carbon-free" world requires massive amounts of energy and the extraction of minerals and metals — copper, lead, aluminum — at great cost to the environment and society," he stated. "In addition, windmills, solar panels and electric batteries for cars are not biodegradable; begging the question of where those toxic pollutants would be stored."

Town board members are expected approve both the Comprehensive Plan Update and the climate emergency resolution. However, the Town will still have to pass new zoning regulations to codify efforts to prevent the construction of new gas stations.

Clear cutting started at port before EPA OK

ALBANY — The reported premature clearing of 80 acres of trees and brush tied to the Port of Albany's expansion plans may place millions in federal grant money in jeopardy.

The port's \$357 million expansion plan, which includes a wharf, a new bridge, internal roadways and four buildings, requires review under the National Environmental Policy Act. Quoting an EPA spokesman, Spectrum News reported that the paperwork required to launch that review process had not been received.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation authorized the port for limited construction activities, including tree clearing, which began in April. The state DEC and U.S. EPA environmental reviews, however, are separate. In all, seven state permits are required; four are under review.

The clear cutting has since stopped. The concern lies with how the unapproved work may have disrupted the approximate two million tons of fly ash that was dumped on the site before 1970.

The expansion plan, which builds into the Town of Bethlehem, has been the focal point for President Biden's push to a greener economy. Millions have been promised towards the project, heralded as the nation's first offshore wind facility.

A \$29.5 million federal grant was to be awarded to the project, which has promised anywhere between 350 and 500 jobs once completed. Another \$40 million from the state Energy Research and Development Authority has been earmarked for the project.

— Michael Hallisey



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COMMUNITY

Survivor reconnects with surgeon

Albany Med Health's CEO chairs Capital Region Heart Ball

ALBANY — Mike Willsey noticed the name "Lewis Britton" on the license of a customer at his U-Haul business in the Southern Tier, and asked if he was related to Lew Britton, the surgeon in Albany. When the customer told him it was his father, Willsey pulled out a photo he carries of his now-35-year-old daughter. In the photo, Dr. Lewis Britton III is holding Samantha Willsey, not yet 1 year old, after Dr. Britton had repaired her two congenital heart defects.

On Friday, June 10, at 5:30 p.m., at the Albany Capital Center, during the VIP reception of the Capital Region Heart Ball, Willsey and Dr. Britton met again for the first time in 35 years.

Dr. Britton received the Donald Led Duke Heart Hero Award at the Heart Ball, for the countless number of lives he saved in his 43 years as a surgeon. Britton is the retired chief of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Albany Med.

"I am honored to receive this award from the American Heart Association," Dr. Britton said. "Their research and education have helped make my work possible. It's incredibly rewarding to see my patients years later, thriving."

The Willsey women shared Samantha Willsey's story during the evening. She was born with two congenital heart defects. Samantha was part of a group of Dr. Britton's patients who presented him with his award.

Dennis P. McKenna, M.D., President and Chief Executive Officer of Albany Med Health System, chaired the Capital Region Heart Ball. 350 people

Delmar 6-year-old named 2022 Capital Region Heart Walk and Run Heart Hero

ALBANY — Gabe Greenberg of Delmar has been part of the American Heart Association family since he first "flipped the switch" at SEFCU to symbolically illuminate the Capital Region red on Wear Red Day in February 2018. That was on his second birthday.

Gabe recently served as the Heart Hero of the Capital Region Heart Walk and Run at the W. Averell Harriman State Office Campus in Albany.

"After a normal pregnancy, our second son, Gabriel Greenberg, was born on Feb. 4, 2016. He was born blue, meaning that he didn't have enough oxygen. Albany Med's neonatal team gave him extra oxygen support, and his levels climbed up to where they should be," said Gabe's father, Michael Greenberg, senior mortgage processor at SEFCU. "The team



Gabe Greenberg

also detected a heart murmur, which his pediatrician heard the next day, and ordered an echocardiogram."

Now an active kindergartner, Gabe has had 12 cardiac catheterizations. More open-heart surgeries lie ahead as he grows out of his surgically placed hardware.

attended – and the 98th birthday of the American Heart Association.

"The Capital Region Heart Ball gives us a chance to celebrate all we have accomplished over the past year," Dr. McKenna said. "The American Heart Association continues to fund research in our area, and offer programs to help reduce health disparities everywhere. I've worked with a dedicated group of executives to make the Heart Ball possible. As we celebrate the 98th birthday of the American Heart Association, we can be confident that we are leaving a legacy of continuing improvements in cardiovascular health."

James J. Barba, president emeritus of Albany Med,

received the American Heart Association's "Moving Our Mission" award, for his work in the community, and especially with the local American Heart Association.

The Executive Leadership Team that worked with Dr. McKenna on the Heart Ball included Dr. John Bennett, CDPHP; Michael Castellana, SEFCU; Peter Connolly, Mercedes Benz Center at; Keeler Motor Car Company; David Cornell, Merrill/Bank of America; Robert Cushing, Trustco; Joe Nicolla, BBL/Columbia; John Nigro, Nigro Companies; Dan Pickett, APT Health; and Peter Semenza, St. Peter's Health Partners Foundation.

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EDUCATION

Head of the class

BC tops Albany Business Review's annual school list

By MICHAEL HALLISEY
halliseym@spotlightnews.com

DELMAR — For the sixth consecutive year, Bethlehem Central was named the number one school district in the Capital District by the Albany Business Review.

The district topped the business publication's annual "Schools Report," which ranks 92 school districts in the 11-county greater Capital District using data from the New York State Education Department.

District Superintendent Jody Monroe said the distinction comes after hard work from a lot of people.

"It takes a lot of hard work from a lot of people to ensure we are serving the needs of our students in all four of our goal areas: academics, character, community and wellness," she said. "It's both commitment and continuity by instructional and support staff, along with

a supportive community and dedicated students, that make each one of our schools a place where kids can thrive."

The Albany Business Review used the department's School Report Cards for the 2020-21 school year to tabulate its rankings. Data includes test scores in grades 3-8, Regents test results, graduation rates and the percentage of graduates with advanced Regents diplomas.

While maintaining its spot as the area's best district for academics, Bethlehem also performed well economically.

For the second year in a row, Bethlehem placed in the bottom half of the publication's rankings in spending. Out of 90 districts, the district was ranked No. 66 in the Capital District in spending per pupil last year, or \$24,277 per pupil. The year before, the district ranked No. 48 on the spending list.

"It feels good when you get to the end of a year like this one— when you were never quite sure what to expect next — to be able to celebrate this accomplishment," Monroe said.

RCS Students explore nature in Joralemon Park

RAVENA — Third and fourth-grade students from Pieter B. Coeymans Elementary School visited Joralemon Park recently to learn about the ecosystems and habitats through research and observation. Students took part in different activities, including hikes where they identified different creek creatures, collected specimens from the water and used charts to identify them based on their unique characteristics. Students were led through a discussion on rock type found throughout the park, including a search for fossils where they later brought them home. They also discussed fractures in bedrock, the different types of faults that occur in the bedrock, and how those faults can erode to create caves.

Ravena Coeymans Selkirk



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HEALTH

RPI is predicting COVID's next move



State vax sites closing

GUILDERLAND — Crossgates Mall's vaccination site was named among eight to be closed according to the state Health Department. The former Lord & Taylor storefront has served as a mass vaccination site throughout the pandemic. Gov. Kathy Hochul had visited the mall last December. The site is scheduled to close on Friday, June 24, at 6:30 p.m.

Darren McGee/Office of Governor Kathy Hochul

National Science Foundation grant project holds promise for COVID research

TROY — A new project from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to develop a predictive model for how tiny virus particles behave in the lungs holds the potential to significantly impact COVID research. The fluid dynamics proposal was recently awarded a three-year National Science Foundation grant for \$298,000.

Amir Hirsra, professor of mechanical, aerospace and nuclear engineering in the School of Engineering at Rensselaer, and Juan Lopez, professor in the School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences at Arizona State University, received foundation funding to study how fluid flows on the surface of liquids, specifically the way model viruses traverse the moving liquid layers of the lungs.

"It is a phenomena that remains unmapped by scientists, in spite of its importance for COVID research and other areas," said Dr. Hirsra. "It's a tough problem. It's a tough nut to crack."

When complete, this project will establish a baseline for how particles behave, which could then be used to shape COVID therapies and test their efficacy.

"This is my passion. This is my obsession," said Dr. Hirsra. "Literally, I'm obsessed with surface tension." Hirsra has been focused on these principles since he was a Ph.D. student at the University of Michigan where he was writing his

"It is a phenomena that remains unmapped by scientists, in spite of its importance for COVID research and other areas. It's a tough problem. It's a tough nut to crack."

— Amir Hirsra, professor at Rensselaer discussing his research to track physical and virtual virus across liquid lining of the lungs

thesis on persistent ship wakes. "Back then, we did the experiments and we discovered that it had to do with interfacial films, the same kinds of interfacial films that cover our lungs," said Dr. Hirsra.

In our bodies, the passage of materials across these interfacial films is made possible by lung surfactants, which regulate surface tension, protect lung structure, and serve as the first line of defense against airborne pathogens. Lung surfactants are critical to breathing. They are also the first casualty of the COVID virus. COVID attacks the alveoli cells that produce lung surfactants. Without surfactants, the alveoli sacs collapse, causing the lungs to fill with fluid.

With this entire process taking place in a space the diameter of three human hairs, research data isn't accessible through physiological experiments. Instead, Dr. Hirsra and Dr. Lopez will turn to computer simulations to help them predict how the virtual virus particles will behave on these liquid

covered surfaces. Joe Adam, a postdoc research associate at Rensselaer, will assist with the project. Adam will help with the physical system, which consists of three layers – the model virus particles, interfacial film, and receptors.

Once a successful computational model is created, researchers can apply what the team has learned about dilatational viscosity and surfactants to other materials, including bacteria and proteins.

"It's satisfying to invent a new system that is infinitely scalable, making it possible to study everything from the ocean to alveoli," said Hirsra "In some ways, the work as a student studying wake and surface tension has come full circle. Sometimes little obsessions take a long time to satisfy."

Founded in 1824, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute is America's first technological research university. Rensselaer encompasses five schools, 30 research centers, more than 140 academic programs including 25 new programs, and a dynamic community made up of more than 6,800 students and over 104,000 living alumni. Rensselaer faculty and alumni include more than 155 National Academy members, six members of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, six National Medal of Technology winners, five National Medal of Science winners, and a Nobel Prize winner in Physics. With nearly 200 years of experience advancing scientific and technological knowledge, Rensselaer remains focused on addressing global challenges with a spirit of ingenuity and collaboration. To learn more, please visit www.rpi.edu.

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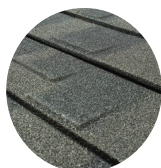
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■ BUSINESS

Gnarly news for Twisted Vine

Popular wine bar converting to prep kitchen, private venue

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

DELMAR — Twisted Vine’s regular patrons were served bittersweet news last week that the owners of the popular wine bar will convert it as a prep kitchen to support neighboring Prefect Blend Café & Bakery, to which they also own.

“Twisted Vine has been a staple of the Delmar community and the Four Corners for almost seven years,” states owner Brendan McCann in an online message shared across social media on

Friday, June 17. “That’s why it is with mixed emotions that we are reaching out to let our customers know that effect this Saturday, June 18, Twisted Vine will no longer be operating under its current business model.”

McCann stated there were “several opportunities” to expand business at the coffeehouse. It’s storefront expanded a few years before, adopting the floor space previously occupied by Bake Me a Cake, which they had owned, too.

“Wow, that a loss for the area,” one customer wrote on Facebook. “There’s really nothing else like it in Delmar.”

Twisted Vine closed its dinner service, allowing for the space to serve the coffeehouse as a

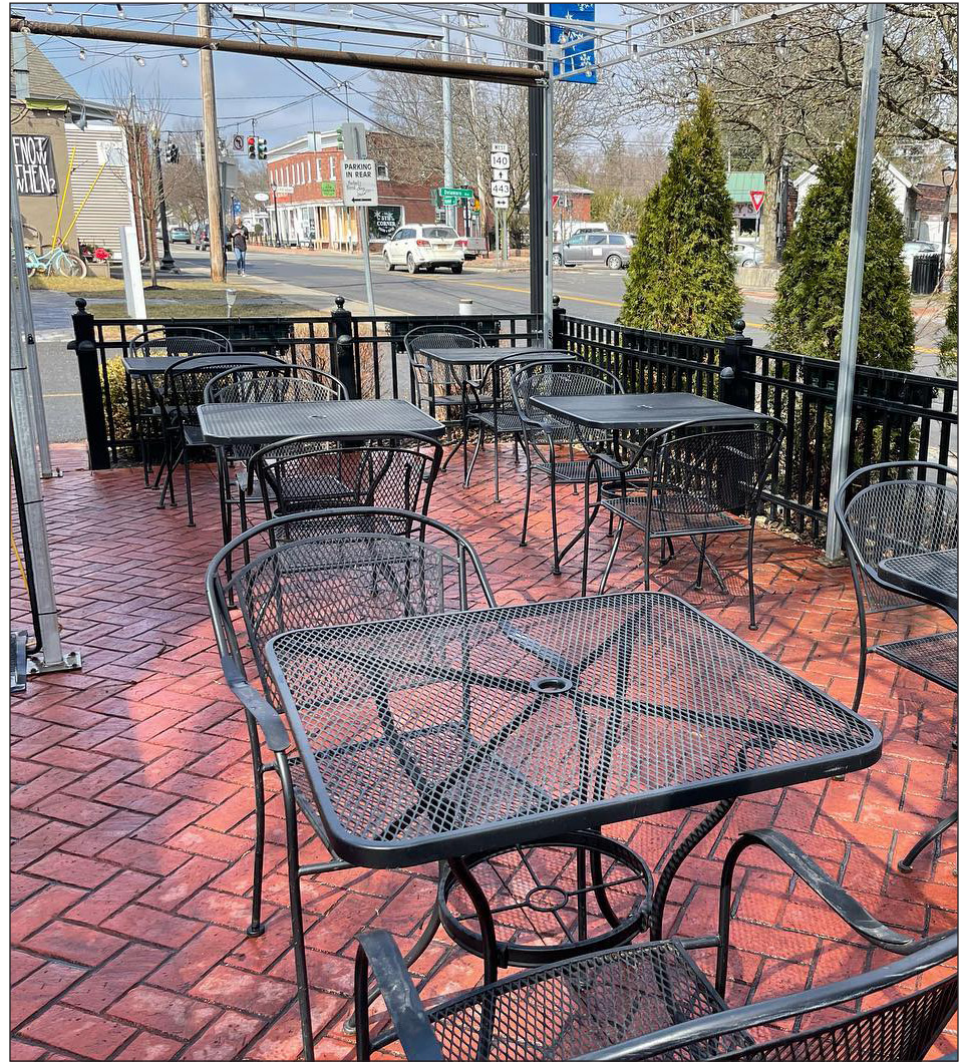
prep kitchen while the remaining space will be used for private events and office space.

“[We] feel that making this transition is in the best interest of our ownership, our families and our staff,” McCann wrote.

The owner did state that they would continue to host wine pairing dinners, live music, beer pairing dinners, catering and to-go dinner packages.

Customers who still have gift cards can redeem them for those same services.

“We sincerely thank all of our loyal customers for their support over the years and we are extremely excited for this next chapter in our business here in the Four Corners.”



Twisted Vine’s patio as it was captured in March.

Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce

■ BUSINESS SHORTS

Kevin W. Roberts receives Albany Med Pillars Award

ALBANY — Kevin W. Roberts, MD, among longest serving chairs of the Albany Medical Center Department of Anesthesiology, received one of Albany Med’s highest honors – The Pillars Award – at the 24th Annual Arnold Cogswell Dinner.

The Pillars Award was established in 1997 to recognize individuals who epitomize the spirit of the institution, and whose work and contributions, over the course of many years, reflect the community-based nature of Albany Med’s missions.

Roberts, now retired, served as chair of the Department of Anesthesiology from 1999 to 2020. He was president of the Albany Medical College Alumni Association, served on numerous boards and committees at Albany Med and in New York State, including the New York State Society of Anesthesiologists, the New York Health Plan Association Task Force on Bariatric Surgery, and the Committee on Academic Anesthesiology of the New York State Society of Anesthesiologists.

“For more than 40 years at Albany Med, Dr. Roberts was a leader, a mentor, an educator, a healer, and a philanthropist,” said Dennis P. McKenna, MD ’94, president and CEO of the Albany Med Health System. “He has always believed

in the mission, vision, and values, and he has supported them in all his work. We are extremely grateful for all he has done in support of Albany Med.”

Roberts joins a group of individuals who have shaped the growth of the Medical Center for the past several decades.

“I am profoundly grateful for this honor – joining the list of Pillars honorees. I hold all of the recipients in high esteem, and I am humbled to be among them,” Roberts said. “Albany Medical College gave me my profession and Albany Medical Center gave me my career.”

Jessica Vinson joins Vella, Carbone & Associates, LLP

DELMAR — Jessica Hugabone Vinson, Esq. has joined Vella, Carbone & Associates, LLP as a managing partner.

Vinson adds to the estate planning firm her practice of divorce mediation and the representations of individuals in divorces and matters of custody, support, and adoption, among others.

Before joining Vella, Carbone & Associates, LLP, Vinson was a partner at Bartlett, Pontiff, Stewart & Rhodes, P.C., in Glens Falls, where she worked following her admittance to practice in Massachusetts in 2008 and to New York in 2009.

Vinson has been named a Super Lawyer’s Rising Star each year since 2017.

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BUSINESS

SABIC collab launches label material made from ocean bound plastic

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — SABIC announced it collaborated with UPM Raflatac to launch the world's first packaging label materials made from SABIC certified circular polypropylene based on advanced recycled ocean bound plastic.

The label materials are marketed under the UPM Raflatac Ocean Action trademark.

"We are proud to offer our customers another more sustainable choice through the advanced recycling of used plastic that could otherwise end up in our rivers and oceans," adds Lada Kurelec, General Manager PP, PET, PS, PVC, PU & Elastomers Businesses for Petrochemicals at SABIC. "These labels containing ocean bound plastic connect with our Trucircle program of circular solutions designed to help reduce plastic waste, mitigate fossil depletion and protect our planet."

Ocean bound plastic is abandoned plastic waste found in areas up to 50 km inland from waterways that may eventually be washed into the ocean by rainfall, rivers or tides. Zero Plastic Oceans, a non-governmental organization dedicated to addressing plastic pollution issues, has estimated that OBP from uncontrolled waste disposal accounts for 80 percent of marine plastic litter.

"The new innovative Ocean Action label material is the latest step in our beyond fossils journey. It does not only help prevent the plastic waste from ending up in the oceans but also offers brand owners the possibility to meet their recycled content targets for packaging. The Ocean Action label material is an easy-to-use drop-in solution created especially for food and cosmetics end-uses as it has exactly the same performance as the current fossil-based labels," says Eliisa Laurikainen, Business Development Manager from UPM Raflatac.

The OBP used in the project is recovered by local partners of HHI, a Malaysia based recycling company. The sustainable sourcing, proper collection and management of the OBP is certified by Zero Plastic Oceans and Control Union. HHI converts OBP into a pyrolysis oil by using advanced recycling, and SABIC uses this oil as an alternative feedstock to produce certified circular SABIC PP polymer for further processing to film by Taghleef. Then, UPM Raflatac produces the label material.



Breathe celebrates new storefront

DELMAR — Breathe Massage celebrated the grand opening of its new storefront with the help of the Bethlehem Chamber of commerce with a ribbon cutting ceremony last week. Co-owners Michelle Sanders and April Ashbee opened the doors to their new home at 48 Hudson Avenue. It's a new location for the business that has provided therapy to its clients locally since 2011.

Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce

Owens Corning joins Pultron Composites to produce fiberglass rebar

TOLEDO, Ohio — Owens Corning and Pultron Composites announced today that they have signed an agreement to create a joint venture to manufacture industry-leading fiberglass rebar.

This agreement solidifies the companies' commitment to provide more sustainable product solutions and higher performance concrete reinforcement products. It also increases market access to PINKBAR + Fiberglass Rebar used for flatwork and residential applications, and MATEENBAR Fiberglass Rebar used for heavy-load structural applications. Both products carry ACI, ASTM, ICC-ES and CSA Grade III code compliance and are a suitable replacement to steel rebar.

"As we continue to pivot our

Composites business to focus on higher-value material solutions, we expect growth in fiberglass rebar to be an important contributor to our strategic direction," said Marcio Sandri, Owens Corning Composites President. "Joining forces with Pultron Composites combines our core glass-fiber material technology, expansive channel access, and extensive industry experience with Pultron's manufacturing expertise and process efficiency. This significantly expands our market opportunities, providing additional capacity and exceptional service in the market."

Over the past 20 years, Pultron Composites has developed a leading fiberglass rebar production process, enabling the execution of substantial fiberglass projects. Fiberglass products are playing an increasingly important role in the concrete reinforcement market and have the potential to transform the industry. Fiberglass rebar is up to seven

times lighter than steel, driving greater shipping and labor efficiency, and is a proven corrosion resistant reinforcement, extending the life of concrete which is particularly important when construction materials are exposed to the elements, such as in coastal areas.

"We're excited to expand our partnership with Owens Corning and leverage the respective strengths of both our companies to accelerate global adoption of fiberglass rebar," said Jasper Holdsworth, Pultron Composites Chief Executive Officer. "This joint venture will enable us to obtain greater access to the global rebar market, including expansion in the United States."

The North America rebar market is estimated to be approximately \$9 billion, growing at an annual rate of about 4 percent. Fiberglass rebar currently constitutes less than 1 percent of this market and has the potential to significantly grow over the coming years.

Owens Corning acquires WearDeck

TOLEDO, Ohio — Owens Corning announced that it has completed the acquisition of WearDeck, a premium composite decking and structural lumber manufacturer based in Ocala, Florida.

"As we begin integrating WearDeck into Owens Corning, I'm excited about the opportunities in front of us," said Composites President Marcio Sandri. "WearDeck solutions will advance our growth strategy and help pivot our Composites business to focus on high-value material solutions within the building and construction space."

Owens Corning expects to significantly grow this business in the coming years and contribute to the company's target of achieving \$10 billion in revenue by 2024. Owens Corning estimates the North American decking market to be more than \$7 billion and to grow at about 5 percent per year. Composite decking products capture over 30 percent of the market, a share that is expected to increase in the coming years.

WearDeck products offer a long-lasting, strong, and durable solution for weather-resistant decking and structural lumber, used for both commercial and residential applications. Using proprietary technology and processes, WearDeck products are manufactured from high-density polyethylene leveraging Owens Corning's glass fiber technology, delivering a high-performance product that is stronger than most other decking options.

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■ ACADEMIC STUDY

Joint UAlbany gun study focuses on interventionists

Landmark study reveals extreme levels of exposure to violence, risk of being shot for street outreach workers

EVANSTON, Ill. — Sixty percent of violence intervention workers in Chicago have witnessed a shooting attempt, 32 percent have witnessed someone else get shot while at work, 20 percent have been shot at while at work, and another 2 percent have been shot and injured on the job.

These are among the sobering findings of the Violence Intervention Worker Study, a landmark study conducted by the University at Albany and Northwestern University. Led by sociologists David Hureau of the University at Albany and Andrew Papachristos of Northwestern, the study is the first to provide a comprehensive look at the lives and working conditions of these essential workers who play a pivotal role in violence prevention.

With gun-related homicides in the U.S. at the highest level in 25 years, Community Violence Intervention programs are being widely discussed at the federal and local levels as a key strategy for curbing gun violence. However, until now, almost nothing was known about those individuals carrying out the lifesaving work of CVI, also known as street outreach workers.

For the study, the research team surveyed nearly the entire street outreach workforce in Chicago, reaching 181 individuals from 15 organizations — a 93 percent response rate. Results indicate that 80 percent of CVI workers arrived at a scene of violence before traditional first responders, such as police and emergency medical technicians. Unlike traditional first responders, these workers not only respond to acute violence, but maintain a presence



As gun deaths surge, researchers focus on experiences of community violence interventionists. Among the findings:

- The average violence interventionist is typically a Black or Latino male in his early 40s, with a high school diploma or GED,
- More than 80 percent work full time in violence intervention,
- Workers regularly confront scenes of gun violence, injury and death,
- Nearly 12 percent were personally shot at in the past year during the course of their professional duties.

in its aftermath, helping affected parties cope and managing the threat of retaliation and additional violence.

“For many good reasons, this is a moment when policymakers are making significant investments in street outreach,” said Hureau, executive director of the Hindelang Criminal Justice Research Center and assistant professor at the University at Albany’s School of Criminal Justice. “Our results suggest that a meaningful portion of this investment should be dedicated to supporting the safety, health and well-being of the people who perform this important community work — not just scaling up the practice as it currently exists.”

This summer, Hureau will lead the next phase of the study, expanding the research to Albany and other New York communities.

University at Albany’s Theodore Wilson, an assistant professor in the School of Criminal Justice, and PhD student Hilary Jackl were also involved in the Chicago research.

The study was co-designed and facilitated

with longtime violence interventionists and CVI leaders Jalon Arthur, director of strategic initiatives at Chicago CRED, and Christopher Patterson, assistant secretary of the Illinois Department of Human Services Office of Firearm Violence Prevention.

“Understanding and supporting this vital workforce is essential in building community-based responses to violence. Outreach staff are, literally, putting their own lives on the line without any of the resources to cope and manage the exposure to violence and stress we are seeing in this study,” said Papachristos, a professor of sociology at Northwestern’s Weinberg College of the Arts and Sciences, a faculty fellow with the university’s Institute for Policy Research and faculty director of the Northwestern Neighborhood & Network Initiative (N3), which coordinated research for the study.

Hureau is the lead author of two papers stemming from the project, focusing on exposure to violence and traumatic stress among CVI workers,

“Understanding and supporting this vital workforce is essential in building community-based responses to violence. Outreach staff are, literally, putting their own lives on the line without any of the resources to cope and manage the exposure to violence and stress we are seeing in this study,”

— Andrew Papachristos, a professor of sociology at Northwestern’s Weinberg College of the Arts and Sciences

which are under review at leading scientific journals. You can view a working paper, or read a summary of the VIEWS study online.

Next Steps

In partnership with the New York State Youth Justice Institute, based at University at Albany, Hureau will lead the roll out of VIEWS surveys in New York to 12 state-supported SNUG Street Outreach programs this summer.

Funded by the state Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and state Office of Victim Services, SNUG provides street outreach, hospital response, case management and social work services to communities with high rates of gun violence, with programs in Albany, the Bronx, Buffalo, Hempstead, Mt. Vernon, Newburgh, Poughkeepsie, Rochester, Syracuse, Troy, Wyandanch and Yonkers.

The project is being partially funded by a grant

from the DCJS Research Consortium with additional support from the YJI. DCJS and the YJI will use the survey results to better understand the experiences of street outreach workers and support their work.

Follow-up surveys of Chicago’s street outreach workers are planned for 2022. The Chicago research was partially supported by a grant made to Northwestern University by Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund.

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For more info: <https://guilderlandlibrary.org/srp> for more info.

- All ages: get ready to track your summer reading in Beanstack to win prizes! To sign up or login, go to: <https://guilderlandlibrary.beanstack.org/reader365>

Doghiker Author Talk and Book Signing

Happy trails...and tails! We're hosting an in-person book talk and signing with local author Alan Via on Thursday, June 30, at 6:30 p.m. His trailblazing book, "Doghiker: Great Hikes with Dogs from the

Adirondacks through the Catskills," is more than a comprehensive guidebook detailing 77 outstanding places to hike; it's also a dog owner's operating manual and tool kit. Alan will cover key points of his book, then take us on a slideshow tour of gorgeous hiking scenery with canine companions.

"Doghiker" is a must-have NYS hiker's manual, even if you don't have a dog. Copies of the book, signed and personalized by the author, will be available for purchase. Please register on the Events tab of our website for this special event.

Early Primary Voting

GPL serves as one of seven polling places throughout Albany County for June primary voting. Early voting for New York Governor and Lieutenant Governor runs through Sunday, June 26: Monday/Wednesday, noon to 8 p.m.; Tuesday / Thursday / Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday / Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The primary election will be held Tuesday, June 28 from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Summer Schedule

The Guilderland Farmer's Market will be held in our upper parking lot Sundays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., July 3-October 2, featuring 30 vendors.

In accordance with our summer schedule, GPL is closed on Sundays during July and August. GPL will be closed on Mon. July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

Computer Coach

Coach Robin is available to assist 1:1 with Apple technology or to help you craft a winning résumé with the Learning Express tool on our website. Schedule your customized in-person session with Robin Friday, July 8, at 11 a.m. or Friday, July 22, at 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. on the Events tab of our website.

Foundation Golf Tournament

The Guilderland Library Foundation is hosting their annual golf tournament

on Mon. Aug. 22 at Pinehaven Country Club. Registration begins at 8:15 a.m. with a 9 start and best ball format. The \$165 cost per individual cost covers 18 holes, golf cart, lunch at the turn, and 19th hole celebration. Non-golfers are welcome to join the 19th Hole Celebration barbeque dinner for \$50 per ticket.

Sponsorship opportunities are available with a deadline of July 15, and the deadline to register for golf is August 1st. Please email guilderlandlibraryfoundation@gmail.com for golf tournament information, and contact Foundation President Steve Wacksman at wacksman20@gmail.com for general information about the Foundation.

— Luanne Nicholson

Manga Madness

Manga readers are invited to pick up a copy of "Behind the Scenes" by Bisco Hatori, then join the Art Squad at 6:30 p.m. for a fun evening of manga activities on Thursday, June 30.

Play an improv game, learn some movie make-up tips and enjoy some Japanese food. Cosplay encouraged, since the Art Squad works with all of the film clubs on campus! Grades 8-12, please register.

Graphic Novel Book Discussion

Register to join our new Graphic Novel Book



Discussion.

We will be meeting quarterly, with the first meeting July 13, at 7 p.m..

The first graphic novel we'll be discussing is "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald. Adults are invited to join in a discussion and offer opinions, ideas and comments on this graphic novel.

This program is funded by the Friends of the Library. A limited number of copies will be available in print for \$5.00. There

will also be library copies available as well as digital formats.

ENCORE! books in July

The Friends of the Library will be having special sales all month in July.

Some of the specials to watch will be dvd's and cd's, buy one, get one free.

There will be sports media specials and also Christmas in July holiday media specials.

Regular hours are Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Thursdays, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., but please call ahead.

— Lynn Kohler

Summer Reading Kick-Off

Summer is the time when kids can read whatever they want, and you can count on the library to make that fun.

- Earn raffle tickets towards great prizes for every hour that kids read.

- Register for weekly STEM programs, Crafts, and Teen Programs.

- Kids can write a book this summer in our Young Writer's Boot Camp.

See our events calendar to register for programs and come to the library anytime to get your Summer

RCS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Reading Log!

Summer Reading for Adults and Teens

Teens and Adults are rewarded for reading, too! For every three books you read you will earn a prize of the week PLUS entry in the Grand Prize Gift Basket drawing of your choice. Get your entry coupons at the Library starting July 1st.

Take and Make Tuesday!

Make a stack of "miniature books," and then

make a fashion statement.

After crafting your mini books, you'll be able to turn them into a pendant necklace that you can wear to show the world how much you love books!

Pick up begins at 9 am on Tuesday, June 28.

Quilled Paper Flowers

Learn to make beautiful paper flowers with a crafting technique called "quilling," on Wednesday, June 29 at 2 p.m.

No experience is needed, ages 10 and up are welcome. Registration is limited and required.

— Carol Melewski

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LIBRARIES

Prepare for upcoming author talks

Get to know some of your favorite authors and enjoy Q&A opportunities with bestsellers through one of the following virtual author talks available to Bethlehem cardholders. Talks will occasionally feature more than one author at a time, and additional copies of the featured books will be available.

• **June 29 at 7 p.m.:**
Author talk with Reavis Z. Wortham: "The Texas Job"

Reavis Z. Wortham will discuss his new book, "The Texas Job." Set in 1931, this well-crafted crime novel features Texas Ranger Tom Bell, a supporting character in The Right Side of Wrong, Wortham's third Red River mystery. Bell becomes a target when he discovers a dead body on the outskirts of Pine Top, a bustling oil boomtown in East Texas.

• **July 7 at 9 p.m.:**



Author talk with Alka Joshi: "The Henna Artist"

Join us for an enchanting evening with New York Times Best Selling author and Reese Witherspoon Book Club pick Alka Joshi as she discusses her captivating and bestselling novels, "The Henna Artist" and "The Secret Keeper of Jaipur."

Alka Joshi was born in India and immigrated to the US when she was nine years old, and published her debut novel, "The Henna Artist," at the age of 62. Vivid and compelling in its portrait of one woman's struggle for fulfillment in a society pivoting between the traditional and the modern, "The Henna Artist" leads the audience on a journey through 1950s post-independence India that is all at once lush and



Bethlehem Public Library is starting to bring back the toys in the children's area — and there are even more on order. The return of toys is part of the final phase of the library's phased reopening plan.

Kristen Roberts

fascinating, stark and cruel.

In this interview, Alka will share her inspirations for her work, how her mother's life story has influenced her writing, and her experience and role in the creation of a Netflix

series based on her books.

To sign up for one of these talks or see what other ones are coming up, visit www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org/author-talks.

Read with us this summer

Sign up for our 2022 Summer Reading Challenge today and start tracking your progress through challenge cards for a chance to earn some great prizes. This year's theme, Oceans of Possibilities, explores animals and the stories inspired by the sea.

The Summer Reading Challenge is open to everyone – pre-K to adults.

Register online at www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org, and join us for the Summer Reading kickoff Friday, June 24, as our friends from the Puppet People present two performances of "The Pirate of Book Island."

Coming soon: Fine-free borrowing

Bethlehem Public Library is going fine free

July 1, 2022. From that day forward, we will no longer charge fines for overdue books and other media. Replacement fees and charges for lost or damaged items still apply, and fines of \$1 per day for Library of Things items and ILL, as well as \$5 per day for museum passes and Wi-Fi hotspots, will remain.

Fine free means judgement free. If you've been avoiding the library because you're worried about paying fines, we are happy to welcome you back! Click here to register for your new card online (www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org/borrow/online-library-card-application), or give us a call at (518) 439-9314 or e-mail us at info@bethpl.org to check if you already have a card.

— Kristen Roberts

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REDISTRICTING THE ALBANY COUNTY LEGISLATURE

FINAL Draft Maps of Proposed Districts

www.albanycounty.com/acrc

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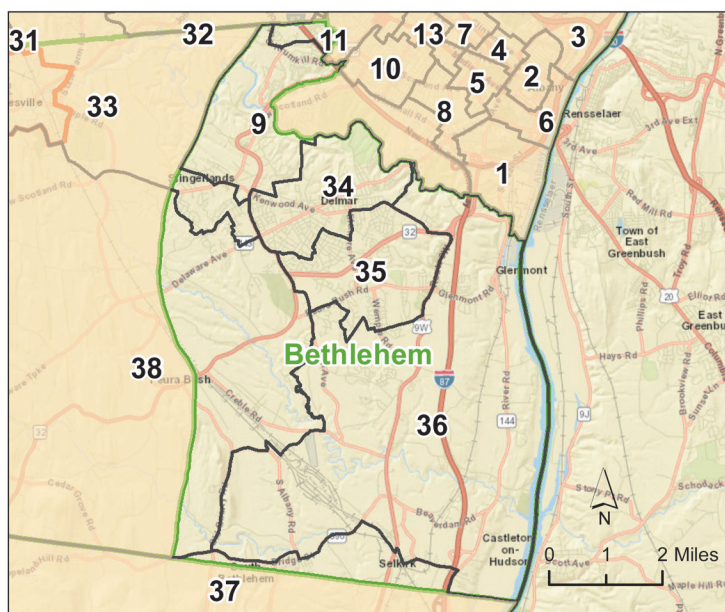
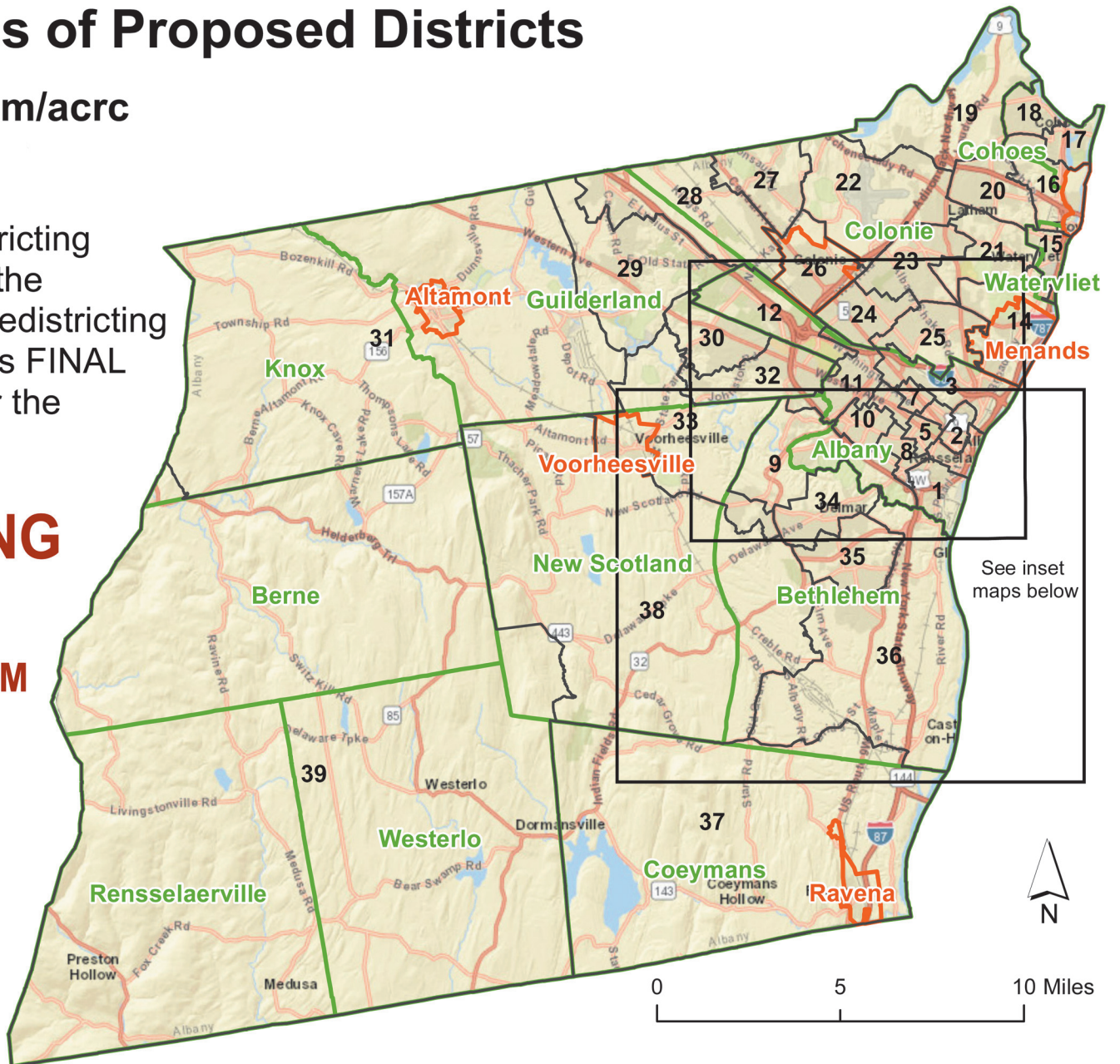
The Albany County Redistricting Commission (ACRC) and the Majority Minority District Redistricting Subcommittee propose this FINAL draft of revised districts for the public's comments.

PUBLIC HEARING

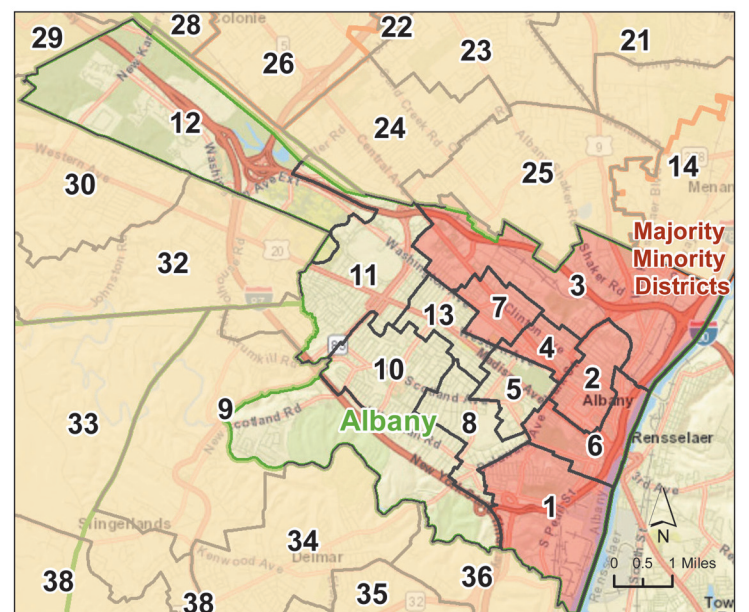
5pm JUNE 30
IN PERSON OR VIA ZOOM

Hearing location:
First floor,
Harold L. Joyce
County Office Bldg,
112 State Street,
Albany NY 12207

To speak at this hearing,
email: redistrictingcommission@albanycountyny.gov



IT'S THE LAW
Each of the 39 new
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8,105 residents
and the difference
in population from the
most and least
populous cannot
exceed 5%



As a result of the 2020 census, new districts must be created with new Majority Minority Districts to protect minority voting rights. To learn more about the redistricting, ACRC, or the Majority Minority District Redistricting subcommittee, visit albanycounty.com/acrc. THIS FINAL DRAFT MAP IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE by the Commission or the subcommittee following testimony and/or maps received at this FINAL public hearing. No testimony or maps received after the close of this public hearing will be considered.



Mapping by:



June 16, 2022

Mapping Data Credits: Albany County, US Census, Basemap Data Credits: ESRI, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, OpenStreetMap contributors, and GIS User Community



The Wheels

Music and motors were all humming at Albany's Dad Fest.

Page B23

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ENTERTAINMENT

INSIDE



UPH pitches season

A silent disco and Isaac Mizrahi to visit Saratoga soon.

Page B3



This is so fetch

Mean Girls opens Tuesday at Proctors in Schenectady.

Page B5



Welcome back to live

Old Songs Festival comes back before a live audience this week; more shows return to area stages this summer

ALTAMONT — The 2022 Old Songs Festival returns for three days of music at the Altamont Fairgrounds starting Friday, June 24.

Old Songs is a family-friendly festival of folk, traditional, Celtic and world music and dance, known for its relaxed atmosphere, interactive sessions and workshops, hands-on experience and participatory nature. In addition to evening concerts each night, there are over 100 daytime workshops, dances or performances. Also featured are craft, food and instrument vendors, and a well-run children's activity area.

Festival organizers encourage audience members to join jam sessions, take part in learn-how sessions, sing sacred harp, move their feet to their great dance bands or take a Friday afternoon class. School-age children who play an instrument can participate in the "Great Groove Band" during the festival with the help of music coaches and musical instruction, as well as join in on their Sunday performance.

Old Songs celebrates folk, Celtic, Quebecois, roots and Americana, representing various parts of the world from Ireland, Scotland, England, Quebec, Italy, India, the Midwest, Appalachia and New England. Featured musicians include E.T.E, John Doyle & Mick McAuley, Beppe Gambetta, Copley Street, Bourque Émissaires, Ustad Shafaat Khan and more.

There are three main stage concerts, each featuring multiple artists on Friday and Saturday from 6:30 to 11 p.m., and Sunday from 3:30 to 7 p.m. at the open-air main stage area.

A crowd sits comfortably under a canopy of trees and stars for the Old Songs Festival at Altamont Fairgrounds.

Old Songs Festival

More Live Music on page B6

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BLUE SKIES

A music lover's delight to bask under a warm sun and listen to good tunes on a lazy Sunday afternoon.




Photo by Michael Hallisey / The Spot 518



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RECENTLY ANNOUNCED

Silence at the disco at UPH in July

Universal Preservation Hall announces large batch of shows for 2022 Season

SARATOGA SPRINGS – Universal Preservation Hall announced an amazing line-up of shows to add to your calendar this season.

UPH is bringing back its In the Round series, allowing patrons the opportunity to let loose at an upcoming silent disco, a few notable names sharing new avenues of their talent, a few holiday classics to bring in December and more

Tickets are available through the Box Office at Proctors, in person or via phone at 518-346-6204; Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or online at proctors.org.

Tickets on sale now.

**Silent Disco
July 29, 7 p.m.**

Dance like no one's watching! Pick your music, but no one knows what you are listening to! Grab your headphones, pick your music and make the Silent Disco your own as you tear up the dance floor. This event is like no other where the options are endless, and the party becomes completely customizable.

**An Evening You Can't Refuse with Gianni Russo
August 5, 7:30 p.m.**

Gianni Russo is most well-known from his iconic role in The Godfather, as well as other film and television credits. Join us as Gianni Russo inspires audiences with the legendary journey of his music, storytelling of his life and acting career.

**Country Thunder:
Country Legends Tribute
August 20, 7:30 p.m.**



Television shoppers have witnessed his colorful character on QVC, and now Issac Mizrahi is touring on the road. The writer and designer is bringing a Cabaret-style singing performance to UPH in October.

Issac Mizrahi

Country Legends Tribute Tour is now firmly established as North America's #1 Country Music Tribute show featuring the music of the biggest names on the American scene including Garth Brooks, Shania Twain and Keith Urban!

**In the Round Series: KAINA and LI & The Little Idea
October 1, 7 p.m.**

KAINA has created generational music that surpasses borders, a unified expression of her native Chicago coupled with her Venezuelan and Guatemalan heritage. LI & the Little Idea is a true music lover's dream band

offering listeners an experiential journey across various regions and eras of American music. It's lyrical, it's "dancy," it's authentic and it's real.

**Cordâme - Da Vinci Inventions
October 14, 8 p.m.**

Composer Jean Félix Mailloux interprets music inspired by the Italian Renaissance. This show of music and jazz will make you experience a whole range of emotions with surprising music, transcending beauty and wonder.

**Issac Mizrahi
October 29, 7:30 p.m.**

Issac Mizrahi, an actor, host,

writer, designer, and producer of 30 years, now brings his singing talent to UPH for the first time! A Cabaret style performance you can't miss.

**Justin Roberts
(Not Ready for Naptime)
November 10, 6 p.m.
School Day Performance
at 10:30 a.m.**

For nearly 20 years, Justin Roberts has been creating the soundtrack to families' lives, helping kids navigate the joys and sorrows of growing up while allowing parents to remember their own childhoods.

**It's a Jazzy Christmas
December 16, 7:30 p.m.**

It's the most wonderful time of the year, and It's a Jazzy Christmas has all your favorite holiday songs!

**Remembering the Fifties
Holiday Show
December 17, 7:30 p.m.**

Celebrate the holidays with a salute to The Platters! This four-person tribute group brings their hits like "Only You" and "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes" to life with a Motown live band!

**The Queen's Cartoonist
December 22, 7:30 p.m.**

The Queen's Cartoonists play music from classic cartoons and contemporary animation. Performances are synched to videos of the original films while the band leads the audience through a world of multi-instrumental mayhem and comedy!

**Samara Joy
December 23, 8 p.m.**

Samara Joy has dug deep to discover her jazz roots, without losing sight of the innate simplicity that makes her sound shine. With a voice as smooth as velvet, Joy's star seems to rise with each performance!

Black Theatre Troupe opens in August

Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate NY announced upcoming lineup for the 2022-2023 season, starting with a performance of Pearl Cleage's "Flyin' West" at the GE Theatre at Proctors on Thursday, Aug. 25.

**FLYIN' WEST
by Pearl Cleage
August 25 - 28
GE Theatre at Proctors
432 State Street, Schenectady**

**KNOCK ME A KISS
by Charles Smith
October 28 - November 6**

**Lauren and Harold Iselin
Studio at the REP
251 N Pearl Street, Albany**

**TOPDOG/UNDERDOG
by Suzan-Lori Parks
March 2 - 12
MainStage at the REP
251 N Pearl Street, Albany**

**HOODOO LOVE
by Katori Hall
June 1 - 11
Lauren and Harold Iselin
Studio at the REP
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■ WHAT'S HAPPENING

This is so fetch

■ IF YOU GO

- **What:** First National Tour of "Mean Girls"
- **When:** Tuesday, June 28 to Sunday, July 3
- **Where:** Proctors
- **Price:** \$25.50 to \$95.50
- **Info:** Tickets are available through the Box Office at Proctors, in person or via phone at 518-346-6204; Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or online at proctors.org.



'Mean Girls' coming to Schenectady June 28-July 3!

SCHENECTADY —

Proctors in Schenectady will host the First National Tour of "Mean Girls" — the record-breaking new musical comedy produced by Lorne Michaels, Stuart Thompson, Sonia Friedman, and Paramount Pictures based on the hit film — from Tuesday, June 28 to Sunday, July 3.

"Mean Girls" features a book by nine-time Emmy Award winner Tina Fey, based on her screenplay for the film, music by three-time Emmy Award winner Jeff Richmond; and lyrics

Above, Adante arter and Danielle Wade will appear as Aaron Samuels and Cady Heron in the National Touring Company performance of "Mean Girls" at Proctors. Top, from left to right, the production will also feature Wade, Megan Masako Haley, Nadina Hassan and Jonalyn Saxer.

Photo credits (top) Jenny Anderson, (above) Joan Marcus

by two-time Tony Award nominee Nell Benjamin. Tony Award winner Casey Nicholaw directs and choreographs.

Tickets are available through the Box Office at Proctors, in person or via phone at 518-346-6204; Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or online at proctors.org.

"Mean Girls" opened on Broadway in April 2018 to rave reviews at the August Wilson Theatre, following its world premiere at

the National Theatre in Washington, D.C., in the fall of 2017.

Cady Heron may have grown up on an African savanna, but nothing prepared her for the wild and vicious ways of her strange new home: suburban Illinois. How will this naïve newbie rise to the top of the popularity pecking order? By taking on The Plastics, a trio of lionized frenemies led by the charming but ruthless Regina George. But when

Cady devises a plan to end Regina's reign, she learns the hard way that you can't cross a Queen Bee without getting stung.

New York Magazine calls Mean Girls "Hilarious! A smart, splashy new musical that delivers with immense energy, a wicked sense of humor and joyful inside-jokery." Chicago Tribune said, "Tina Fey writes Funnier, Smarter, Sharper satire than anyone else in the business." People Magazine calls the show "Fresh, Fun And Infectious— Jeff Richmond and Nell Benjamin's songs

keep the laughs coming!" The New York Daily News said Mean Girls "tickles the ears, eyes and funny bone — the direction by Casey Nicholaw packs style, invention and red bull-force energy." And, Entertainment Weekly calls it "a marvel: dazzling & hilarious!"

The creative team includes Scott Pask (Set Design), Gregg Barnes (Costume Design), Kenneth Posner (Lighting Design), Brian Ronan (Sound Design), Finn Ross & Adam Young (Video Design), Josh

Marquette (Hair Design), Milagros Medina-Cerdeira (Make-Up Design), Mary-Mitchell Campbell (Music Director), John Clancy (Orchestrations), Glen Kelly (Dance and Incidental Music Arrangements), Mary-Mitchell Campbell, Jeff Richmond, and Natalie Tenenbaum (Vocal Arrangements), Howard Joines (Music Coordinator), and Telsey + Co / Bethany Knox, CSA (Casting).

Mean Girls (Original Broadway Cast Recording), produced by Atlantic Records, is now available.

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Dessert: South Colonie Dollars for Scholars

July 20th • ALTA HAVANA!

Enjoy a night out with Cuban music & dancing!
Food: Seasons Catering

Dessert: Girl Scout Troop 5008

July 27th • THE STANDARD CLAMS!

Jazz and standards!
Food: Seasons Catering

Dessert: Boy Scout Troop 1071

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Food: O'Slattery's Restaurant

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Information: 518.783.1435

Suggestions: Come early & enjoy the historic buildings and gardens on the grounds. Vendors are available for dinner, wine, beer, beverages & ice cream. Lawn chairs & dancing shoes are recommended. Feel free to bring your family, supervised children are always welcome. Please no pets.

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LIVE CONCERTS

Alive at Five Jennings Landing, Albany; albanyny.gov

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July 14: Country Night, featuring TBA with Sydney Worthley
July 21: Reggae Rock Night, featuring Ballyhoo! with Souly Had with E-Block
July 28: Folk Night, featuring Donavon Frankenreiter with Sean Rowe
Aug. 4: Hip-Hop Night II, featuring TBA with Ohzhe with DJ TGIF, DJ Hollyw8d

Performing Arts at the Commons Clifton Common Stage, Clifton Common Boulevard, Clifton Park

June 26: Clifton Park Community Chorus
July 3: Alex Torres & His Latin Orchestra
July 10: Stormfront
July 17: Erin Harkes Band
July 20: The Magic Trunk
July 22-24 and 28-31: "Nice Work If You Can Get It"
July 27: Andy the Music Man
Aug. 3: Mr. Twisty Magic Show
Aug. 7: An Evening with Rick Bedrosian
Aug. 10: Youth Band Performances
Aug. 14: Jukebox Rebellion
Aug. 17: Catskill Puppet Theater's "The Town that Fought Hate"

Capital Concert Series Empire State Plaza, Albany; empirestateplaza.ny.gov

July 6: moe.
July 13: Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo; learn more
July 20: Inner Circle; The King Yellowman Show Featuring K'reema & The Sagittarius Band; learn more
July 27: Melle Mel & Scorpio; The Sugarhill Gang; learn more

Cohoes Rock the Block Canal Square, Cohoes. ci.cohoes.ny.us

June 23: Big Sky Country
June 30: Tusk (Fleetwood Mac)
July 7: That 80s Band
July 14: Aquanett
July 21: Skeeter Creek
July 28: Hammer of the Gods (Led Zeppelin)
Aug. 4: Berkstar

Concerts at the Crossings The Crossings of Colonie; colonie.org

July 7: New York Players
July 14: The Georgie Wonders Orchestra
July 21: Josh Casano
July 28: The Lustre Kings
Aug. 4: In The Valley
Aug. 11: Garland Nelson's Reflection: Motown Tribute
Aug. 18: Big Sky Country
Aug. 25: Body and Soul
Sept. 1: Sirsy

Freedom Park Concert Series Schonowee Avenue, Scotia; freedomparkscotia.com

June 22: Screaming Orphans
June 25: The Rhythm Pilots
June 26: Music Company Orchestra
June 29: WailOn
July 1: Up the River
July 2: Seeing Double
July 6: Get Up Jack, featuring Capital District Youth Pipe Band
July 9: Alan Payette & Wolfgang
July 10: Sten & Maria Z Ensemble
July 13: Joey Thomas Big Band
July 16: Mia Scirocco Trio
July 17: Watch Reggie Run

July 20: Skeeter Creek
July 23: Jim Gaudet & the Railroad Boys
July 24: Dyer Switch Band
July 27: The Refrigerators
July 30: Nisky Dixie Cats
July 31: SUNY Schenectady Jazz Faculty Combo
Aug. 3: New York Players
Aug. 6: The Brass Machine
Aug. 7: Quintocracy
Aug. 10: Grand Central Station
Aug. 13: Alex Torres & His Latin Orchestra
Aug. 14: Roben Kosek Jazz & Blues
Aug. 17: Lustre Kings
Aug. 20: Big Fez & the Surfmatrics
Aug. 21: The Legendary Characters
Aug. 24: SIRSY
Aug. 27: Shokazoba
Aug. 28: Heard

Jamming at the GPAC Guilderland Performing Arts Center, Tawasentha Park, Guilderland; townofguilderland.org

June 23: Guilderland Town Band Concert
June 30: The Kyle Bourgault Band Concert
July 7: The Lustre Kings
July 14: Guilderland Town Band Concert
July 21: Becca Frame and the Tall Boys
July 28: Get Up Jack
Aug. 4: Guilderland Town Band Concert
Aug. 11: Overture Band Concert
Aug. 18: An Evening with Rick Bedrosian

Jazz on Jay Jay Street Arcade, Schenectady; facebook.com/JazzOnJay

June 23: Wise Guyz
June 30: Music by McIntosh
July 7: Keith Pray's Ortet
July 14: Kevin Carey Group
July 21: The Dylan Canterbury Quintet
July 28: Kaitlyn Fay Quartet

Aug. 4: Art D'echo Trio featuring Joshua Nelson
Aug. 11: Chris Pasin's Ornettiquette
Aug. 18: GNP
Aug. 25: Curley Lamb Nu-Soul-Jaz Quartet featuring Ria Curley and Chuck Lamb
Sept. 1: Pete Bellino Trio

Music Haven Concert Series Agnes McDonald Music Haven Stage, Central Park, Schenectady; musichavenstage.org

July 10: Steel Pulse—Roots Reggae
July 17: Nathan & the Zydeco Cha Chas—Zydeco
July 23: Nipperfest Local Music Festival
July 24: Sammy Miller & the Congregation—Jazz
July 28: Blues BBQ—Blues
July 31: Lemon Bucket Orchestra—Balkan Party Band
Aug. 4: DakhaBrakha—Ukrainian Ethno-chaos
Aug. 7: Spanish Harlem Orchestra—Salsa
Aug. 13: The Schenectady Symphony Orchestra—Pops and classical
Aug. 14: Steep Canyon Rangers—Bluegrass
Aug. 20: Summer of Soul
Aug. 21: Frigg—Finnish Folk

Niskayuna Summer Concert Series Niskayuna Town Hall, 1 Niskayuna Circle, Niskayuna; niskayuna.org

June 30: Qunitocracy
July 7: The Carla Page Show Band
July 14: The All Paul Show
July 21: Loose Change
July 28: Joe's Boys
Aug. 4: Dadtet
Aug. 11: Band of Gold

Powers Park Concert Series Powers Park, 420 Second Ave., Troy; facebook.com/CommunityBuilder-Burgh

July 9: Adirondack Muscle Cars Car Show, Emer-

ald City, Brokenhearted/Tom Petty Stevie Nicks Tribute
July 16: Tom Atkins & Berkstar Guitar Wars
July 23: Chain Reaction
July 30: Nite Train Blues
Aug. 6: M-16 Ultimate Rock Night
Aug. 13: The Accents
Aug. 20: Ten Most Wanted
Aug. 27: Brian Kane's Beginning

Thursdays in the Park Elm Avenue Park, Bethlehem; townofbethlehem.org

June 23: Zucchini Brothers
June 30: The Rumble Kings
July 7: Ron Cain's "Captain HurriCain's Underwater Adventure Magic Show"
July 14: Doc Benson Band
July 21: Out of the Box
July 28: Dave Engel's "Captain Nemo's Adventure Academy"
Aug. 4: Diane Edgcomb presents "Trail Mix"
Aug. 11: Playin' with Fire
Aug. 18: The Traveling Lantern Theater Company presents "Camp Ocean"

Tuesday Nights in the Park Cook Park, Colonie; colonievillage.org

June 28: Electric City Horns
July 5: Jukebox Rebellion
July 12: Jim Gaudet & The Railroad Boys
July 19: TS Ensemble
July 26: New York Players
Aug. 2: Triskele
Aug. 9: The Pine Boys
Aug. 16: Dyer Switch
Aug. 23: Get Up Jack
Aug. 30: Skeeter Creek

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Albany Capital Center
55 Eagle St., Albany.
518-487-2155

Across The Street Pub
1238 Western Ave., Albany.
518-438-1718
Thurs: **Trivia** | 6:30-8:30 p.m.

The Avalon Lounge
29 Church St, Catskill
518-719-1640
Wed: **Of The Atlas / The Sugar Hold / Ethan Klee** | 8 p.m.
Fri: **Jungle Punk / Skillaton / Ronnie Rave** | 9 p.m.
Sat: **WORLDSUCKS / Jen Kutler / KMES** | 8 p.m.

Bard & Baker
Board Game Cafe Troy
501 Broadway, Suite 105, Troy
518-948-6693
Wed: **Play D&D: 'A Sinking Feeling' / A Level 5 One Shot Adventure** | 5:30 p.m.

Brown's Troy Taproom & Brewery
417 River Street ,Troy
518-273-2337
Fri: **Hot Club of Saratoga** | 6:30 p.m.

Black Bear Inn
310 19th St., Watervliet
518-272-9486

Caffe Lena
47 Phila St., Saratoga Springs
518-583-0022
Thurs: **Tia Fuller** | 7 p.m.
Fri: **The Lost Leaders** | 8 p.m.
Sat: **Tracy Bonham** | 8 p.m.

Carson's Woodside Tavern
57 NY-9P, Malta
518-584-9791
Wed: **The Heaters** | 6 p.m.
Thurs: **Garland Nelson** | 6 p.m.
Fri: **Jukebox Rebellion** | 6 p.m.
Sat: **Rhythm Pilots Band** | 6 p.m.
Sun: **The Elusive Elephant** | 6 p.m.

Centre Street Pub
308 Union St., Schenectady
518-393-2337
Thurs: **Acoustik** | 2 p.m.
Fri: **Justin Hendricks Band** | 5 p.m.
Sat: **Wide Awake** | 4 p.m.

Cohoes Music Hall
58 Remsen St., Cohoes
518-434-0776

The Comedy Works
388 Broadway, Saratoga Springs
877-565-3849

Curtain Call Theatre
1 Jeanne Jugan Lane
Latham, NY
Tel: 518 - 877 PLAY (7529)

Druthers Brewing Company
1053 Broadway, Albany
(518) 650-7996

Eden Cafe
269 Osborne Road #3, Albany
518-977-3771
Thurs: **Cabaroke** | 7 p.m.

HOT SPOTS EVENTS CALENDAR



A force behind Greenwich Village New Folk

Cliff Eberhardt's guitar and piano melodies range from pop to folk to old-style jazz, with lyrics that find fresh, incisive ways to address the familiar themes of life gone good and bad. He's at Caffé Lena on Saturday, June 25. Cliff Eberhardt

The Egg
Empire State Plaza., Albany
518-473-1845

Emack & Bolio's
366 Delaware Ave., Albany
518-512-5100

Empire Live/Underground
93 North Pearl St., Albany
866-468-3399
Wed: **The Nude Party** | 7 p.m.
Thurs: **The Wrecks** | 7 p.m.
Sun: **Seeyouinspacecowboy** | 7:30 p.m.

Empire State Plaza
Empire State Plaza., Albany
518-474-2418

Fort Orange Brewing
450 North Pearl St, Albany
518-992-3103

Frog Alley Brewing Co.
108 State Street Schenectady
518-631-4800
Thurs: **Monkberry** | 6 p.m.

Fuze Box
12 Central Avenue Albany
518-992-6434

Fri: **Hex: Inferno** | 7 p.m.

Funny Bone
1 Crossgates Mall Rd #K-206, Albany
518-313-7484.
Fri: **Matt Richards** | 7:30 p.m

Gaffney's
16 Caroline St., Saratoga Springs
518-587-7359

Grappa '72
818 Central Ave., Albany
518-482-7200
Thurs: **The Hamilton Street Jazz Trio** | 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Fri: **Earl Davis with Peg & Bill Delaney** | 5:30-8:30 p.m.

The Hangar on the Hudson
675 River St., Troy
518-272-9740

The Hollow Bar + Kitchen
79 North Pearl St., Albany
518-426-8550

Lark Hall
351 Hudson Ave, Albany
518-599-5804
Wed: **Reverend Peyton's Big Damn**

Band w/s/g Whiskey West | 7 p.m.

The Linda
339 Central Ave, Albany
518-465-5233

McGeary's Irish Pub
4 Clinton Square, Albany
518-463-1455
Tues: **Trivia Night** | 7 p.m.

Nashville Of Saratoga
39 Phila Street, Saratoga Springs
518-909-6274
Wed: **Karaoke** | 8 p.m.
Thurs: **Triple Threat Thursday** | 8 p.m.
Fri: **Frankie** | 5 p.m.
Sat: **North Allen Duo** | 5 p.m.

Nanola
2639 Rt 9, Malta
518-587-1300

The Night Owl
17 Maple Ave., Saratoga Springs
518-319-2300
Thurs: **Cookout** | 7 p.m.
Fri: **Fireside Fridays** | 8 p.m.
Sat: **Supper Club Saturdays** | 6 p.m.

Olde English Pub

683 Broadway, Albany.
518-434-6533

The Palace Theatre
19 Clinton Ave., Albany
518-465-4663

Panza's
129 So. Broadway, Saratoga Springs
518-584-6882
Thurs: **The Nick Horace Duo** | 6 p.m.
Fri: **Missy LaBate & Wayne Hawkins** | 6 p.m.
Sun: **Sinatra & Friends** | 5 p.m.

Parish Public House
388 Broadway, Albany
518-465-0444

The Parting Glass
40-42 Lake Ave., Saratoga Springs
518-583-1916

Paulys Hotel
337 Central Ave., Albany
518-426-0828

Sat: **Mighty mystic** | 8 p.m.
Sun: **Byrdhouse** | 8 p.m.

Proctors
432 State Street., Schenectady

518-346-6204
Wed: **Mean Girls** | 7:30 p.m.

Putnam Place
63a Putnam St., Saratoga Springs
518-584-8066

Rare Form Brewing Company
90 Congress Street Troy
(518) 326-4303
Sat: **Mountain Movers / Sky Furrows / Animal Piss ,It's Everywhere** | 10 a.m.

Ravenswood Grill & Tavern
1021 NY 146, Clifton Park.
518-371-8771
Tues: **Trivia Night** | 6:30 p.m.

The Ruck
104 3rd St., Troy
(518) 273-1872
Wed: **Trivia** | 7-9 p.m.

Rustic Barn Pub
150 Speoigletown Rd, Troy
518-235-5858
Thurs: **Open Mic** | 6 p.m.

The Saratoga Winery
462 Route 29, Saratoga Springs
518-584-9463

Saratoga National
458 Union Avenue Saratoga Springs
518.583.4653

Saratoga City Tavern
19-21 Caroline St., Saratoga Springs
518-581-3230
Thurs: **Karaoke** | 9 p.m.
Mon: **Bingo** | 8 p.m.
Tues: **Trivia** | 8 p.m.

Sand Lake Center for the Arts
2880 NY 43 Averill Park
518-674-2007

SPAC
Avenue of the Pines, Saratoga Springs
518-584-9330

Troy Savings Bank Music Hall
30 Second St., Troy
518-273-0038
Sun: **Songs from the Heart** | 3 p.m.

Vapor
342 Jefferson St, Saratoga Springs
(518) 584-2110
Fri: **Soul Session** | 8 p.m.
Sat: **Big Sky Country** | 9 p.m.

Van Slyck's
Rivers Casino & Resort
1 Rush St., Schenectady
518-579-8800
Thurs: **Orquesta Sensacional** | 8 p.m.

Waterworks Pub
76 Central Ave., Albany
518-465-9079
Fri: **Friday Night Dancing & Karaoke** | 10 p.m.-4 a.m.
Sat: **Saturday Night Dancing & Drag** | 10 p.m.-4 a.m.

Wicked
1602 Route 9, Clifton Park
518-467-8900
Thurs: **Open Mic Night Hosted By Rock Garden** | 7 p.m.
Fri: **Sugar Pill** | 8 p.m.

Wishing Well Restaurant
745 Saratoga Rd., Wilton
518-584-7640
Fri: **Mike Purcell** | 6 p.m.
Sat: **Matt Edwards** | 6 p.m.



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EXHIBITS

Albany Institute of History and Art The Four Elements of Leigh Li-Yun Wen-

The four elements of western cosmology, earth, air, fire, water—are the subjects of artist Leigh Li-Yun Wen's work.

The Hudson River School: Landscape Paintings from the Albany Institute- The Albany Institute holds a large and important collection of nineteenth-century American landscape paintings...

Nineteenth Century American Sculpture:Erastus Dow Palmer and His Protégés Launt Thompson, Charles Calverley, and Richard Park- Designed to showcase the museum's nationally known collection of mid- to late-nineteenth-century sculpture...

Ancient Egypt- Egyptologist and Guest Curator Dr. Peter Lacovara has incorporated the research and scientific discoveries revealed in the GE Presents: The Mystery of the Albany Mummies exhibition into a new exhibition about Ancient Egypt...

Traders & Culture: Colonial Albany and the Formation of American Identity- This exhibition looks at those diverse peoples who shaped colonial Albany and the objects that reflect their interests, values, commercial, and social interactions.

Albany International Airport ECHO-Ginne Gardiner & Amy Talluto Recent Painting and Collage A pattern of reflections distinguishes the work of these two artists...

Arts Center of the Capital Region The Troy. Gallery hours: Daily, Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

The Clark Art Institute Imaginary City- The large-format, abstract paintings of Tomm El-Saieh (b. 1984, Port-au-Prince; lives and works in Miami) teem with dense and dynamic marks that evoke ornament, language, and architecture.

in his memory and imagination—a site of joy and trauma, potential and uncertainty.Tomm El-Saieh was born in Haiti and grew up in Miami; he is of Haitian, Palestinian, and Israeli descent. He was the subject of a solo show at the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) Miami in 2018...

Clement Art Gallery Exhibit hours: Tue. thru Sat, 12noon - 5 PM. 201 Broadway Troy, NY clementart.com 518 272 6811

The Jan Rutland Memorial Artists' Space Gallery hours Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. Second Floor, National Bottle Museum, 76 Milton Ave., Ballston Spa. 518-885-7589 or nationalbottlemuseum.org

miSci Be the Astronaut - Be the Astronaut is a fun, interactive adventure where you are in control as you launch a rocket, pilot a spaceship, and drive a rover in space! The exhibit guides you as you discover the solar system first hand with the help of virtual astronauts as you land on multiple worlds...

the whole family and takes STEM learning into outer space. Throughout each stage of the exhibit, you have your own crew of virtual content experts. These digital characters help you learn what's needed to fly a spaceship, pilot a lander, and drive a surface rover. Then they are with you as you climb into the simulators to actually perform these feats...

New York State Museum Unveiled: Wedding Wear in 19th-century New York In choosing their wedding clothes, brides and grooms are influenced by fashion, economics, technology, religion, geography, celebrity, personal taste, and their role in society.

Wedding clothing holds memories, and pieces—dresses, shoes, suits, and head wear—are often preserved and passed to subsequent generations. A couple's choices reveal historical information about both the individuals who wore them and those who made them.

person or \$10/family. 518-474-5877 or www.nysm.nysed.gov

Opalka Gallery Gallery Hours Tuesday through Saturday 12pm to 5pm open late Thursday 12pm to 8pm. Monday by appointment. Gallery is located at Russell Sage College 140 New Scotland Ave. Albany, NY 12208.

Saratoga Arts 320 Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Free admission. Gallery hours: weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 518-584-4132 or saratoga-arts.org

Schenectady County Historical Society Ongoing: "Mapping Schenectady." Some of SCHS' most prominent and interesting maps are now on permanent display in the Map Gallery. Also, "Beyond the Pines: Early Schenectady," an exhibit focused entirely on early Schenectady: its founding, its people, and what life was like for the city's earliest residents.

Dan Sekellic Visual Arts Gallery Gallery hours: Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sand Lake Center for the Arts, 2880 NY Rte. 43, Averill Park. Free admission. 518-674-2007 or slca-ctp.org

Tang Teaching Museum On Their Own Terms- On Their Own Terms is an exhibition curated by students in the Scribner Seminar "Outsiders? Folk and Self-Taught Artists in the United States"

which presents works by a selection of nineteenth- and twentieth-century artists from the United States who have been variously categorized as "self-taught," "outsider," "folk," or "visionary," among other labels. Objects range in form and medium and include textiles, sculptures, relief carvings,

paintings, and drawings. The exhibition aims to present the visual art and lives of these artists while also interrogating the ways that curators, dealers, and scholars have exhibited, acquired, and sometimes overlooked this important work.

Lauren Kelley Location Scouting- Conceived and designed for conversation, dialogue, study, and contemplation, Location Scouting is the fourth exhibition in a series that invites an artist to re-imagine what a community space in the museum can be. Artist and curator Lauren Kelley reshapes the Tang Teaching Museum's mezzanine by combining meditations on travel with snapshots of everyday life in her drawings, sculpture, and stop-motion animation videos.

Union College Galleries Addenda- Custodians of archives wield great power and responsibility in considering who might be left out, disempowered or silenced in the creation of a specific narrative by those who use their records. Addenda centers interpretation and augmentation of past and present through the archive in an effort to

Grid for crossword puzzle with numbered squares and blacked-out areas.

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Basics
4. In a new way
10. __ Paulo, city
11. Jailhouse
12. Expresses surprise
14. Trigraph
15. A small stream
16. Dissimilar
18. Promote
22. Gives a boost
23. Lawmaker
24. Orthodox Jews
26. Actor Harris
27. Wild cherry
28. Participate in democracy
30. Opposite of begins
31. A Brit's mother
34. Set of moral principles
36. Very fast airplane
37. Czech river
39. Private school in New York
40. Israeli dance
41. Electron volt
42. Adjusting
48. Duct by the bladder
50. Small burger
51. Begin again
52. Unstuck
53. Jai __, sport
54. Get free of
55. For instance
56. Hotel chain
58. A team's best pitcher
59. Extracts from various sources
60. Indefinite period of time

CLUES DOWN

- 1. St. Francis of __
2. Supported
3. United in working
4. It cools your home
5. Predicting
6. Irritated
7. Popular talk show host
8. Fabric edge
9. A resource for employees
12. Broadway's Jackman
13. Small water buffalo
17. City of Angels: __ Angeles
19. Asteroids
20. Tailless amphibians
21. German expressionist painter
25. What drives you
29. N. Vietnamese ethnic group
31. Gold coin used in British India
32. Have deep affection for
33. Ponds
35. Breaks between words
38. Hairstyle
41. Print errors
43. Family of iron alloys
44. Sidelined in bed
45. Many couples say it
46. Brazilian hoopster
47. Allman Brothers late frontman
49. German city
56. One hundred grams (abbr.)
57. One billionth of a second (abbr.)

Answers on Pg. B21

construct a fuller future. The three contemporary artists featured in this exhibition, Gina Adams, Merritt Johnson and Sonya Kelliher-Combs, draw on history, cultural traditions, and archives, along with a strong belief in seeking alternative narratives to create artworks that exist dually, as both physical constructions and as a record of unconsidered perspectives and often unrecognized pasts. Exhibit is on going until June 12th.

University Art Museum

Ronny Quevedo: Offside- Inspired by his mother's and father's respective careers—a seamstress and a professional soccer player—multi-media artist Ronny Quevedo will occupy the arched walls of the museum in a newly commissioned work with diagrammatic vinyl lines that recall both dress patterns and gymnasium floors. Throughout this exhibition, which will include artwork from 2012 to the present, Quevedo's own family's emigration from Ecuador to New York serves as a catalyst for work reflecting on socio-political issues of migration, Indigenous experiences, and sacred spaces. University Art Museum is located at 1400 Washington Avenue, Albany.

THEATER

Ripcord

In this new comedy, set in an assisted living facility, the cantankerous Abby is forced to share her quarter with new arrival Marilyn. A seemingly harmless bet between the women quickly escalates into a dangerous game of one-upmanship that reveals deeper truths that each would rather remain hidden. A show to treasure. The show will be June 2nd through June 26th. with showtimes

Dance of the visual and the sonic

Rashid Zakat + OluwafemiPart virtual dance party and part live performance, Revival! is a celebration of visual and sonic transmissions that are contained within Black spiritual and ecstatic experience. The title itself references the religious practices and histories of African Americans who have used spirituals in the form of song, dance, and performance as modes of connection, transcendence, and pleasure outside of the systemic violences pressing on our lives. They perform at the Avalon Lounge in Catskill on Sunday, June 26.

Avalon Lounge



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Answers on Pg. B21

Thursdays 7:30 p.m., Fridays 8:00 p.m., Saturdays 3:00 p.m. and Sundays 3:00 p.m. Only at Curtain Call Theatre 1 Jeanne Jugan Lane, Latham, NY.

Harper Lee's To Kill A Mockingbird

The New York Times Critic's Pick HARPER LEE'S TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD is "the most successful American play in Broadway history. It has not played to a single empty seat" (60 Minutes). Rolling Stone gives it 5 stars, calling it "an emotionally shattering landmark production of an American classic," and New York Magazine calls it "a real phenomenon. Majestic and incandescent, it's filled with breath and nuance and soul." With direction by Tony Award® winner Bartlett Sher, TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD — "the greatest novel of all time" (Chicago Tribune) — has quickly become "one of the greatest plays in history" (NPR). Catch the show starting June 14th through the the 19th. Only at Proctors 432 State Street Schenectady.

COMEDY

Luis J. Gomez w/Zac Amico

Luis J. Gomez is a stand up comedian, actor, and radio personality based out of New York City. He's been featured on NBC's "Last Comic Standing", AXS TV's "Gotham Comedy Live", and MTV2's "Guy Code". Luis currently hosts "The Countdown" on Sirius XM's RUSH channel 93 alongside UFC Middleweight champion Michael Bisping and has made regular appearances on The Bennington Show, The Anthony Cumia Show, and UFC Unfiltered. Recently, Luis performed at the prestigious Just For Laughs Festival in Montreal and was named a "breakout performer" by Time Out NY. Luis also hosts the wildly popular Legion of Skanks



HOT DATE

THE FIGGS!

35 years after forming in Saratoga Springs, New York, Mike Gent (guitar, vocals), Pete Donnelly (bass, vocals), and Pete Hayes (drums, vocals) are still going strong. Catch them at The Hangar on Friday, June 24, at 8 p.m.

Podcast with his best friends and fellow comedians Big Jay Oakerson and Dave Smith. Zac Amico is a comedian, actor, and filmmaker living with an abundance

of cats in Brooklyn, NY. Originally from New Jersey, this punk rock raconteur is making moves in the worlds of trash cinema and filthy comedy. Zac recently appeared in Troma Entertainment's Return To Nuke 'Em High Volumes 1 and 2, fulfilling a lifelong dream of dying naked in a film directed by Lloyd Kaufman. After his first battle became a viral video, Zac is now a regular competitor in the NYC branch of Jeff Ross and Brian Moses' Roastmasters, a live comedy competition of one on one insult battles hell at The Stand Comedy Club. You can also hear Zac every week on The Real Ass Podcast with his close, personal friend Luis J. Gomez. Whether it's on the screen at your next favorite midnight movie, in your ears on a podcast you wouldn't want your parents listening to, or on stage pushing the boundaries of good taste at your local comedy club, be on the lookout for this morally questionable, quick-witted performer. Catch the show June 25th at 8 p.m. only at The Cohoes Music Hall, 58 Remsen Street Cohoes.

Nick Colletti

With his natural charm and raw talent, Nick Colletti is quickly emerging as one of Hollywood's most dynamic and sought-after comedians and personalities. Nick can currently be seen starring alongside Jimmy Tatro in Facebook Watch's comedy-hit, THE REAL BROS OF SIMI VALLEY, which will soon begin production on its third season. Colletti stars as Duncan in the faux-reality show which centers on four best friends as they navigate life in Simi Valley. Catch the show June 15th at 7:30 p.m. only at The Funny Bone 1 Crossgates Mall Rd #K-206 Albany, NY 12203.

Ray Harrington

Ray Harrington is an infectiously charming comedian who performs across the

globe with hilariously irreverent material and marvelous improvisational riffing that embraces the uncomfortable and the absurd with a smile. He's been seen on Conan, and his documentary BE A MAN won the LA Comedy Festival before premiering exclusively on Hulu. His first album from Stand Up! Records, The Worst Is Over, debuted at the top of the comedy charts on Amazon and iTunes. His latest album, Overwhelmed, debuted at Number 1 on Amazon and at the top of the Billboard Comedy Charts.

Ray was named Best Comedian by the Providence Phoenix, was a finalist in the Boston Comedy Festival, and was invited to host the International Filmaloopa Awards in Hollywood. He was awarded Best Documentary at the LA Comedy Festival as well as the SNOB Film Festival, and premiered his film BE A MAN at the New York Comedy Festival. Ray has been heard on nationally syndicated radio along with Sirius/XM and he's been seen on Conan, Hulu, ABC, FOX, TBS, and SBS Australia. Catch The Show June 24th At 8 P.M. with a second show on Saturday at 8 p.m. Only At The Comedy Works, 388 Broadway, Saratoga Springs.

Jim Florentine

Florentine has made dozens of appearances on the Howard Stern Show. His two Crank Yankers characters on Comedy Central, "Special Ed" and "Bobby Fletcher" have become cult stars. Jim appeared as "Special Ed" along with International megastar Eminem to present an award at the 2003 MTV Music Awards and has achieved headline status at comedy clubs throughout the country, numerous commercials, and even two top selling comedic Catch the show June 22nd at 7:30 p.m. only at The Funny Bone 1 Crossgates Mall Rd #K-206 Albany, NY 12203.

HOROSCOPES

June 2022 Week 4

ARIES - MAR 21/APR 20

Friendships are worth their weight in gold, Aries. That is good news considering you could make an important friend this week — but only if you put yourself out there.

TAURUS - APR 21/MAY 21

You just may be at your best this week, Taurus. Others will take notice of this immediately. Work finally begins to pay off, and it's a good time to begin a project.

GEMINI - MAY 22/JUN 21

There is something waiting for you in the great outdoors, Gemini. You have to gather the gumption to go out there and find it. You will have plenty of opportunities this week.

CANCER - JUN 22/JUL 22

Cancer, something impressive takes hold of your attention, and then you can't get it out of your mind. This could be the inspiration you need to start something new.

LEO - JUL 23/AUG 23

A particular person may play a key role in your life today, particularly as he or she interacts with forces at work. There is a chance for this relationship to grow, Leo.

VIRGO - AUG 24/SEPT 22

You have made a decision to get your life in order, Virgo. This week marks the first steps toward that goal. Accept help when it is given for an additional leg up.

LIBRA - SEPT 23/OCT 23

Let your artistic side out to play, Libra. It's not something others play witness to that often, but you can be quite imaginative when you set your mind to it.

SCORPIO - OCT 24/NOV 22

Scorpio, family matters may not be cut and dried, but that doesn't mean they have to be challenging. Enjoy things that are not run-of-the-mill, especially with the family.

SAGITTARIUS - NOV 23/DEC 21

An exchange that takes place this week could have long-lasting after effects, Sagittarius. You won't know the particular event in advance, so enjoy the anticipation.

CAPRICORN - DEC 22/JAN 20

Sometimes change only requires transforming the way you look at things, Capricorn. Try to see your daily life in a new light and maybe you'll be more satisfied with it.

AQUARIUS - JAN 21/FEB 18

Get in touch with your desires and goals this week, Aquarius. Your plan and focus may have changed and you might need to realign your approach in this new direction.

PISCES - FEB 19/MAR 20

Let go of some of the patterns in your life that simply aren't working, Pisces. You'll free up plenty of time for new pursuits.

Kevin Bozeman

Seen On Comedy Central, NBC's Last Comic Standing. Kevin's Dry Bar Comedy Special has gone viral several times over. Kevin's hilarious truths on relationships, parenting and day to day life, is a must see Show! Catch the show June 24th at 7:30 p.m. only at The Funny Bone 1 Crossgates Mall Rd #K-206 Albany, NY 12203.

Eliot Chang

Originally from New York City and now based in Los Angeles, he has toured in almost every state in America and parts of Europe and Asia. This comedian is also an actor and improviser. He studied improv in NY at the Upright Citizens Brigade (UCB) and then with Armando Diaz at the Magnet Theater. Also featured is Ethan, Christian and the Eligible Spatulers. A comedy music duo featuring comedian Ethan Ullman (as heard on the Howard Stern Show, Kevin Allison's RISK! Story-telling podcast, and Dave & Ethan's 2000" Weird AI Podcast) as well as singer-song-writer and producer Christian Portwine. Their debut track "Petroleum Habit" has been praised and heard around the globe on the world-famous Dr. Demento Show. Catch this show June 24th at 8 p.m. only at The Linda WAMC's Performing Arts Studio, 339 Central Avenue, Albany.

MISCELLANEOUS

Jerusalem Reformed Church

Soup, Sandwich, and Desert Take-out. Saturday, October 9th from 4:00 - 6:30 p.m. Donations welcome. Please note, masks are required to enter the building. 1433 Indian Fields Rd, Feura Bush.

Troy Farmers Market

More than 80 food growers, bakers, chefs and artisans gather to offer the Capital District's freshest and finest! Live music,

great food, family activities and learning opportunities. Every Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Troy. Free admission. 518-708-4216 or www.troymarket.org.

Schenectady GreenMarket

Vendors, shoppers, musicians and friends gather at this festive marketplace featuring more than 60 vendors who produce everything they sell. Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free admission. 518-986-0318 or schenectadygreenmarket.org/

Veterans Meet-Up

All veterans welcome to free coffee Tuesdays, from 6 to 8 p.m. Saratoga Coffee Traders, 447 Broadway, Saratoga Springs. 518-884-4999 or www.VeteransPeerConnection.org

Social Night/Open House tours

Get a feel for this amazing creative community. Free. Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Tech Valley Center of Gravity, 30 3rd St., Troy. 518-279-7863 or www.tvcog.net.

MUSIC

Jon LeRoy Quartet

The Jon LeRoy Trio made their debut in 1999. We continue to play and back up with many of the capital district's best jazz instrumentalists and vocalists; playing for the New York State Assembly, The Aids Council, and numerous Capital District Jazz Clubs. Mike Novakowski is the area's "Go-to-Guy" for jazz guitar. He has performed with The Empire Jazz Orchestra, The Theresa Broadwell Quartet (along with his wife), and several groups on the local scene. Andrew Hearn joined the Trio in 2013 and brought his incredible energy, drive, and precision talents to the group. Andy has played with countless jazz, blues groups, and notables. Jon

LeRoy, also known as the Capital District's Largest Jazz Organist facilitates the group's production of straight ahead jazz, funk, Latin, and contemporary grooves. The Jon LeRoy Trio performs the music of Miles Davis, Jimmy Smith, Joey DeFrancesco, Jaco Pastorius, and many other great compositions from various performers, artists, and entertainers. Spending an evening experiencing our Trio will have you entertained, swinging, and in the groove! Catch the show June 24th at 8 p.m. only at 9 Maple Ave # 1, Saratoga Springs.

Dave Fisk Quartet

Dave Fisk is a saxophonist in Albany, NY. Dave's interest in music started at a young age. His father, David Fisk Sr, was the source of his inspiration. His Father, (an amateur musician) introduced him to many styles of music; from Mozart to Hendrix to Paul Simon to Stan Getz. But it was when Dave's father played Miles Davis's album "Jazz Traxx" that Dave became "hooked" on jazz. The group on the album contained such notables as Juliann "Cannonball" Adderley, Alto Sax and John Coltrane Tenor Sax. Mr. Fisk entered the Crane School of Music as a Saxophone major pursuing a degree in music education with a minor in Jazz Studies. At Crane he studied with Robert Faub and Brett Zvacek. He also had the privilege to study with other musicians such as Dave Dempsey, Jim Corigliano, Joe Magnarelli, Mark Vinci and Ralph Lalama Catch the show June 25th at 8 p.m. only at 9 Maple Ave # 1, Saratoga Springs.

Faun Fables / Camp St. Helene

FAUN FABLES blends the best part of progressive rock, folk music and experimental theater with an undeniable mastery. That curious blend, along with the impeccable balance DAWN McCARTHY and



Sit down and talk

Kevin Bozeman has been seen on Comedy Central, NBC's Last Comic Standing. Kevin's Dry Bar Comedy Special has gone viral several times over. Kevin's hilarious truths on relationships, parenting and day to day life, is a must see show. He's to perform this weekend at the FunnyBone in Crossgates.

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July 6, 2022 Issue

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PLEASE NOTE: The Spotlight News offices will be CLOSED on Monday, July 4

NILS FRYKDAHL strike between the comforting and disquieting may account for the group's staying power. . . it will both haunt and excite you, and if you're seeking something out of the ordinary, something that doesn't just transcend music boundaries but smashes them, then this is for you. FAUN FABLES have been travelling the music club, grass roots and festival circuits in North America and Europe since 1998, releasing to date eight records on DRAG CITY. Dawn McCarthy's writing and voice, which THE NEW YORKER described as "one of the more compelling instruments in contemporary music," can open hearts and minds with a whisper to a rallying battle cry into her mythical world, animated by the adventurous musicality of her partner Nils Frykdahl (Free Salamander Exhibit, Sleepytime Gorilla Museum) with electric guitars, bass, flutes, and a rich, weathered voice. They return to the road this Summer 2022 with a live show embellished by their daughters joining them on vocals, percussion and dance. Catch the show June 23rd at 8 p.m. only at the Avalon Lounge 29 Church St. Catskill.

Rashid Zakat + Oluwafemi

Part virtual dance party and part live performance, Revival! is a celebration of visual and sonic transmissions that are contained within Black spiritual and ecstatic experience. The title itself references the religious practices and histories of African Americans who have used spirituals in the form of song, dance, and performance as modes of connection, transcendence, and pleasure outside of the systemic violences pressing on our lives. Zakat and Oluwafemi use turntables to deejay both visual and aural content sourced from an archive of found footage from the internet, documentaries, live performances, and



HOT DATE

BOWLING FOR SOUP!

Known for their cheeky take on pop-punk and melodic alt-pop, Bowling for Soup found mainstream success with a Grammy nomination for its hooky pop culture-referencing single "Girl All the Bad Guys Want." See them at Empire Live on Thursday, June 24, starting at 7:30 p.m.

interviews. At Wave Farm Revival! will manifest both as a radio broadcast and a live event at Avalon Lounge in Catskill, NY. Rashid Zakat is a filmmaker and artist

based in Philadelphia. He uses video, photography, design, audio, and the web to encourage people to find as much beauty, joy, and wonder as possible. Professionally Zakat has a 15-year long career as a director and cinematographer for non-fiction, experimental films, and music videos. He has done work for India. Arie, Carmelo Anthony, Black Thought, The Philadelphia Museum of Art, BlackStar Film Festival, Soul Train, Topic, WHY?, Philadelphia Contemporary, Mural Arts, & BET to name a few. His personal work includes short documentary, iPhone and traditional portrait projects, visual mixtapes, digital publications, video installations, open mics and dance parties that experiment with visuals. Oluwafemi is a deejay, music producer and visual artist based in Philadelphia, by way of Central New Jersey, by way of Lagos, Nigeria. Oluwafemi is inspired by drums and patterns, the rhythmic evolution of repetition. For over a decade, he has enjoyed mixing songs of drum influenced genres - the family of funk, hip-hop, soul, reggae, dancehall, house music, and their innumerable offshoots. These diasporic sounds have traveled with Oluwafemi to various cities on the east coast, California and Costa Rica. His style is simultaneously groovy and soulful, often drawing from a wide range of cultural influence and history. Catch the show June 26th at 8 p.m. only at the Avalon Lounge 29 Church St. Catskill.

Acoustic Blues Open Mic & Jam

Every fourth Wednesday Caffè Lena and The Saratoga Acoustic Blues Society team up for a great evening of acoustic blues performed by amateur and off-duty professional blues players from around the Capital District. Whether you come to listen or play, you'll be treated to some great performances! All ages and

playing levels are welcome. Our host is keyboard player and WRPI radio host & NYS Blues Hall of Famer Sonny Speed, a founding member of SABS. Our featured artist kicks off the night at 7:00. Open Mic follows the featured performance. The much-anticipated jam rounds out the evening, with all players invited to join in. \$5 admission for adults, FREE for students. Come join us June 22nd at 7 p.m. only at Caffè Lena 47 Phila Street, Saratoga Springs.

Bobby Rush

The creator of a singular sound that he dubbed "folk-funk," vocalist, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist Bobby Rush is among the most colorful and enduring characters on the contemporary chitlin circuit, honing a unique style that brings together a cracked lyrical bent with elements of blues, soul, and funk. While Rush's early singles were raw, straightforward blues, by the '70s his music had grown into a swampy hybrid of blues, soul, and funk, seasoned with a deeply Southern flavor and Rush's cocky vocal style. For decades, Rush was a star on the Southern club circuit where soul-blues and retro-soul acts thrive while barely making an impression on mainstream listeners, but that began to change in 2003, when he was featured in The Road to Memphis, an episode of the acclaimed PBS documentary series The Blues, which featured interviews with Rush and footage of him working the crowd on-stage. Come join us June 23rd at 7 p.m. only at Caffè Lena 47 Phila Street, Saratoga Springs.

Black Opry Revue

Black Opry is a home for Black artists and Black fans of country, blues, folk, and Americana music. Country music has been made by and loved by Black people

since it's conception. For just as long, we have been overlooked and disregarded in the genre by fans and executives. Black Opry wants to change that. We invite you to discover, support and enjoy the Black artists that make magic in this space. One of the most valuable aspects of country music is its versatility and diversity in sound. Country, blues, folk, and Americana music often overlap or weave together- these artists explore all of those sounds and intersections. The Black Opry Revue showcases the diversity in sound and stories that Black artists offer to these genres. Come join us June 24th at 8 p.m. only at Caffè Lena 47 Phila Street, Saratoga Springs.

Cliff Eberhardt

Cliff Eberhardt's guitar and piano melodies range from pop to folk to old-style jazz, with lyrics that find fresh, incisive ways to address the familiar themes of life gone good and bad. From melancholy to sweet optimism, Cliff's songs are the product of a mature and tested performer with the highest level of craftsmanship. A driving force of the Greenwich Village New Folk movement and beloved by his peers, Cliff's songs have been covered by Richie Havens, Buffy St. Marie, Erasure, Lucy Kaplansky and the folk superstar band "Cry, Cry, Cry" (Dar Williams, Richard Shindell, Lucy Kaplansky). Catch the show June 25th at 8 p.m. only at Caffè Lena 47 Phila Street, Saratoga Springs.

More Music. Less Violence.

More Than Music LLC is proud to announce their fourth installment of More Music Less Violence, a showcase of local performers and speakers from around the Capital Region working to prevent violence in our community. Performers for the day will include Emaculit, Precedence, Hannah Amigo,

The Young Optimist, GianLife, Ahzie, Mikayla Mclean, Quaudy Rouse and Symone Noelle. Along with live music and keynote speakers, attendees will get to experience art as it is created with a live artist and have the opportunity to win prizes donated from the local Saratoga Springs community of businesses. Since its initial pop up event in the summer of 2020, More Music Less Violence has grown tremendously as an organization promoting change in the Capital Region. It's mission is to build a new era of musicians through non violent expressions. With a peaceful positive curated lineup, a safe space for creative freedom, healing and community is born, one note at a time. Catch the show June 26th at 4 p.m. only at Caffè Lena 47 Phila Street, Saratoga Springs.

The McKrells

"World domination" is not a phrase most of us would associate with a band, but Albany music critic David Malachowski thinks differently. "The only thing between the McKrells and world domination is time," he says in Metroland. Perhaps it's the culture-spanning comfort of their tunes or the worldclass instrumentation of this 5-piece band. Whatever the source, the McKrells deliver a unique musical vocabulary and humble their peers in the process. "Traditional suits-and-ties bluegrass The McKrells are not...But those hip enough...will soon be awash in a sound that can best be described as Irish bluegrass. Yes, it's bluegrass, mostly, but there's a lilt to the tunes, a bouncing drive to the melodies, the trace of an accent in Kevin's vocals, and here and there a touch of melancholy that seems to go hand in hand with the Irish persona," reports Bluegrass Now. Catch the show June 24th at 6 p.m. only at Carson's Woodside Tavern, 57 Route 9P, Malta.

EXCITING CHANGES ARE HERE for Capital District Family Now!

Now appearing in a new format

In an effort to adapt to significant changes in printing and distribution costs **Capital District Family Now** is now printed in a slightly larger tabloid format, (returning to its original size when we started publishing news about the family 25 years ago). This newer size brings more opportunities to add content and grow.

Even better, **Family Now** is automatically mailed to 14,000 homes in the Capital District on the first

Wednesday of every month in addition to 12,000 at pick up locations. We are doing this by including it within our **Spotlight News & Spot 518** products. This increase in circulation means even more eyes on our publication for both our advertisers and our readers.

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Summer HOME Improvement PAGES

Certain home improvement projects are more complex than others. Projects that involve working with gas lines are among the most complicated and risky undertakings, and even seasoned do-it-yourselfers are urged to leave such tasks to certified professionals. According to Angi, the average cost to move a gas line is between

Did you know?

\$15 and \$25 per linear foot, and homeowners can expect to pay an additional \$1 to \$10 per linear foot for pipe materials. A natural gas plumber can

install, extend and repair natural gas lines and ensure that the project is completed safely, on time and within homeowners' budgets. Angi notes that the average cost to move a gas line is between \$250 and \$750 for the whole project. However, if a buried line must be excavated, that cost could run into the thousands of dollars.



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A buyer's guide to home air conditioning systems

Few experiences provide as much relief as walking into a cool room on a hot summer day. Air conditioning systems make such experiences possible, and homeowners' decision in regard to which one to install in their homes is significant.

Homeowners may not know where to begin in regard to finding the right air conditioning system for their home. According to the Air-Conditioning, Heating, & Refrigeration Institute, the best systems provide steady, dependable performance for many

years when sized correctly for the home. Correct installation and routine maintenance also can ensure homeowners' air conditioning systems withstand the test of time.

How do I know which size is best?

When shopping for new air conditioning systems, homeowners must consider a host of factors to ensure they get the best match. The AHRI notes that the home's age, the number and quality of its windows, how well it's insulated, the number of stories it has, and its square footage are among

the factors to consider. Homeowners can benefit from working with trained technicians who can investigate each of these factors and recommend the correct system. The AHRI recommends homeowners ask their technicians to perform a Manual J analysis, which is a standardized formula that can help homeowners get the perfect system for their homes.

What about energy efficiency?

Energy efficiency is an important consideration when purchasing a new air conditioner for a home. Energy rates vary depending on where a person lives, but rates remain pretty high across the board. The Energy Information Association notes that residential electricity rates increased throughout the United States by about 15 percent between 2009 and 2019. An energy-efficient unit can help homeowners save considerable amounts of money, so homeowners can ask their technicians to recommend energy-efficient units that suit their homes. A unit that adequately cools a home without consuming a lot of costly electricity should be every homeowner's goal. The U.S. Department of Energy employs the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating, or SEER, to inform consumers about the efficiency of each air conditioner. This rating is noted on the Energy Guide® label on each unit, and the higher the number, the more efficient the unit.

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- STYLISH DESIGNS • INNOVATIVE IDEAS
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Summer HOME Improvement PAGES

Outdoor improvements that boost home value

Whether home improvement projects are design to improve the interior or exterior of a house, focusing on renovations that make the most financial sense can benefit homeowners in the long run. The right renovations can be assets if and when homeowners decide to sell their homes.

So how does one get started? First and foremost, speak to a local real estate agent who is knowledgeable about trends in the community. While a swimming pool may be something coveted in one area, it may impede sales in

another. It also helps to study generalized trends and data from various home improvement industry analysts to guide upcoming projects.

The following outdoor projects are just a few renovations that tend to add value.

• **Fire pit:** A fire pit is a great place to gather most months of the year. Bob Vila and CBS news report that a fire pit realizes a 78 percent return on investment, or ROI.

• **Outdoor kitchen:** Many buyers are looking to utilize their yards as an extension of interior living areas. Cooking, dining

and even watching TV outdoors is increasingly popular. Outdoor living areas can be custom designed and built. In addition, prefabricated modular units that require a much smaller commitment of time and money are available.

• **Patio:** Homeowners who do not already have a patio will find that adding one can increase a home's value. Patios help a home look neat, add useable space and may help a home to sell quickly. The experts at Space Wise, a division of Extra Space Storage, say that refinishing, repairing and



building a new patio offers strong ROI.

• **Deck:** Deck can be as valuable as patios. A deck is another outdoor space that can be used for entertaining, dining and more. Remodeling magazine's 2018 "Cost

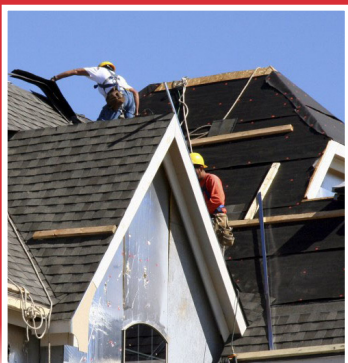
vs. Value" report indicates that an \$11,000 deck can add about \$9,000 in resale value to the home, recouping around 82 percent of the project's costs.

• **Door update:** Improve curb appeal with a new,

high-end front door and garage doors. If that's too expensive, a good cleaning and new coat of paint can make an old door look brand new. These easy fixes can improve a home's look instantly.

• **New landscaping:** The National Association of Realtors says an outdoor makeover that includes well-thought out landscaping can net 105 percent ROI. Installing a walkway, adding stone planters, mulching, and planting shrubs are ideas to consider.

Many different outdoor projects can add value to a home.



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Summer **HOME** Improvement PAGES

Signs your gutters are in need of repair

Summer is a great time to tackle projects around the house. The weather each summer allows homeowners to make improvements to their homes' exteriors without worrying about extreme cold, while interior projects like painting are made easier because homeowners can open the windows to allow for proper ventilation.

Summer also marks a great time to prepare for upcoming projects that can make fall and winter

work that much easier. For example, now is a great time to take stock of your gutters so you can address any issues before leaves begin to fall or the first snowstorm touches down. Compromised gutters can contribute to water issues in basements and adversely affect a home's foundation if not addressed immediately, so it behooves homeowners to learn the signs that gutters are in need of repair or replacement.

• Gutters hanging off the home: Gutters

were once installed predominantly with spikes. However, many industry professionals now install gutters with hanger brackets. Why the change? Spikes loosen over time, leading to the gutters hanging off the home. That can contribute to serious issues if left untreated. Brackets hook into the front of the gutter and are then screwed into the fascia of a home.

• Gutter separation: Gutters that are no longer fastened together can leak and contribute to issues that affect the home's foundation, siding and appearance. Clogs and the accumulation of debris can cause gutters to separate because they are not designed to hold too much weight. Replacement of separated gutters may or may not be necessary depending on how big the problem is and the condition of the existing gutters.

• Peeling exterior paint: Paint that appears to be peeling off of your home may indicate that water is seeping over the edge of the gutter closest to your home. In such instances, replacing the gutters is often necessary.

• Basement flooding: Not all signs of deteriorating gutters are outside a home. Basement flooding can be caused by aging, ineffective gutters. That's because deteriorating gutters sometimes allow water to leak near the foundation of a home, contributing to basement flooding.

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Summer HOME Improvement PAGES

The dangers of mowing your lawn too low

Summer marks the return of many things. Flowers are again in, while warmer temperatures are welcomed back with open arms. Grass also is in full growing mode in the summer. That means homeowners have to put lawn mowers to work. Those who don't necessarily enjoy mowing the lawn may be tempted to cut their grass very low, as doing so can mean longer intervals between mowing sessions. However, mowing grass too low can have a very adverse effect on a lawn.



- **Cutting too low can injure the grass.** Cutting grass too low can injure the grass, creating what's essentially a domino effect of problems to come. Injured grass will focus on its recovery efforts, thereby making it vulnerable to other issues.
- **Cutting too low promotes weed growth.** Injured grass is vulnerable to invaders, including weeds and insects. Weeds and insects can attack grass as it recovers from injury, and before homeowners know it, their lawns are overcome with a host of problems.
- **Cutting too low allows crabgrass to thrive.** Crabgrass needs ample sunlight to grow. By cutting grass too low, homeowners may unknowingly be promoting crabgrass growth. Crabgrass is unsightly and can rob surrounding grass of the moisture it needs to grow. So lawns cut too low may not only lose their lush appeal thanks to the unattractive appearance of crabgrass, but also because areas surrounding the crabgrass patches might turn brown due to lack of water.
- **Cutting too low can stress the grass.** Cutting too low also makes lawns vulnerable to summer heat. Without blades tall enough to block some of the summer sun, grass can quickly succumb to summer heat, leading to dried out, discolored lawns.



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Signs you need to overhaul your kitchen

Remodeling a kitchen adds value to a home. Remodeling Magazine's "Cost vs. Value Report" indicates mid-range kitchen remodels cost about \$66,000, and homeowners can expect to recover about 60 to 80 percent of that cost at resale.

Homeowners may wonder if remodeling their kitchens is worth the investment. But homeowners should not just consider cost, but also the current conditions of their kitchens when deciding if a renovation project is the right move to make. These signs indicate it may be time to renovate a kitchen.

• Breakers are triggered: If the lights go dark from a tripped circuit breaker every time you try to microwave and run the toaster oven at the same time, your wiring is likely not up to the task of handling the workload and could be out of date. A kitchen remodel will assess wiring load needs and an electric overhaul may be necessary.

• Lack of storage: One of the biggest hassles homeowners encounter in their kitchens is a lack of storage space. If making a meal involves a Jenga-like stacking and rearranging of kitchen tools, or if an avalanche occurs whenever you search for an item, you might need more storage.

• Outdated appliances: Even if your appliances

are not avocado green or mustard yellow relics of the 1970s, they might still need to be replaced. According to CRD Design, appliances are only expected to last around 10 to 15 years. If appliances have become unsafe or energy hogs, it could be time for a remodel.

• Family is expanding (or shrinking): Kitchens often are the heart of a home. They need to meet the needs of the family that resides in that home. A remodel can add

space as needed. On the flip side, when a couple becomes empty nesters, kitchens can be redesigned and downsized to reflect their new needs and desires.

• Poor lighting: Task lighting is essential in a kitchen, but older homes may not be equipped with lighting where it's most needed. A carefully designed remodel can improve lighting with under-cabinet lights, pendants, overhead lighting.

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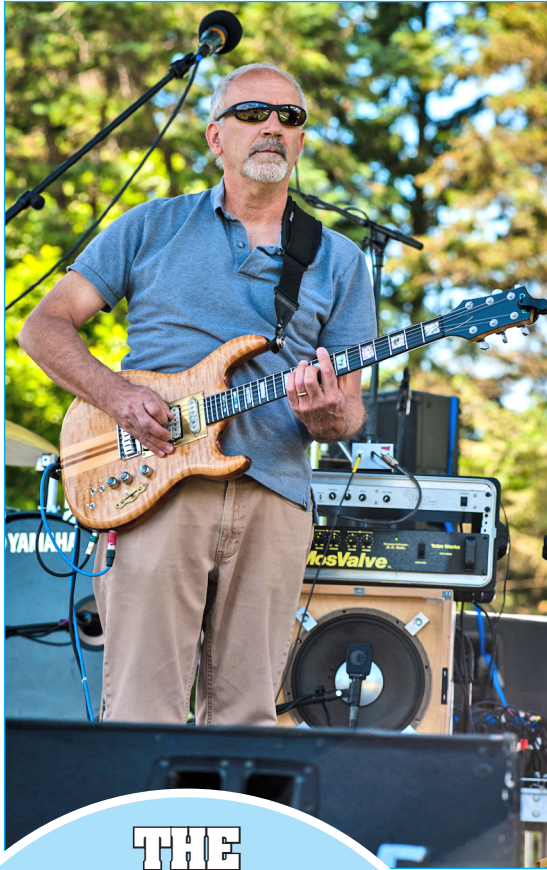
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THE WHEELS

On stage, headliner The Wheel brought the vibe to Albany's DadFest on Sunday, June 19. Off stage, old school muscle cars provided the vroom.

Photos by Michael Hallisey / The Spot 518



The bikes are back!

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