



2013-2014

Continuing Excellence Awards Banquet

The State Room – Albany, New York

New York News Publishers Association

Judges selected winners
from 480 entries submitted
by 28 daily newspapers.



Contest Judges

- **Rosemary Armao**, Journalism Professor at SUNY Albany
- **Debbie Hoffman**, Journalism Awards Expert,
debhoffman.net
- **Susy Schultz**, President of Community Media Workshop,
Chicago
- **Jim Ware**, Public Safety Editor at the *Star-News*,
Wilmington, North Carolina
- **Wendy Zang**, Former Director of Innovation at McClatchy-
Tribune.



New York News Publishers Association

Awards will be presented
in 22 categories within five
circulation classes.



Under 10,000



Distinguished Community Service

The Citizen, Auburn

SPECIAL SERIES

'That could be me, that could be you'



Sarah Jean Condon photos, The Citizen
James Brechin, Regional Director of Program Development for the Rescue Mission, stands in front of an abandoned building in Auburn sometimes used as shelter by the homeless.

Poverty expanding in Cayuga County, data and experts say

Samantha House
samantha.house@se.net

AUBURN
Beneath a railroad bridge that crosses the Owego River stands a home. Set up in Auburn Correctional Facility's shadow, the makeshift dwelling is comprised of a cement tube just roomy enough for an adult to crouch in. It is stuffed with a nest of mismatched fabric and backed by a wall of rotting, wooden planks.

More online
To view video interviews with advocates in this story see this story at auburnpub.com.
The home has a garbage bin, stove and bathroom. It is not much, but it is someone's home.

As a train chugs across the bridge, James Breslin, director of program services for Auburn's Rescue Mission, stands on a cement base and points at different locations surrounding the outlet — places where a portion for Cayuga County's homeless population, numbering at an estimated 1,070, have sought shelter.

The county's homeless contingent illustrates the most extreme example of poverty — of what can happen when people run out of options.

And that endangered, impoverished population is growing.

Cayuga County has never been immune to poverty.



Sue Norton is the director of the food pantry at St. Alphonsus Church in Auburn.

Like the rest of the nation, the county has long been home to a fraction of residents who have struggled to find work, food or, in the most dire cases, shelter. But over the past decade, local advocates have seen the poor population it serves steadily expand.

In the past year alone, the Cayuga/Genesee Community Action Agency has helped more residents keep the heat and lights on with emergency utility assistance, given out more free clothing and sheltered more victims of domestic violence.

According to Trish Otley, the agency's marketing and development director, C/GACA has seen a need for water heater services in larger number of neighborhoods — many of which, 10 years ago, be-

longed to the middle class.

"There's poorer neighborhoods," Otley said. "I think there's a lot of that shift."

Between 2008 and 2013, Cayuga County has witnessed an annual increase in the number of residents who need temporary assistance, food stamps and supplemental security income. The number of residents requiring temporary assistance alone, for example, has nearly doubled over the past five years.

Homelessness has also increased. From 2011 to now, Cayuga County's homeless population — according to Auburn's Rescue Mission — has risen from 475 people to 685 people. If you add it in the homeless

See Poverty, A7



A six-day multimedia series on poverty in Cayuga County

On the Web

"Wealth of hardship: Cayuga County's growing poverty problem" is a six-day multimedia series looking at the causes and symptoms of poverty in the area, as well as the services being provided to alleviate it.

The series also includes photo galleries, an online survey about poverty profiles of local people who've experienced it and a blog written by The Citizen staff living this week on a food budget equivalent to that of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

To see all the content in the series, visit auburnpub.com/poverty-series.

FACES OF POVERTY



From left, Trish Griffin, 17, Brianna Griffin, 11, and Shannon Griffin sit on their porch with their dog Annabell after the girls came home from school Thursday.

PAYING IT FORWARD

Auburn single mother battles disability to raise daughters, give back

Greg Mason
greg.mason@se.net

Shannon Griffin typically wakes to the sound of her alarm around 5:30 a.m. What happens next could decide her whole day.

On a good day, the 10-year-old Auburn woman is able to collect herself without much problem, getting out of bed and making sure her two daughters, 11 and 17, make it to school.

When it's one of those days, Shannon's body lets her know. On those days, her back grows with pain when she attempts to rise, urging the 10-year-old to remain prone. Sometimes a hot shower is enough to dull the pain, she says. Sometimes it's not.

Shannon never used to have those days. But now, she said, bad days have been fairly common for about eight years since

More online

For a video interview with Shannon Griffin, see this story at auburnpub.com.

sustaining significant injuries to portions of her spine.

Since then, Shannon has been at the mercy of her body. She can't drive. And she can't work — certainly not at the level she used to or the level that she needs to. Even sleeping can be a chore. And with her unemployment, Shannon's physical struggles are reflected in her finances.

Right now, she's trying to keep her family afloat on about \$1,200 per month from her disability allowance and an allotment of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits. Is it enough?

"Not even close," she said.

Unstable

Finances were the least of Shannon's concerns before the accident.

In 2006, the Auburn woman was working two and a half jobs to support her children. Her daughters were fathered by two different men. One is still present in his daughter's life, but the other is not, she said.

Regardless, Shannon said, she didn't have to worry very much about going to court for child support back then. She actively worked as a nurse at several local facilities and also held a full-time job at Toys 'R Us in Elbridge.

When those weren't enough, Shannon would pick up the slack part-time, she worked as a clerk at Tops. She'd delivered pizzas for Domino's.

See Griffin, A6



A six-day multimedia series on poverty in Cayuga County

On the Web

"Wealth of hardship: Cayuga County's growing poverty problem" is a six-day multimedia series looking at the causes and symptoms of poverty in the area, as well as the services being provided to alleviate it.

The series also includes photo galleries, an online survey about poverty and profiles of local people who've experienced it. Here's results to far from one of the survey questions:

Your rent/mortgage? (I) gets raised \$100 — on you about this expense without cutting into other essential items? RESULTS AS OF WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON: Yes, 40 percent; No, 60 percent

To see more survey questions and all the content in the series, visit auburnpub.com/poverty-series.

'Kids are a treasure'

18 percent of Cayuga County children live in poverty

Carrie Chandler
carrie.chandler@se.net

Childhood is precious. It's fleeting. When in it, however, it's a time that can seem to take ages to pass.

Imagine, then, how long a school day is when empty stomachs, food concentration and focus. Or when there aren't coats

big enough to weather a polar vortex, or when untreated illnesses make children feel confused and miserable.

These are only some of the circumstances Cayuga County's children living in poverty face. Compounding the issue for some is unstable housing, domestic abuse and literacy, which some see as a root cause of poverty.

So much happens in those early years and transition like living in poverty impact a child's healthy development," said Tracy

See Kids, A7

New home for advocacy

Cayuga/Genesee Community Action Agency holds open house at new office, featuring a Voices of Poverty podcast, A7

Join the discussion

To conclude this special series on poverty in Cayuga County, we're holding an on-line town hall meeting with a group of local experts on the frontlines of the issue on Poverty Head to auburnpub.com at noon Friday to take part in this interactive forum.

Distinguished Online Blog

The Citizen, Auburn

Home News Sports Opinion Obituaries Blogs Entertainment Lake Life Social Shop Jobs Homes Autos Classifieds

Bassmaster Elite Series event, Cuomo's 'Challenge' could bring thousands of visitors, millions of dollars to Cayuga County

f Recommend

50

Twitter Tweet

2

g+1

1

+ Share

4

Print

Email



About Eye on NY

Looking for state and national political coverage? Read Robert Harding's Eye on NY blog for the latest, including news and information about races and issues impacting Cayuga County. The blog covers five state legislative districts and the 24th Congressional District, as well as statewide politics and elections.

Employees

Tweets from a list by The_Citizen



Jeremy Boyer

@CitizenBoyer

3m

Sheriff: Cayuga County man arrested on child

Distinguished Sports Coverage

The Citizen, Auburn

2014 DOUBLEDAYS PREVIEW.

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2014

Plenty of fun

**INSIDE: 20 YEARS AT
THE NEW FALCON PARK**
SEE COVER STORY, E3

the best we can to make them happy. ...
m. I know they can appreciate the situation we
e in."
us for selling concessions in the stands last
it, Smith and his staff would have, but they
needed to help out in other areas, like parking.
We will take care of that problem," Smith said.
we will have people selling things in the stands
to try to relieve some pressure.
he pressure was on Smith and ...
to pass out the ...
he people ...
from ...
the ...
I'm ...
istan ...
of wha ...
intern ...
the way ...
e people ...
be team ...
story but p ...
c. They w ...
the tires, g ...
was a great ...
e, superlun ...
em should be ...
g to get better ...
Yes, we have ...
"We put on a g ...
hat helps." ...
hope the fans en ...
do some ...

Auburn prepped to unveil its baseball jewel

POLIGNON
From Page C1

And if the good folks of ...
refused, the Astors made a ...
all they'd need to a bug ...
eyes pockets where the re ...
would be more, can, under ...
ing. Well, things happened ...
Cleveland and others ruled up ...
these drives. Funds were granted ...
Other mamas were raised. And last ...
August, somebody drove a truck ...
er through the center-field fence at ...
Falcon Park to that begin the trad ...
ing down of an empire. ...
I'm not going to miss it ...
near at all. ...
he Ast ...

The home of the was already in ...
the ground and the national ...
them w ...
sophis ...
brary ...
by four ...
marks ...
and a ...
Open ...
Be ...
gins ...
Lem ...
Dell ...
y ...
s ...

goodness resting behind home ...
place, rather than chicken wire. ...
Which means the fans will actually ...
be able to see the game. Moreover, ...
... that can be ...
... has been ...

It is that with New Falcon Park ...
up and running, we suddenly can ...
catch a glimpse of our baseball fu ...
ture back there in Syracuse. ...
Why, as clean and fresh as this ...
Auburn playpen is, and as much as ...
... do for the Astor, anyone ...
... is hoping ...

New York could be "The Baseball State"

NEW YORK STATE has a lot of outstanding feat ...
Some we are not too proud of, such as high taxes, ...
... to baseball the Empire State could ...



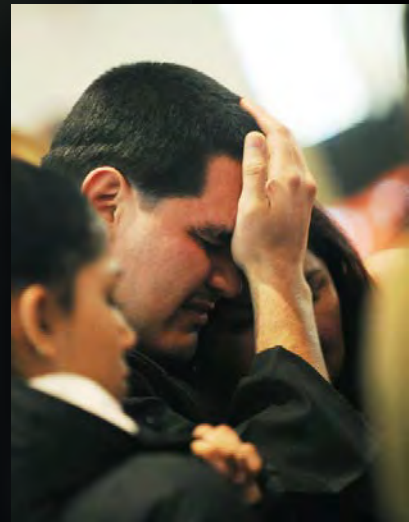
Distinguished Sports Photography

The Citizen, Auburn



Distinguished Online Photo Gallery

The Citizen, Auburn



Distinguished Feature Writing

The Daily Messenger, Canandaigua

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS: PART ONE OF TWO PARTS

ONE WOMAN'S JOURNEY

After 18 years of living with MS, Debbie Cinquegrana shares her story and spotlights the need for resources and awareness to help fight this potentially debilitating disease



Debbie Cinquegrana — who has been diagnosed with Relapsing Remitting Multiple Sclerosis — says her husband Gabe is a big supporter in her care. The Canandaigua couple is passionate about raising awareness about the disease. JACK HALEY/MESSENGER POST MEDIA


By Melody Burri | melody@messengerpostmedia.com

Her first hint that something might be wrong came without warning in 1995. Debbie Cinquegrana woke up one morning to discover she couldn't see out of her right eye. "I basically had no sight," said the Canandaigua resident. "It was very, very blurry."

Cinquegrana immediately recruited her husband to drive her back and forth to work for the next three weeks while the symptom persisted. She pushed ahead with her normal routine, but did take time to get checked by an eye doctor, who suggested she have an MRI. It proved inconclusive, and her sight eventually returned, so Cinquegrana forged ahead, business as usual.

SEE MS, A8

More online

 Visit [MPNnow.com](https://www.mpnnow.com) to view a video of Debbie and Gabe Cinquegrana, of Canandaigua, speaking about Debbie's experiences with multiple sclerosis.

Coming Tomorrow ...

See Monday's Daily Messenger for part two of our series on multiple sclerosis and hear from a neurologist treating MS.

Distinguished News Photography

The Daily Messenger, Canandaigua

FINAL SALUTE



Amy Pierson, right, and family head into the Blue Cross Arena for the funeral of her husband, Officer Daryl Pierson.



Pallbearers take the body of Rochester Police Officer Daryl Pierson to the Blue Cross Arena for his funeral Wednesday morning. Pierson was killed in the line of duty while chasing a suspect. PHOTOS BY JACK HALEY/MESSENGER POST MEDIA

Thousands gather at Blue Cross Arena to celebrate the life of Rochester Police Officer Daryl Pierson

By Aaron Curtis
acurtis@messengerpostmedia.com

ROCHESTER — Wednesday morning on Broad Street outside the Blue Cross Arena, lights of dozens of police cars flashed as thousands of people stood waiting.

Many of the thousands were law enforcement personnel standing at attention, awaiting the arrival of the casket of Rochester Police Officer Daryl Pierson, slain in the line of duty on Sept. 3.

Several people who stood along Broad Street wiped tears from their eyes as bagpipers marched down the roadway. They were followed by a convoy of police vehicles and finally the hearse containing Pierson's casket, draped with an American flag.

Thousands flooded into the arena for a memorial service for the 32-year-old fallen officer, who left behind a wife and two young children — a 4-year-old son and a 3-month-old daughter.

The event was attended by eight members of the Geneva City Police Department, including Sgt. Michael Passalacqua, who recalls the time he heard the news of Pierson's death. He said that at that time, he reflected on his son


SEE FUNERAL, A5

More online

For a photo gallery of yesterday's funeral service for Rochester Police Officer Daryl Pierson, go to MPNnow.com

Distinguished Headline Writing

Observer, Dunkirk




News Sports Opinions Living Special Sections Ads Coupons Classifieds

BREAKING NEWS» Storm downs trees, damages home on Patterson

News / News /

[« Jenn Suhr injured in trainin...](#) [Skies clear after morning wa...»](#)

- **News**
- Sports
- Opinions
- Living
- Special Sections
- Ads
- CU
- Extras
- Contact Us
- Business Profiles
- Cartoon Map 2



Kiyak jumps ship

Councilwoman-at-large resigns Dunkirk position

August 6, 2014

By GIB SNYDER - OBSERVER City Editor , Observer Today

[Save](#) | [Post a comment](#) |

In a surprise to most followers of local government, city of Dunkirk Councilwoman-at-Large Stephanie Kiyak has resigned from her position effective immediately. Kiyak submitted a one-sentence letter of resignation Tuesday to council members.

[Save](#) | [Post a comment](#) |

[Subscribe to Observer Today](#)

Distinguished State Government Coverage

The Tribune, Hornell

ANOTHER VIEW

Not for all the soybeans in Iowa

Colleagues in the newsroom have heard me compare the Evening Tribune email in-box to the U.S. Debt Clock. The comparison is valid only in that they both are in a constant, upward flux: the debt clock captures the national debt at any given time, with updates by the millisecond. As I look at it now, the Debt Clock is at \$17,509,727,698,178, but now it has changed, darn it.

The Debt Clock page on the internet actually includes more than 100 categories of figures, with constant scrolling numbers. Everything from the debt, to the deficit, to the U.S. population to corporation assets are chronicled in a vision-destroying and mind-bending series of scrolling, rapidly-advancing numbers.

Reporter Jeff Cole and I agreed that staring at the page long enough could induce seizures. Dick Cheney apparently overlooked the terrorist-



NEAL SIMON

For every important news item that comes via email — say like the third-quarter honor rolls from Canaseraga Central School (publishing honor rolls from local schools is the bread and butter of a small, community newspaper) — we receive a batch of, well, let's call it less worthy news. For example: every Thursday I'm emailed the American Soybean Association's weekly newsletter.

Last week the soybean folks shared information about the formation of an agriculture working group. The association also notes that it is pressuring the Senate Finance Committee to raise the user fee that barges and towing companies pay into the Inland Waterway

For every important news item that comes via email — say like the third-quarter honor rolls from Canaseraga Central School (publishing honor rolls from local schools is the bread and butter of a small, community newspaper) — we receive a batch of, well, let's call it less worthy news.

after the first Tuesday in November later this year, N.Y. gubernatorial hopeful Astorino will never be heard from again. That's no knock on Astorino. I'm sure he's a good man and a fine public servant. I just believe he is going to lose the election. Very badly.

In the meantime, however, Astorino's campaign brass emails us daily, keeping us abreast of the candidate's every move. Even trips to Walmar and confession.

I can let you know that on Friday, the Westchester County Republican was in the studio of K104.7 in Beacon, N.Y. at 8:45 a.m., serving as a guest judge for something called the "Cupcake Wars." I'm not kidding. After radio guest spots later in the day in

Virginia.

■ SendtoNews distribution services offered FIFA World Cup video clips.

■ Soraya Khineche told us all about "Star Wars gifts your nerd will love."

■ On April 30, we received a statement from U.S. Labor Secretary Perez about the Senate vote on raising the minimum wage. The bill failed, and Secretary Perez lamented the total dysfunction and uselessness of the U.S. Congress. Then he announced his candidacy for the Senate.

■ Here's another email from Soraya Khineche, this one ranking the top ten tequila brands. It did not come with offers for free samples.

■ Finally, I now know the names of the attorneys

Distinguished Beat Reporting

Adirondack Daily Enterprise, Saranac Lake

The good man behind Goodman Mountain

**Trail being developed up small peak named for Civil
Rights martyr**

May 17, 2014

By SHAUN KITTLE - Staff Writer (skittle@adirondackdailyenterprise.com) ,
Adirondack Daily Enterprise

Save |      

TUPPER LAKE - It's easy to feel removed from everyday life while sitting on top of Goodman Mountain.

Distinguished Specialty Publication

Adirondack Daily Enterprise, Saranac Lake



Distinguished Column Writing

Adirondack Daily Enterprise, Saranac Lake

Get off the couch

September 4, 2014

By Melinda Walton , Adirondack Daily Enterprise

[Save](#) | [Post a comment](#) | [!\[\]\(c3d993ca47bfe2a953c700506ce31fa0_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(c468cde8f04e2e2a6ba3c2a373e05c45_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(bb556800b100164a948e6987b050d670_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(3cc1da747298690f15ddc84b775791a4_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(ffc6f60ce19e61ae0cb642f5a2e44734_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(48995a068f040dce228e3c4d6be8a433_img.jpg\)](#)

Early June. Spring. A popular time to get fit. Coming off two summers with injuries, I knew to start slow. Rethink my goals.

Wishing weight away hadn't worked. I usually make lofty goals, then crash and burn after a couple of weeks. This time, I wanted easy, yet inspiring goals. I just want to be a person who jogs three or four times a week. I realized, "That's it!" Simple, achievable.

Couch to 5K is a nine-week program to get a couch potato moving. It starts with 60- and 90-second alternating jogging and walking. A cellphone application chimes when it's time to switch. Simple C25K.

Article Photos



Distinguished Feature Photography

Adirondack Daily Enterprise, Saranac Lake



Distinguished Breaking News Coverage

The Record/The Saratogian, Troy/Saratoga Springs

SARATOGIAN CASINOS

News ▾ Sports ▾ Business Entertainment ▾ Lifestyle ▾ Obituaries Opinion ▾ Marketpla

Home

Lifestyle

Casinos



Officials: Racino will take a hit, but harness racing protected

RELATED

Rolling on the river:
Schenectady picked
for Capital Region
gaming site

By **Paul Post**, *The Saratogian*

POSTED: 12/17/14, 6:12 PM EST

UPDATED: ON 12/17/2014

0 COMMENTS

The new casino approved Wednesday for Schenectady will hurt racino gambling at Saratoga Casino and Raceway, but shouldn't impact revenue for harness racing, officials say.

Likewise, the thoroughbred meet at Saratoga Race Course might even benefit if marketed properly toward Schenectady casino patrons, they said.

Representatives from all corners of the gaming world are trying to analyze the impact of Wednesday's announcement on the siting of three new upstate New York casinos – one in Schenectady, one in the Catskills and one in the Finger Lakes region.

Distinguished Business Reporting

The Record/The Saratogian, Troy/Saratoga Springs

Home

News



Farm of the future: Allenwaite operation all about continued growth in a competitive industry



Distinguished Sports Writing

The Record/The Saratogian, Troy/Saratoga Springs

**Socially Responsible: Coaches,
student-athletes attempt to learn
do's and dont's of social media**



Mike McMahon illustration — The Record High school student athletes, like most teens in the U.S., learned use social media as a means to communicate with family friends as well as post updates about their every-day life. However, they also need to learn that one tasteless post or picture to a site could remain with them from years to

Distinguished Multi-Media Presentation

The Record/The Saratogian, Troy/Saratoga Springs



Distinguished Investigative Reporting

Wellsville Daily Reporter

WELLSVILLE PD CHIEF ISSUE

A question of transparency

The vote for a new police chief in Wellsville certainly was not a popular one for the Village Board. The vote angered the uniformed members of the department. At the start of the month, the board itself was 3-3.

Since the vote took place, words have been thrown around and neighbors and friends are not agreeing over what took place.

What is lost in this whole battle is, no one should be making it personal.

Alfred Police Chief Tim O'Grady is the new chief. He won because of his interview and his cost-saving ideas. Mark Bierman, the acting chief, was an extremely close second. He will not get the opportunity to potentially



JOHN ANDERSON

about me seeing this e-mail. It's public record. In fact, a Wellsville Citizens Group has foiled for all e-mail correspondence concerning this decision. They even foiled a secondary yahoo e-mail used by the mayor.

None of this happens with transparency.

This brings us to where the waters really became muddied. Which is unfortunate when you are dealing with high-character people.

There was a special board

open, I could go downstairs, then back up the beautiful wooden staircase to the village offices upstairs.

That door was locked as well.

This time, I tried the fire escape that leads right up to the boardroom and this was open.

What exactly happened that night in executive session is unknown.

But by the end of the night, Bierman knew he was not the chief and O'Grady knew he was getting the job.

All we had to go on for Friday's paper was, we were sticking by our story that a decision would be made Monday. By Friday afternoon, word was on the street and people wanted answers.

This paper last Sunday had the bold headline

scheduled appointment at the village hall.

This was one of those times.

And the public didn't get a chance to voice its opinion.

Where do we go now?

The public needs to support Tim O'Grady.

He's the new chief and Wellsville has a reputation as a "meth" town or for some of the other robberies in the headlines. There is a reason: The police force catches them and sends out press releases to every newspaper, television station, radio stations and even online blog sites within a 90 mile radius.

The police department has nothing to hide. If you don't think there are drug problems, homes being quietly broken into to get prescription drugs, you are

Distinguished Page Design/Presentation

Wellsville Daily Reporter

8 GREAT

HONORING THE BEST BOYS, GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYERS IN THE AREA

The Spectator
SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE SECTION
3.23.14
SECTION D

WE ARE YOUNG ...

... BUT SOPHOMORE LIAM EBERT AND JUNIOR MCKENZIE PRUTSMAN ARE THE 2014 GREAT 8 PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

INSIDE
IT'S IN THE CARDS: This guide is both - and second - look at the area's basketball and baseball, including stats, a Q&A and player notes. **Pages D3-D4**

Distinguished Editorial Writing

Wellsville Daily Reporter

DAILY REPORTER EDITORIAL



This was part of the confusion during the Genesee Parkway project and the photo wound up going viral. We just want the project completed.

Finish the project

Motor vehicles endured a few potholes in the road, one very large, traveling the Genesee Parkway, commonly known as the four-lane in Wellsville the past few years.

On April 29, a \$2 million state project was awarded to work on the road. The work had to be done by Oct. 31.

Just before Halloween, the company and the subcontractors un and

police chief said police responded "pretty regularly" to reports of accidents on Genesee Parkway (see story on page A1). The chief called the construction zone "confusing with arrows and barrels" and "there's not any traffic control other than the stop sign."

Police had to respond to 58 accidents during the time of the construction, 14 they could directly relate to the construction. The state police

Distinguished Newspaper Supplement

Wellsville Daily Reporter

GREAT 8

BOYS, GIRLS PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

Sunday Spotlight | Sunday, March 23, 2014 | D3

GIRLS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

McKenzie Prutsman, Jasper-Troupsburg, G



WILDCATS

JASPER-TROUPSBURG

MCKENZIE PRUTSMAN

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

1st Team ALL-STAR

What can you tell us about your season? Did you expect to reach the Section V Class D1 final?

It was a goal. I don't think we expected it at all, especially after we lost Kendall (Aurora) and I don't think many other people expected it either. Once we had won the county championship, we knew that we were good enough to get through sectionals and that we had a chance to win.

What was the team's reaction after falling 73-50 to Romulus in the D1 championship?

There was a lot of it. I wouldn't say disappointment, because by the end of the game we knew that Romulus was better than we were, but after winning in sectionals you really want to do that in other sports, especially if it's your favorite kind of sport. I really really want a basketball title. It was hard, and I think the most difficult part was knowing that we were going to lose our seniors.

Have you already starting thinking about next year and some of the goals you'd like to accomplish?

Coach and I have already talked about working exceptionally hard in the coming season so that we can win sectionals. It's a really big goal for us because we already know we can get there and we have six returning players, who are all very good. What are some of the toughest aspects of your game? My defense. I usually end up

creating some steals for my teammates and it starts our fast break. I score a lot of my points in transition.

What are some of the areas you still need to work on in order to become a complete player?

When I drive to the basket, switching the ball over to my left hand so that I don't give defenders a better option to block my shot. I'm shorter so I need to use anything I can to my advantage.

Between the end of last year and now, what is different about you as a basketball player?

I had to really step up this year and make my teammates better because we had a huge loss with Kendall not being there. Not having her out there made me want to get that much better, not only for myself but for my teammates as well.

What separates you from some of the other players in Steuben County or the area for that matter?

I think my coach has a lot to do with it. He makes me push myself that much harder every day in practice. With him, I don't believe that I'd be the player I am.

Is it better to score the ball or make a nice pass?

I don't think one is better than the other. The best thing that can happen is someone scoring. I love to score, but it's a really nice feeling when you dish off and someone gets a layup, knowing that you

off our backs a little bit, but at the same time it makes you want to do it again. You want to keep working hard to attain that feeling again — it doesn't even compare to anything else.

If you could play 1-on-1 against any player at any level, who would it be and why?

Ty Lawson. He's my favorite player in all of basketball. What he does is just amazing, and I would be pretty cool to play against him. What is the biggest challenge you face as a student-athlete?

The nights when I have a lot of homework. It can be frustrating to get it all done. We have practice or games, plus whatever else I have to do. It can be challenging at times, but school comes first so I have to get it done.

Are you still thinking about college, and have you narrowed the list down a bit?

I've spoken with Houghton and St. John Fisher and they've both sent me letters so that's where I've been looking so far. At the moment, they are probably the top two choices. I would like to look at Cleveland, they sent me a letter about soccer so I at least want to see what they have to offer.

And, finally, what teams make up your early Final 4?

Syracuse will probably be there. Duke definitely. Louis-

BOYS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Liam Ebert, Wellsville, G

How do you think your game has developed over the last two years?

I've gotten stronger and quicker. What makes basketball such a great game?

Just being out there running, it's fun for everyone, especially me.

What was your favorite moment from this season?

Dropping 30 on Greece Odyssey.

What is your basketball routine in the offseason?

We play a lot as a team in AAU and summer leagues.

Do you have any pregame superstitions?

No, I don't have any.

How would you describe the atmosphere in the gym for a Wellsville home game?

It's pretty loud and it can get wild.

What is like running out before a game to RED Speedwagon's "Riding the Storm Out?"

It's been going on for a while and I think everyone likes it.

You scored the most points (426) in a single-season for a Wellsville basketball player during Jim Insley's 12-year tenure. Considering all the great players who have come through Wellsville, has that fact sunk in yet that you are above all those other great names?

I got pretty lucky with the team I have, they know how to find me and get me open.

What do you think is the part of your game you have to work on the most to get better next season?

I need to get stronger and develop a better left hand and maybe a better jump shot.

Who is someone in sports or life who inspires you?

I look up to my brother (Jacob) because he was a good basketball player. He inspires me a lot.

Who do you model your game after?

Griffin Draper. He plays hard and gets his points.

Do you feel you play with a chip on your shoulder because you're not as tall as

LIAM EBERT



2013-2014 Season

STATS
21.4 points per game
44.3 points made
426 total points scored

QUICK BIO
One word that best describes my game: Quick

Dream 2-on-2 teammate: P.J. Tucker
Most underrated player I've played against: Jacob Ebert
Toughest player to guard in the area: Carl Holloway
Actor to play me in a movie: Chris Rock
Most prized possession: My street ball
Historical figure I'd like to meet: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Player I model my game after: Patrick Beverley

some of the other players you go against?
Not really because they're not as quick as me and they can't stay in front of me.

My favorites
Team to beat: Marshall
Sports movie: Space Jam
College or pro sports team: Phoenix Suns
Pro athlete: Shaan Douglas
Song: Juice
TV show: Criminal Minds
Sport (other than basketball): Soccer



WELLSVILLE

LIAM EBERT

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

1st Team ALL-STAR

10,000-24,999



Distinguished Column Writing

Finger Lakes Times, Geneva

HWS has a chance to lead the way to reforms

I am, first and foremost, a dad. Nothing I do in life, no title I obtain or job I land, will measure up to that.

And that is why last week's story in *The New York Times* about Anna and Hobart and William Smith Colleges makes me sick to my stomach every time I think about it.

It wasn't all too long ago that my daughter, in her college search, considered William Smith. I couldn't have been more thrilled as I accompanied her on a few of her interviews and a tour of the campus that I already knew quite well. Not only do I count as friends a great number of faculty and staff at HWS, but in three decades of living in Geneva, I have developed a fondness and respect for the Colleges.

The fact that she would have been able to come home for dinner or to sleep in her own bed whenever she wanted didn't hurt matters.

But the most important thing is that I felt she would



This image of sunset on the Quad on the Hobart and William Smith Colleges' campus is one of a collection of prints by photographer Kevin Colton, titled "Chasing the Light."

**MIKE
CUTILLO**

*Executive
Editor*



be safe on the bucolic, tree-lined campus in right here in Geneva.

My guess is Anna's parents felt the same way when she announced to them that William Smith was her col-

lege choice.

Think about what an incredibly weighty step sending your children off to college is. For the first 18 years of their lives, you have educated them, fed them, disciplined them ... protected them. Now, all of those things will be in the hands of someone else — sometimes across town, sometimes across the country — as they head out to change from the child you nurtured into an adult.

Then, a story like Anna's breaks and a sinking feeling wells up as you realize —

■ See CUTILLO on Page 2D

Distinguished Community Service

Finger Lakes Times, Geneva

Penn Yan Flood - The cleanup begins



Finger Lakes Times reporter Jim Miller took this footage of cleanup efforts in Penn Yan Wednesday (May 14, 2014) after severe floods hit the village the night before.

Distinguished State Government Coverage

Finger Lakes Times, Geneva

Question of fairness



Jim Miller / Finger Lakes Times

Anti-casino advocate Les Bernal of Stop Predatory Gambling speaks Thursday near the site of a proposed casino in the Seneca County town of Tyre.

Speaker says casino model based on addiction

By JIM MILLER
jmiller@fittimes.com

TYRE — Casino opponents have the evidence on their side, says Les Bernal of Stop Predatory Gambling. They just need to awaken the public conscience.

"The benefit that this community has is, the evidence is overwhelming that this is a failed public policy," he said. "It's not a question of if [a local casino would fail], it's a question of when."

Bernal spoke Thursday at an 11 a.m. press conference on Chase Road; it was organized by Casino Free Tyre. Behind him, across an open field, was the site where Wilmorite hopes to build a casino.

Bernal attacked casinos on several grounds, saying they base their business model on addiction.

"The slot machine itself, which is the bedrock of casinos, is designed to be addictive," he said. "Why would we

Opponents, supporters sound off at Tyre meeting

By DAVID L. SHAW
dshaw@fittimes.com

TYRE — The split among local residents over the proposed casino and resort was evident at Thursday night's Town Board meeting.

Casino supporters and opponents attended a public hearing on Local Law No. 3 and a special board meeting that followed. Few directly addressed the local law, as urged by Supervisor Ron McGreevy. Instead, they made it a forum for the two sides.

The local law would amend the town zoning law by adding the definition of a Planned Unit Development and allowing the amendment of the town zoning map to include a PUD district for the proposed casino resort on an 86-acre parcel on Route 414 just north of the Thruway.

Casino supporter Karen Thomson asked what would happen if the PUD amendment were approved and the

Distinguished Headline Writing

Finger Lakes Times, Geneva

Sunny side down



Spencer Tulis / Finger Lakes Times

Volunteers assembled Saturday to build a new chicken co-op at the Geneva Peeps location on State Street in Geneva.

City taking Henderson to court over egg co-op work

By **DAVID L. SHAW**
dshaw@fittimes.com

GENEVA — The city is taking Jeff Henderson to court.

In a move rumored to be coming and made official Monday, the city:

- Has obtained an order to show cause why Henderson should not be required by the court to seek a ruling from the city Zoning Board of Appeals on zoning code compliance of his egg cooperative and solar panel project at 48-50 State St.
- Seeks the issuance of a stop-



Henderson

work order.

- Seeks the removal of the 23 or so hens on the industrially zoned site until compliance is determined.

Arguments in the matter are scheduled for 12:15 p.m. Thursday in city court.

Canandaigua City Court Judge Stephen Aronson, serving as acting city court judge,

will preside over the matter.

Henderson said Monday afternoon he had not yet heard of the development. This morning he confirmed that police served him with the show-cause order.

The order listed two addresses for Henderson: 55 Sherrill St. and 399 S. Main St., Apt. 5. Henderson said authorities spent time trying to find him at a Sherrill Street address, which he called incorrect.

■ See EGG on Page 5A

Distinguished Page Design/Presentation

Finger Lakes Times, Geneva

AN AP NEWSPAPER OF DISTINCTION 2012 & 2013

YANKEES DROP ANOTHER ONE TO CROSSTOWN RIVAL — Sports, Page 1B

FINGER LAKES
TIMES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014

Geneva, N.Y. • Serving Ontario, Seneca, Wayne and Yates Counties www.fltimes.com \$1.00

12th Year

Reaching Over **28,872** Daily Readers!

Unity Council leaders reach out to Seneca Co. board

By DAVID L. SHAW
dshaw@ftimes.com

WATERLOO — The ongoing Cayuga Indian Nation leadership dispute has dominated the headlines.

It dominated the Seneca County Board of Supervision meeting Tuesday afternoon, as Seneca County leaders, reporters, leaders from only one of the two nations.

Five representatives of the Cayuga Unity Council addressed the board. Cayuga Indian Nation leader Clint Halfmoon did not attend, and reporters have had little to no communication with him recently.

Unity Council Turtle Clan representative Justin Bennett, wearing traditional headgear, said the Council plans to advise control of the Nation and pleaded to foster good relations with the community. He gave the board a history lesson on the Cayuga, one of the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy, and explained how it governs itself with clan mothers, clan representatives.

• See TOWN on Page 4A

Storms brought 5-9 inches of rain

By MIKE HUBBARD
mhubbard@ftimes.com

PENN YAN — Parking lots collapsed underneath cars. Downtown businesses closed due to heavy flooding. Numerous roads washed out, becoming impassable.

The damage in this Yates County village from Tuesday night's thunderstorms bordered on catastrophic.

Several lines of storms swept through the region last night, leaving water and power outages throughout the Seneca area. No one was hurt when this Penn. line, where an estimated five inches of rain fell.

"Yates County Highway Superintendent Dave Harrison told me it's one of the worst floods he's ever seen," Yates County Sheriff Tom Spika said late morning. "Pretty much everywhere you have gutters or

People survey the damage in downtown Penn Yan this morning after heavy rains Tuesday night brought severe flooding. The back of the Owl's Nest building collapsed, as did a nearby parking lot. Numerous cars and buildings were damaged.

Photo: Tom Miller / Finger Lakes Times

Downtown businesses taking stock

By JIM MILLER

PENN YAN — Thursday's rain was gone and subsided this morning, but the scene outside the Owl's Nest looked grim.

"A lot of mud, a lot of debris, customers and friends on the side [of the road] wondering what the hell they are gonna do because right now their lives are shattered," manager Casey Bendura said.

Trombley, which is located at 142 E. Elm St., was on the edge of some of the worst damage caused by last night's heavy rains.

Steve Hill said down the street to the west, the Wagner Motor Inn is in the center of the chaos. Owner Mike Fuller said the water poured up 45-foot tall and pushed into the back of the building.

"This water got to be probably 10 feet deep in the back side of the building," Fuller said.

• See DOWNTOWN on Page 5A

WORLD OF MOUTH: The President is trying to change the subject from Obamacare to whether she believes in evolution. Who can blame him?

— Sam Markey, Page 2A

TECHNOLOGY

High 48
Low 34



INDEX

Automotive	7-99	Options	15A	Politics	22B
Classifieds	10-128	Police Beat	3A	Television	3A
Community	13A	Real Estate	14A	Weather	14A
Obituaries	2A	Sports	14B	Weather/Forecast/Calendar	14B

Distinguished Sports Photography

Finger Lakes Times, Geneva



Distinguished Online Photo Gallery

Finger Lakes Times, Geneva



Distinguished Business Reporting

The Times Herald, Olean



Christopher Michel/Olean Times Herald

Steve Freer stands in the now-empty former Dal-Tile plant on East State Street. Mr. Freer is the last employee to work there, spending the last 22 months overseeing its cleanout and maintenance. His last day was Friday.

Final Dal-Tile employee leaves post after sale

By Christopher Michel
Olean Times Herald

OLEAN — Steve Freer filed out of the Dal-Tile plant the same as his co-workers on what was a sad day in the city's history: Dec. 12, 2012.

That day, the tile plant on East State Street shut down for good. The closure left 174 without jobs and ended a century of mosaic tile production in Olean. Mohawk Industries, Dal-Tile's parent company, transferred the Olean site's operations to a sister facility in Gettysburg, Pa.

But unlike the majority of his colleagues — many of whom left the plant with no real job prospects or guar-

Mr. Freer said, his voice echoing through the cavernous, empty expanse that once buzzed with the production of mosaic tile. "I'd never have thought that I'd be the last man standing."

Mr. Freer began working at 1414 E. State St. in 1987.

"Before I worked here, I was a motorcycle mechanic for the Blumenthals at their motorcycle shop," Mr. Freer told the Times Herald. "I worked there for many years. My wife was a receptionist at

Dal-Tile for years, and she knew the personnel guy and was able to help me get in here."

His first assignment was working because my boss knew I was close to retirement."

When Mr. Freer reported for work on Dec. 13, 2012, he joined about 45 other former Dal-Tile employees who were kept on temporarily to clear out the plant.

"There really wasn't any down time from between when we shut down to when we had to start clearing it out," he said. "During the first few months, anything that any of our sister plants wanted — equipment, parts, raw materials or whatever — we had to get to them. Gettysburg took the most from us. We probably sent out 40 or 50 truckloads of stuff for the other plants."

What remained inside the plant was later sold at auction in April 2013.

"Once the auction was over, the guys who bought things were in here taking what they got," Mr. Freer said. "I'd say about 85 percent

"If you told me that I'd be the last guy standing here five years ago, I'd have laughed at you. I'd never have thought that I'd be the last man standing."

— Dal-Tile employee Steve Freer

Distinguished Sports Writing

The Times Herald, Olean

► St. Bona 54, La Salle 42

Bonnies leave 'Little' doubt in A-10 tournament victory

Sophomore forward goes for 22 points, 17 rebounds as St. Bonaventure advances to conference semifinals

By Trey Dido
Olean Times Herald

RICHMOND — Hannah Little had an impressive double-double — 22 points 17 rebounds — while St. Bonaventure held La Salle to just 22 percent shooting en route to a 54-42 victory in Friday's Atlantic-10 quarterfinal matchup at Richmond Coliseum.

"IT'S WHO WE ARE. It ain't pretty but we play some defense and we play really hard," Bona coach Jim Crowley said.

It's been an emotional couple of days for the team as assistant sports information director Brian Moretti passed away unexpectedly.

Wednesday night when stricken at a Richmond restaurant.

"Obviously this has been a tough time. I'm just really, really proud of these guys. Have been all year," Crowley said of his team.

Both teams started slow, going scoreless until Nyia Rueter hit a corner three at the 15:26 mark. Bona (23-9) managed to build a 9-0 lead until Alicia Cropper ended La Salle's scoring drought with two free throws with 11:31 remaining in the first half.

That sparked the Explorers (15-15) to a 9-0 run of their own. Cropper hit a three on the next trip and Micahya Owens added four points to tie the score 9-9.

See Bona/La Salle, page B-3



Atlantic 10 photo
St. Bonaventure's Hannah Little goes up for a shot against La Salle defenders Alicia Cropper (left) and Siobhan Beslow.

ST. BONAVENTURE (16-13, 6-9) AT VCU (23-7, 11-4)

TONIGHT, 7 o'clock
STUART SIEGEL CENTER
SNY-TV/WPIG-FM

The Series:

St. Bona leads, 2-1

Last Meeting:

VCU, 72-65 (1/12/13)

One Interesting Fact:

SBU's last four-game conference losing streak came back in Jan. of the 2009-10 season.

To Note:

• Youssou Ndiaye (right) is averaging 13 points on 54 percent

(37-68) shooting over his last nine games.

• VCU is a perfect 13-0 inside the Siegel Center this season.

Coaching Matchup:

Shaka Smart (VCU), 5th year, 133-44
Mark Schmidt (SBU), 7th yr, 104-108



PROBABLE STARTERS:					
VA. COMMONWEALTH	Pos.	Ht.	Class	Pts.	Reb.
Melvin Johnson	G	6-3	So.	10.6	2.2
Rob Brandenburg	G	6-2	Sr.	9.3	2.0
Briante Weber	G	6-2	Jr.	9.3	4.0
Trevon Graham	G	6-6	Jr.	15.4	7.0
Juvonte Reddic	F	6-9	Sr.	12.7	8.4

ST. BONAVENTURE	Pos.	Ht.	Class	Pts.	Reb.
Charlon Kloof	G	6-3	Sr.	11.6	3.6
Matthew Wright	G	6-4	Sr.	16.5	3.1
Andell Cumberbatch	G	6-4	Jr.	8.7	4.2
Marquise Simmons	F	6-8	Sr.	8.0	5.2
Youssou Ndiaye	C	7-0	Jr.	10.0	5.6

Bonnies have tough task playing at VCU

By J.P. Butler
Olean Times Herald

With that in mind, it would seem that maybe it would take a "nothing to

RICHMOND, Va. — The

► NYS Far West Regional

Olean meets Charlotte with trip to Class B Final Four on the line

By Shawn Campbell
Olean Times Herald

BUFFALO — As Jeff Anastasia fielded questions from a group of reporters Tuesday night in the bowels of the Buffalo State Sports Arena, Luke Hennessy sneaked up on the coach and jokingly plopped a quick kiss on his cheek.

"That's my boy, Luke," said Anastasia, he and Hennessy laughing away. "He's my point guard. He handled a lot of pressure tonight."

The entire Olean High boys basketball team had just handled a ton of pressure. The Huskies, a tight-knit bunch, overcame a 14-point deficit to win the Section 5 Class B title. They squeaked past Buffalo East, 62-59, in what's being called the game of the year in Western New York.

But after such an emotional, gutsy win, Olean knows it still has lots of



Olean High coach Jeff Anastasia has guided the Huskies to nine West Regional games, winning four of them.

work to do.

THE HUSKIES (19-3) play Section 5 champion Charlotte (13-9) in the Far West Regionals this afternoon (5:30, 1450 AM) at Buff State.

A victory would send Olean to Glens Falls for

next weekend's New York State Public High School Athletic Association final four — a year after the Huskies came within one shot of getting there.

Anastasia hopes his team doesn't have a let-down after a big win. He also hopes his best player, senior Wil Bathurst, can take the floor today.

"I told them that they need to be focused," Anastasia said Friday morning. "But it's been a very tough couple days because Wil hasn't practiced."

BATHURST, a finalist for New York's Mr. Basketball and Olean's leading scorer (20 ppg), sprained an ankle against East on Tuesday. He was noticeably hobbled in the third quarter but never left the game. He finished with a game-high 25 points and had two dunks in the fourth.

See Olean High, page B-3

Distinguished Breaking News Coverage

Press-Republican, Plattsburgh

Community devastated by drowning tragedy



Story

Image (3)

Print

Font Size: - +

Previous

Next



Posted: Saturday, June 28, 2014 3:28 am

By FELICIA KRIEG
Press-Republican

PLATTSBURGH — At a candlelight vigil Friday night, friends of Taoufik Maknani and Michael Lawson described the two Plattsburgh High School students as upbeat, caring and always looking to have a good time.

Maknani drowned in the Ausable River on Thursday; Lawson, a junior, remained missing on Friday.

Hundreds of students, faculty and community members gathered on the field behind the school to remember the two boys.

Distinguished Sports Coverage

Press-Republican, Plattsburgh




Lake Placid's Hamlin wins bronze



0

Story

Image (2)

Print  Font Size:  

Previous

Next



Posted: Wednesday, February 12, 2014 2:28 am

By KIM SMITH DEDAM Press-Republican
Press-Republican

LAKE PLACID — The number 11 proved fortuitous for women's luge Olympian Erin Hamlin.

On Tuesday, Feb. 11, wearing No. 11, she earned the bronze Olympic medal for TeamUSA.

USA Luge teammate Chris Mazdzer of Saranac Lake beamed a Twitter message worldwide within minutes: "Erin gets the first ever women's (luge) medal in U.S. history!!!"

It was a cherished goal for the 27-year-old athlete, who lives in Lake Placid and trains with the USA Luge team here.

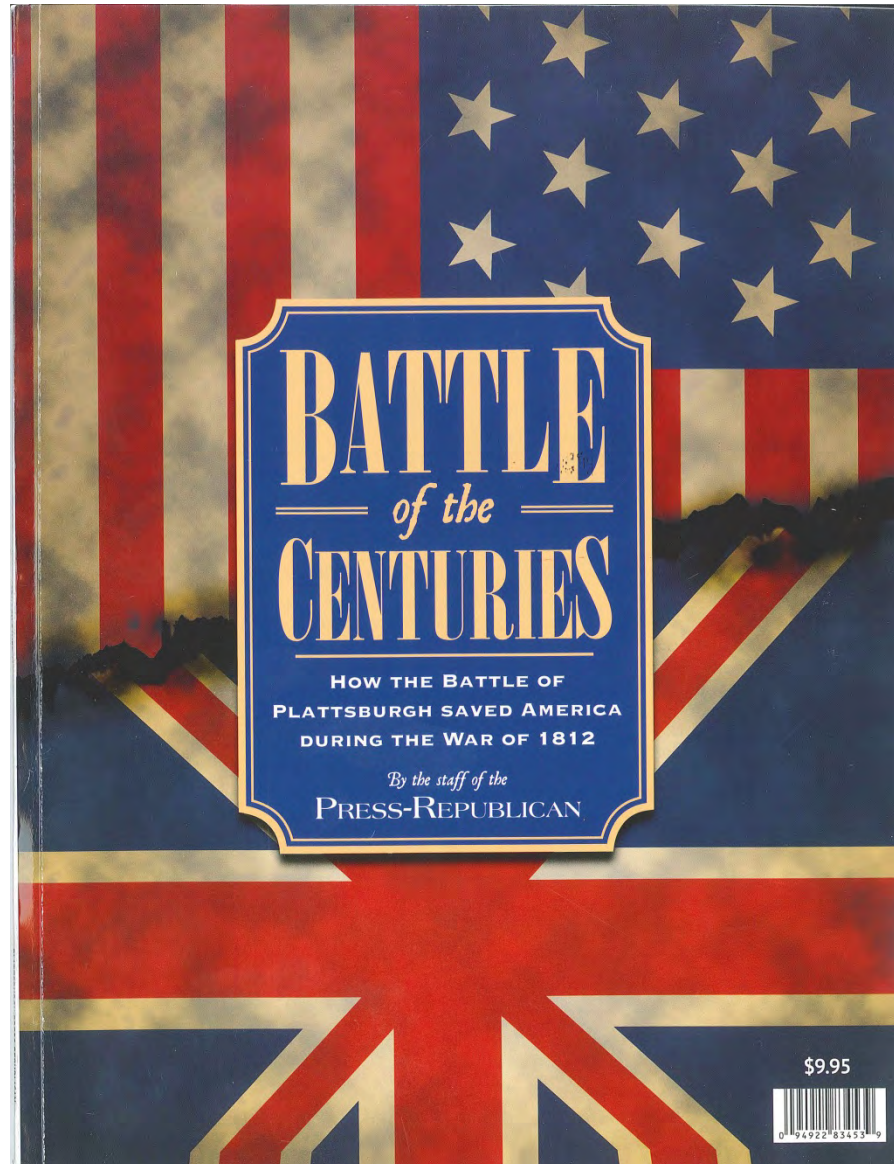
"I don't think, 'Oh, I want to make history' as much as I want to get a medal," Erin said in a statement before Tuesday's competition.

"I did once before, and I didn't even think about it then, so maybe that's the way to go. I'm just trying to set everything up, have fun and be happy with my runs. That's the bottom line."

COPING WITH LOSS

Distinguished Specialty Publication

Press-Republican, Plattsburgh



Distinguished Investigative Reporting

Press-Republican, Plattsburgh

Heroin epidemic sending more kids to foster care

0



Story

Image (4)

Print



Font Size:



Previous

Next



Posted: Sunday, June 22, 2014 3:28 am

By JOE LoTEMPLIO
Press-Republican

PLATTSBURGH — The smallest victims of the heroin epidemic are paying the biggest price.

The need for foster care has skyrocketed over the past year or so, as children are taken from parents caught using or selling the drug.

And the cost to taxpayers is rising, as well.

Distinguished Editorial Writing

Press-Republican, Plattsburgh

Editorial: Fred Phelps's legacy of hate

0



Story

Print Font Size:

Posted: Tuesday, April 1, 2014 3:25 am

—

Press-Republican

The Rev. Fred Phelps was a role model — for how a person of faith should not behave.

Phelps died March 19 at the age of 84, and we hope his hate-spouting Westboro Baptist Church succumbs along with him.

The church directed much of its vitriol against gays, but it also raised ire across the nation by protesting at the funerals of U.S. military members.

People in the North Country were more familiar than they wanted to be with Phelps and his followers — who are, for the most part, family members — because of their two visits to Plattsburgh.

They came here first in 2005 to protest Plattsburgh being the first city in New York state to elect an openly gay mayor, Dan Stewart.

Distinguished Specialty Publication Feature Writing

Press-Republican, Plattsburgh



What's in this issue:

- 4 Ben Rowe** showcases a SUNY Plattsburgh initiative taking a strong stand against sexual violence.
- 5 Shelley Mae Hazen** gives you tools to deal with The Interrupter, The Know-It-All, and other difficult people in your life.
- 7 Heidi Moore and Suzanna Bartlett** provide their takes on the unique challenges and joys of raising boys.
- 7 Ilene Leshinski** highlights the body image issues men often struggle with in silence.

It's our tribute to Dads!

Our writers weigh in on fathers, sons, and some of the issues men face today.

PLUS: Ann Tracy helps you find your best reads for summer. **Read more on page 3**



June 2014 • Vol.10, Issue 4 ~ *A fresh perspective on health, relationships & culture* ~ JILLMAGONLINE.COM

Clockwise from bottom left: (1) Dr. Michael Morgan, (2) Charles Gallagher as a young man, (3) Father John Yonkovic giving some last-minute counsel to a nervous *Jill* editor on his wedding day, (4) Monsignor Joseph Aubin.



The MEN who mean EVERYTHING to me

In honor of Father's Day, a tribute to a few exceptional men who made a difference in my life.

By Michael Gallagher

I remember the last time I saw my father alive. It was his first day in Metropolitan Jewish Hospice in Dyker Heights, Brooklyn. The largely Hasidic neighborhood was home to Maimonides Medical Center, the hospital where I and my brother and sisters were all born, and where my father would spend the last few months of his life. For five years before being placed in hospice care, he'd been serving what seemed like a prison sentence in our ill-lit apartment on Fort Hamilton Parkway. His emphysema had intruded enough that he was unable to do more than shower and watch television. He and I had been on our way to mass one morning at Our Lady of Guadalupe, just three short blocks away, when he finally surrendered the fight and the confinement to home began. After stopping for a while to try to catch his breath, he sent me along to church while he returned to the apartment. It was the last time he would be outside of his own volition. He would spend years trapped in the apartment largely alone, bitter and missing my mother, who had succumbed to cancer a few years before. Charles Christopher Gallagher left this world with a struggled, gasping prayer for God to take his life. It was answered minutes later.

I've been tremendously blessed to know several wonderful men who have had tremendously positive impacts on my life. In honor of Father's Day and the memory of my dad, I'd like to take a little time to honor three men who have been among the best I've known.

Dr. Michael Morgan

I arrived in Plattsburgh almost fifteen years ago from Brooklyn, New York, leaving behind the apartment and the past that dwelled within. I was excited to pursue a four-year education away from the stresses of city living with the support of my then-future wife. Unfortunately, one part of my old life came along for the journey: a stutter that had plagued me for most of my life. In my childhood, it was something that resulted in social exclusion and beatings on an almost daily basis at the hands of the school bully. I spent grade and high school attending speech therapy full of sincere but ineffectual efforts by school therapists, and graduated with a diploma and the same stutter I'd always had. Although I had no way of knowing it at the time, things were about to change.

Distinguished Beat Reporting

Press-Republican, Plattsburgh

Retired BCS workers speak out against alternative health plan

0



Story

Print Font Size:

Posted: Thursday, January 16, 2014 2:28 am

By ASHLEIGH LIVINGSTON
Press-Republican

BEEKMANTOWN — Despite having multiple sclerosis, Dr. David Walter is able to walk reasonably normally with the help of Ampyra, one of 13 drugs prescribed to him.

But if he had to buy all his prescriptions under Plan B health insurance, the retired Beekmantown Central School superintendent estimates his annual co-pay would be about \$8,000.



Distinguished Feature Writing

Press-Republican, Plattsburgh

Remembering a brother's service



0

story

Image (4)

Print Font Size:

Previous

Next



Posted: Monday, May 26, 2014 3:28 am | Updated: 7:31 pm, Fri Aug 15, 2014.

By ASHLEIGH LIVINGSTON Press-Republican
Press-Republican

PLATTSBURGH — When Leonard Latour opened the door of his Plattsburgh home one evening in June 1966, he knew something was wrong.

As the wind blew and rain fell from the dark sky above, before him stood a U.S. Army major and a priest. They had come with news of his 23-year-old brother Carl, who was serving in the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

"I knew that was the end of it because they just don't come over for a wounded person," Leonard recalled.

The visitors told him that Carl had died a few days earlier, on June 24, when he was hit by hostile sniper fire.

"He only had, like, four months left to go," Leonard said.

Carl's death marked the first of a local in the Vietnam War, according to his brother.

ONE AT WAR; ONE HOME

Distinguished Multi-Media Presentation

Press-Republican, Plattsburgh

Local kids talk stars and stripes



Story Image (8) Video (1)

Print Font Size: - +

Previous Next



Press-Republican

PPR flag day Hickey 0614



Posted: Saturday, June 14, 2014 3:28 am

By ASHLEIGH LIVINGSTON
Press-Republican

AUSABLE FORKS — To Kelci Pelkey, today is a day intended to recognize the endurance of the American flag.

"We celebrate it in honor of our flag still standing after the wars," said the fourth-grader at AuSable Forks Elementary School.

For third-grader Zachary McLean, however, Flag Day is really meant "to celebrate our freedom from British and all those other people we fight."

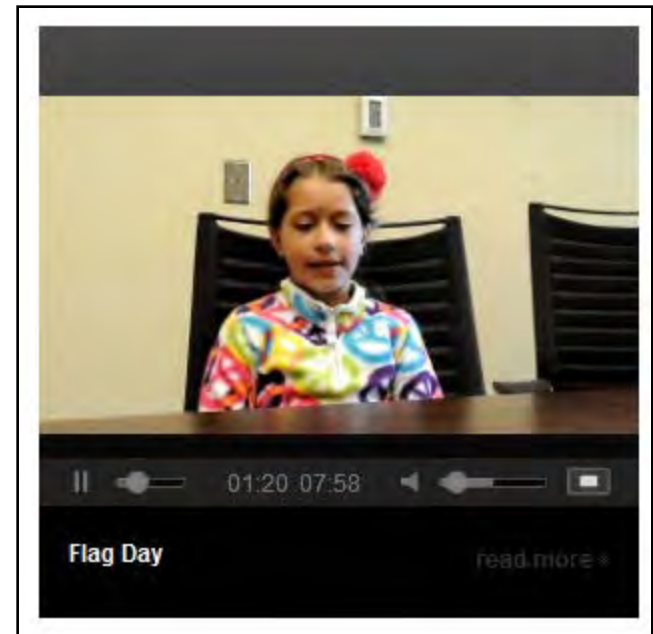
And to Lillian Tuller Uss, it is not about war at all.

"It's because people want to honor our flag on a special day, and they want to show everyone that it's a day to honor our flag," the third-grader said.

COUNTING STARS

The Press-Republican recently asked the trio and some of their schoolmates to share what they know about Old Glory, its origin and other patriotic matters.

Hailey Hickey is fairly certain that the American flag



Distinguished News Photography

Press-Republican, Plattsburgh



Distinguished Feature Photography

Press-Republican, Plattsburgh



Distinguished Newspaper Supplement

Watertown Daily Times

Watertown Daily Times

SECTION
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2014

'CLIMB TO GLORY'



A look at 30 years
of the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum



VIEW FROM THE TOP: Fort Drum's commander, Maj. Gen. Stephen J. Diamond, addresses the future of the post, his connection to the area, and even a little football. PHOTO: APT



AROUND THE GLOBE: With the motto 'Climb to Glory' as its backdrop, the 10th Mountain Division defines its history in its two-page photo gallery. PHOTO: APT



MUSKAL MISSION: New settlers in a war zone or a local post, the 39-member 10th Mountain Division Band stands ready to support soldiers and civilians. PHOTO: APT

25,000-49,999



Distinguished Editorial Writing

The Post-Star, Glens Falls

Region needs treatment options

Let's start with the shame. When we began reporting on the local heroin problem several months ago, we found multiple drug overdoses where, in deference to the family, the cause of death was said to be unexplained, or by natural causes, despite the presence of drugs and drug paraphernalia at the scene.

The New York State Department of Health reported 2,051 deaths from opioids in 2011 and 2,044 in 2012. That number was twice what was reported in 2004. Considering what we know now about unreported overdoses, those numbers are probably far greater.

A day doesn't go by without another story of a drug bust, an overdose, or a crime committed related to heroin addiction.

Over the past four weeks, our reporters have been investigating the extent of heroin use in our communities and the degree to which we have a problem.

It appears to be considerable.

One of our reporters heard Warren County District Attorney Kate Hogan being interviewed on a local radio show several weeks ago. When asked if the problem was that bad, she confirmed it was.

Let's consider the denial. Thanks to the bravery of people like Judy Moffitt, who told her story in the second week of our series, we learned how drugs infiltrate and overwhelm regular middle-class working families, and that even good kids can be led astray and have their lives wrecked. But most of all, we learned how heroin can overwhelm an addict's life at the expense of those dearest to them. And as Moffitt attests, it was almost impossible for her to help her son until it was too late.

Let's feel the anguish. There was the knock at the door last April at Sean and Tricia DeMerchant's home in Halfmoon at 1:45 in the morning with a police officer waiting to inform them their 22-year-old son, a student at SUNY Oswego, died of a heroin overdose. He was a month shy of

OUR VIEW

Heroin treatment is lacking in the region.

HOPE
HEROIN
ADDICTION
DEPENDENCE
SUBSTANCE ABUSE
OPIOIDS
OUTPATIENT
REHABILITATION
PILLS
HELP
JAIL
HEALTH

receiving his bachelor's degree.

Let's dwell on the impact. We were horrified with the story in week three of the three young girls abandoned by their mother for three days with only the bare minimum of essentials to survive. The oldest girl told of going with her mother on late-night runs to buy drugs.

It is incomprehensible any parent could walk away from the care of their children to indulge in the high of heroin, but those actions show the hold this insidious drug has on people who were once good mothers and fathers.

We have found the causes and cures to be complex and multifaceted, and not an easy fix.

We learned our culture has overindulged in pain medications and that doctors sometimes over-prescribe. Amanda Northshield, interviewed while incarcerated in Washington County Jail, says in Monday's story her road to heroin use began after being given Percocet after having her teeth pulled as a teenager.

We learned what little crime

there is in our idyllic communities is usually attributed to drug addictions.

We learned there are few viable treatment facilities in our region, insurance often denies coverage and, ultimately, the most effective way for addicts to detox is in the county jail.

Yet, a couple of years ago, when Conifer Park tried to place a methadone clinic here in Glens Falls, our community recoiled in horror at the prospect it would bring addicts into our community.

It turns out, they were already here.

Yes, we have a problem. Several professionals in the medical community insist in today's story that addicts can get clean under the right circumstances, but that treatment resources are sadly lacking.

Susan Roberts-McManus, Glens Falls Hospital's director at the Center for Recovery, said detox centers are overwhelmed and "four to six days" is the longest stay addicts can get at drug rehabilitation centers.

"What is the point?" she said. "It's not going to do it."

At the end of the legislative session in Albany, 11 new laws were passed to address the growing heroin problem, including adding 100 new officers to state drug units, stiffening penalties for doctors and pharmacists who illegally sell opioid pills and expanding the use of naloxone by EMS personnel to revive those who overdose. One bill included a measure to allow addicts to stay in treatment while they appeal insurance decisions about coverage.

Ultimately, we do not believe these bills will provide enough resources to make a difference.

Last winter, this community responded to a homeless problem it previously did not know existed.

We believe the drug problem to be far more significant and in need of a far greater response.

As we embarked on this series, we were pleased to see community leaders were already rallying to address the problem.

Earlier this year, Washington County Sheriff Jeff Murphy or-

ganized a meeting of regional law enforcement groups to coordinate efforts in enforcement.

Community leaders in the Glens Falls area organized a bi-county heroin task force that is planning a public forum July 23 at Hudson Falls High School to address the problem.

Considering the number of addicts in the county jail, the most immediate problem is finding ways to provide treatment.

We urge the task force and community leaders to immediately partner with local health institutions to provide the substance abuse support needed here in our local communities where they can do the most good.

Unfortunately, we don't believe this problem is going away anytime soon.

Local editorials represent the opinion of The Post-Star's editorial board, which consists of Publisher Rick Emanuel, Editor Ken Tingley, Projects Editor Will Doolittle and citizen representative Ralph Wilson.

Distinguished Column Writing

The Post-Star, Glens Falls



Post-Star Editor Ken Tingley, left, stands with his son, Joseph, a 2014 Queensbury High School graduate, at the ceremony.

Tingley: He's ready for college, I think

◆ **TINGLEY**

Continued from C1

sleepless nights with a houseful of sleeping people who have also been so important in my son's life, I find myself with the tears streaming down my face again, finding it hard to believe the years have evaporated so fast.

There is a Queensbury High diploma on the dining room table a motorboard nearby and time is short for late-night conversations about life, world problems

and the future, just like the one we had tonight.

College awaits. He is excited. I think he is ready.

As a parent worrying about, not only the world we have today, but the one we will have tomorrow, I am surprised how many times my thoughts have returned to anecdotes about my child and how his experiences were often metaphors for the world as an whole.

I am only realizing now, how important our children are to the journey, and what

we do to make the world a better place is often with them in mind.

For those of you who have followed along here, you may also find it hard to believe time has gone so quickly.

Perhaps the tears flow now because I fear I won't have anything more to write about.

More likely, I wonder if these stories will lack the heart so important to our lives and how we live them.

The photo that is on Facebook today shows my boy as

a graduate in the throes of appreciating a job well done, a big long arm slung over my shoulder and a smile of pure joy and satisfaction. His father, on the other hand, is shown choking back the emotion of the moment and wondering if he could possibly know the pride I now feel.

Good luck, my dear son. Thank you for it all.

Ken Tingley is editor of The Post-Star and may be reached via email at tingley@poststar.com.

Distinguished Online Photo Gallery

The Post-Star, Glens Falls



Caeden the "Toe Crusher"

Caeden the "Toe Crusher"

PHOTO BY STEVE JACOBS

Caeden Frost, 13, who is sickened by life threatening diseases, enjoys his time after school reading his mail from around the world, in his home in Schuylerville, Thursday, Nov.20,2014. (Steve Jacobs - sjacobs@poststar.com)



Distinguished Newspaper Supplement

The Post-Star, Glens Falls



Distinguished Breaking News Coverage

Poughkeepsie Journal

POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL EXCLUSIVE

HEALTH QUEST BIDS FOR BANKRUPT ST. FRANCIS

St. Francis continuing operations; deal would keep key services



+ HISTORIC HOSPITAL PROPOSAL

By Craig Wolf
Poughkeepsie Journal

Just two months short of turning 100 years old, Saint Francis Hospital and Health Centers has taken steps that likely will leave its future in the hands of its competitor on the other side of Poughkeepsie.

Officers of Saint Francis and Health Quest exclusively told the Poughkeepsie Journal on Tuesday that Saint Francis has filed for protection under Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy law. They said Health Quest has offered to buy its assets for \$40 million and take over, bringing key Saint Francis services under the Vassar Brothers Medical Center umbrella.

Saint Francis owes various creditors more than \$50 million, said Art Nizza, the CEO.

Many Saint Francis employees were notified of the hospital's Chapter 11 filing Tuesday night; more meetings were to be held today. Saint Francis is in the Town of Poughkeepsie; Vassar Brothers is on the southern side of the City of Poughkeepsie.

Saint Francis will stay open and fully operational as the case takes several months to wind through Bankruptcy Court, and while

INSIDE

- » Saint Francis Hospital timeline, 2A
- » Vassar Brothers Medical timeline, 2A
- » Logistics of hospitals merging, 3A
- » Vassar Brothers photo history, 4A
- » Saint Francis photo history, 4A

ONLINE

For articles, photos and videos on the deal for Health Quest to buy Saint Francis Hospital go to www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/stfrancis

SOCIAL MEDIA

WHAT'S NEXT

This week: The first motions concerning Saint Francis Hospital and Health Centers' Chapter 11 filing will be made in U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

This month: Bankruptcy court will consider the motions.

January: Other entities, if there are any, will make bids for the acquisition.

February: Bankruptcy Court would make its determination about the winning bid. Health Quest's offer is \$40 million.

March: The bankruptcy would be over and, if the court approves, Saint

Francis would become part of Health Quest.

End of March: Depending on how fast things move, the two hospitals would begin to operate as one entity — Vassar Brothers Medical Center.

Also: During the same time frame, regulatory approval will be needed from the Federal Trade Commission, the state Attorney General's Office, state Health Department, state Office of Mental Health, American College of Surgeons, and others.

Source: David Ping, senior vice president of strategic planning and development for Health Quest

Distinguished Business Reporting

Poughkeepsie Journal

IBM property cleanup not part of GlobalFoundries deal

John W. Barry, Poughkeepsie Journal 10:55 p.m. EDT October 20, 2014

GlobalFoundries is getting a chunk of IBM, but won't be responsible for the cleanup of any existing contamination at the site.



(Photo: Darryl Bautista/Poughkeepsie Journal file)



IBM remains responsible for the environmental cleanup of its East Fishkill site, even though the property is set to be taken over by GlobalFoundries as part of a \$1.5 billion deal.

"IBM will continue to be responsible for existing groundwater remediation," IBM spokesman Jeff Cross told the Journal.

IBM, which is paying \$1.5 billion to GlobalFoundries to shed its costly chip division, has its major chip fabricating plant in East Fishkill. According to the most



Who put staples in my chair?

Visit a Hunt showroom and
TAKE 25% OFF
the already-reduced ticket price on heirloom
quality furniture you'll keep for generations.

Wingdale, NY 16 Dog Tail Corners Rd.

Distinguished Feature Writing

Poughkeepsie Journal

Poughkeepsie Journal

A GANNETT COMPANY

what the truth is. I don't even remember the "events" that much, mostly feelings. Even those feelings may only be a justification after the fact for what I did.

You want to know something about me from that time. I was once filled with a darkness so complete I'm not even sure that it was part of me. It didn't feel like it. Tell this to them, as time goes on.

EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL REPORT | PART 1 OF A 2-PART SERIES

INSIDE THE MIND OF A SERIAL KILLER



ABOUT THIS SERIES

This is the first of two installments focusing on letters Poughkeepsie serial killer Kendall Francois wrote to a Poughkeepsie woman between 2011 and 2013.

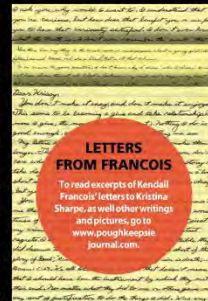
COMING MONDAY: The killer reflects on women, his faith and his crimes.

Francois' letters reveal thoughtful man, no remorse

By John Ferro Poughkeepsie Journal

He missed the goings on in Poughkeepsie and longed for newspaper clippings from his hometown. ♦ He ended his letters by writing "God Bless!" before signing his name. ♦ He described himself as "a measured person in thought" but "rash in action." ♦ And, he said, the eight women he killed all deserved to die, but not necessarily by his hand. ♦

Those are only some of the thoughts contained in a series of 10 letters written by serial killer Kendall Francois to a Poughkeepsie woman. ♦ The letters, whose authorship was independently verified by the Poughkeepsie Journal, have never been made public. They recount the daily life and private reflections of one of the



See FRANCOIS, Page 6A

Distinguished Sports Writing

Poughkeepsie Journal

A couple raindrops can flood the entire section

MIKE
BENISCHEK

SIDELINE TALK

This time of year, Section 1's high school baseball coaches have no choice but to wait.

Like soldiers huddled in a foxhole, they listen for the sound of raindrops falling like mortar fire.

You never hear the one that gets you.

Of course, in Section 1's case, it's because you don't need to get hit to have your day come to a premature end; all it takes is one flooded foxhole across the entire battlefield. By policy, when one sectional baseball tournament game gets rained out, every game in the class must get postponed as well.

As the song goes, "Yes, we would all go down together."

War is hell. Section 1's policies aren't much better, or more popular with area coaches.

The section plans its baseball tournaments meticulously each year with the hope that no team is given a competitive advantage. All games in a round are scheduled for the same day, at the same time, in order to make sure no team and its pitchers are given more or less rest than their next opponent.

Then, Mother Nature steps in, and the tournament becomes a frantic sprint to the finish.

Such was the case Thursday. With rain in the forecast Friday and Saturday, who knows when teams will get back on the field?

Time is always in short supply, especially since the section insists on allowing any team with five cereal box tops and a parental permission slip to qualify for the playoffs, and refuses to schedule games on Sundays or Memori-



Beacon's Alex Callaway fires a pitch toward home during the team's game against Our Lady of Lourdes earlier in the season. SPENCER AINSLEY/POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

See SIDELINE, Page 3D

Distinguished Sports Coverage

Poughkeepsie Journal

VIOLENCE IN SPORTS

SAFETY DEBATED

State considers laws to protect refs,
umpires from angry players, fans

By Dan Pietrafesa
Poughkeepsie Journal

In 35 years officiating soccer games in the mid-Hudson Valley, Dave Longacre has had his share of verbal confrontations with players on the field.

One argument in an adult men's game 25 years ago escalated to something more serious.

"I eventually sent the guy off the field for his language," Longacre said. "I started writing the information in my notebook and he came back on the field and head-butted me."

"At that time, we didn't really have a lot of direction. Now, if anything like that happens, you terminate the game and contact the police."

There are 21 states with laws specifically written to protect sports officials, though New York isn't one of them.

For nearly 20 years, various lawmakers in New York have proposed legislation to provide additional security to officials, with harsher penalties for fans or players inciting an altercation. Lawmakers, attorneys and officials themselves have debated the value of such a law.



Umpire Mike O'Rourke calls a strike while working a softball game at Arlington High School in Freedom Plains between Arlington and John Jay on Friday. DARRYL BAUTISTA/POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

VIDEO ONLINE

Visit www.poughkeepsiejournal.com for a video report on the issue of protecting sports officials.

See SAFETY, Page 2A

Distinguished Feature Photography

Poughkeepsie Journal



Distinguished Sports Photography

Poughkeepsie Journal



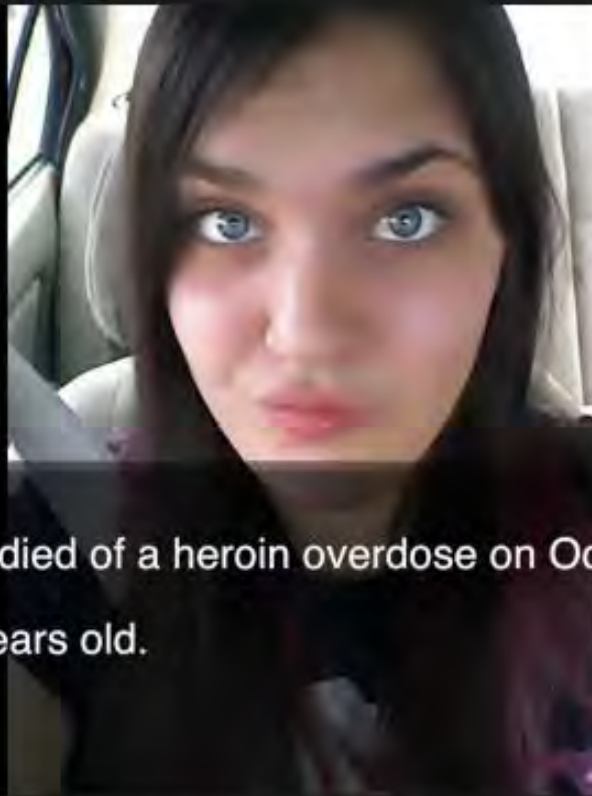
Distinguished Multi-Media Presentation

Poughkeepsie Journal

INVESTIGATIONS

OVERDOSE DEATHS: Faces of Loss

Jun 27, 2014



Christine Spinney died of a heroin overdose on Oct. 16, 2013.
She was just 22 years old.

The Poughkeepsie Journal reached out to families in an attempt to paint a human picture of the overdose epidemic, to tell the stories of the dead. Chrissie Williams/Poughkeepsie Journal

Distinguished State Government Coverage

Poughkeepsie Journal

KILLING PAIN

EXCLUSIVE INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Thousands die in painkiller epidemic, but state office disciplines few doctors

By Mary Beth Pfeiffer
Poughkeepsie Journal

An ambulance driver in her 40s suffered a back injury. A medical assistant, 40, had a hysterectomy. A young mother had problem feet that ached after waitressing.

Each had pain. Each saw a local doctor. Each became addicted to painkillers in the same chemical family as heroin.

"If it wasn't so easy for me ... to get Percocet, I probably never would've used Percocet, or heroin," the young mom said of the painkiller she took for three years and the illicit drug it led to. The ambulance driver, who was on legal pills for six years, said, "No one ever said, 'Isn't there another way?'"

These women, who asked not to be named because of the stigma of addiction and the challenge it presents to recovery, pose a simple question: How did they — and thousands like them — become drug-addicted under the care of licensed physicians?

The state office that oversees physicians

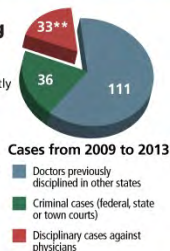
See **POTENT PILLS**, Page 8A

ONLINE

To read other stories in this series on the epidemic of addiction, go to pojnews.co/painkillers.

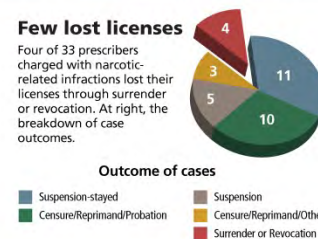
Few prescribing cases pressed

The state disciplined 180 medical professionals, mostly physicians, for infractions related to prescribing of painkillers and similar drugs*. Of these, just 33 were cases brought by the state Office of Professional Medical Discipline, which oversees 90,000 doctors in New York State.



Few lost licenses

Four of 33 prescribers charged with narcotic-related infractions lost their licenses through surrender or revocation. At right, the breakdown of case outcomes.

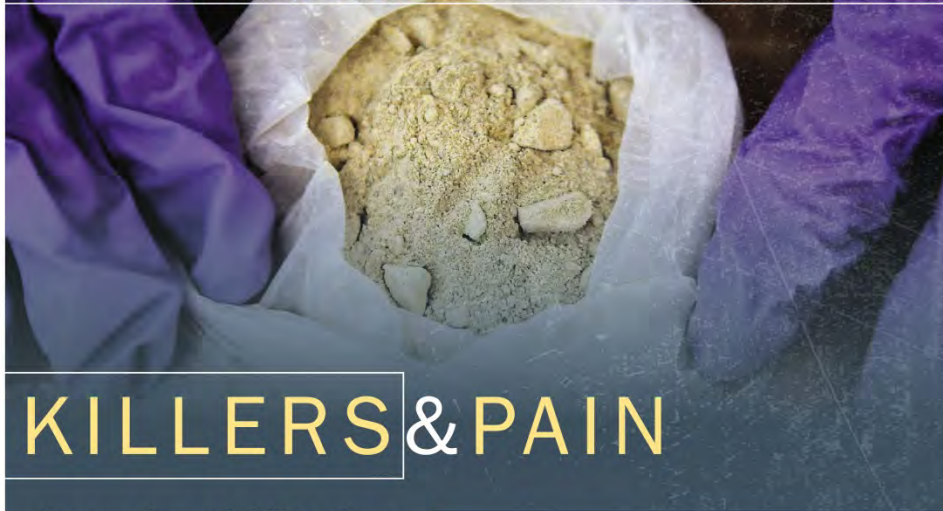


*Files for three additional cases could not be located; a fourth case involved a non-disciplinary matter. **32 physicians and one physician's assistant. Source: Poughkeepsie Journal analysis of New York State Department of Health records.

Distinguished Investigative Reporting

Poughkeepsie Journal

AN EXCLUSIVE INVESTIGATIVE REPORT: THREE PAGES INSIDE ON PAGES 7A-9A



KILLERS & PAIN

Law curbs painkiller abuse,
but sends users to heroin

By Mary Beth Pfeiffer : Poughkeepsie Journal

They started turning up in emergency rooms early last November. One after another and then another. By the time the torrent subsided in February, some 280 people had overdosed in Dutchess County from what many believed was heroin but was often street drugs laced with an exponentially stronger narcotic called fentanyl. This horrific episode, in an epidemic of addiction that is sweeping the area and nation, killed seven

See KILLERS, Page 8A

A member of the Dutchess County Drug Task Force displays 1.5 ounces of heroin powder, valued at approximately \$6,000. SPENCER AINSLEY/POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL

A STATEWIDE PROBLEM

Overdose deaths rose 118 percent in New York State from 2004 to 2011.



*The majority are accidental; figures include suicide and undetermined.

Source: New York State Department of Health

Visit PoughkeepsieJournal.com to view a special magazine-style presentation of this package, complete with video and a searchable database to help you learn more about overdose deaths in our community

Distinguished Community Service

Poughkeepsie Journal

Poughkeepsie Journal

A GANNETT COMPANY

NO SMALL THING: THE HIGH COST OF TREATMENT

LYME DISEASE TREATMENT COST SOARS

IN NEW YORK ...

5000%

rise in cost of doxycycline
in a recent study

At Billings Animal Hospital in LaGrangeville, 500 pills cost \$24.58 in 2010; now they cost the practice \$406.25, said manager Karen Cohen. "If I had to offer this to our clients, it would be an outrageous amount."

A 500-tablet bottle of antibiotic costs \$400, up from \$36

By Mary Beth Pfeiffer
Poughkeepsie Journal

IN 2012, Rhinebeck Equine veterinary practice prescribed bottles of doxycycline to treat Lyme disease for \$36 apiece. ♦ Now, each can cost \$400 or more — and horses may need six 500-tablet bottles for a 30-day treatment.

Horses aren't the only ones affected by a rise in the cost of the prime antibiotic used against Lyme disease. Potentially, so are the 300,000 Americans infected yearly. Pet owners are simply more likely to notice the price hike because they are less likely to have insurance to cover it. And horses need 50 times the dose of humans.

At the current price, "It's not an option," said Dr. Amy Grice, a Rhinebeck Equine veterinarian, who instead uses a cheaper, but not cheap, alternative drug, minocycline.

"Doxycycline used to be dirt cheap," said David Bondarenka, a pharmacist for Nekos-Dedrick's Pharmacy in Kingston, which dis-

penses drugs for animals and people. He called price hikes "astronomical."

Indeed, the cost of doxycycline rose faster than any other generic drug in the year ending last November, according to Drug Channel Institute, a website that monitors pharmaceutical economics. Pills in the 100-milligram size soared 6,351 percent, while 50-milligram capsules rose 2,138 percent. Prices have dropped somewhat since then but nowhere near to where they were, pharmacists and veterinarians said.

"Doxycycline used to be dirt cheap."

DAVID BONDARENKA, pharmacist

"There's more demand; they can raise the price."

DEBBIE MAIDO, East Fishkill dog owner

To read previous articles in the Poughkeepsie Journal series "No Small Thing," including an article Sunday on Lyme disease in dogs and horses, go to poughkeepsiejournal.com/lyme.

See LYME, Page 2A

Distinguished Online Blog

Poughkeepsie Journal

Making homemade ricotta is easier than pie

Posted on [March 5, 2014](#) by [Barbara](#)



Homemade ricotta makes a great base for bruschetta with fresh tomatoes and basil, and pears with a fig balsamic.

This past weekend I discovered how easy it is to make homemade ricotta and now there is no turning back.

I remember watching a recent episode of [*"Lidia's Italy"*](#) on PBS and the beloved Italian chef was making ricotta. It looked so good, and easy, I had to give it a try.

Distinguished Specialty Publication

Poughkeepsie Journal



Distinguished Specialty Publication Feature Writing

Poughkeepsie Journal

WELLNESS



The oncology support group.
PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN HALPERN

HEALING WORDS

Oncology support group shares memoirs

By Marji Yablon
For Living & Being

In a small and cozy house in Kingston, in a sunny room overlooking a backyard gazebo and gardens, the Oncology Support Memoir Group of HealthAlliance is in session.

In attendance are 15 of its 17 members (No one likes to miss a

COMING EVENTS

7 p.m. Dec. 20 at Inquiring Minds Book Store in New Paltz

WHERE TO BUY

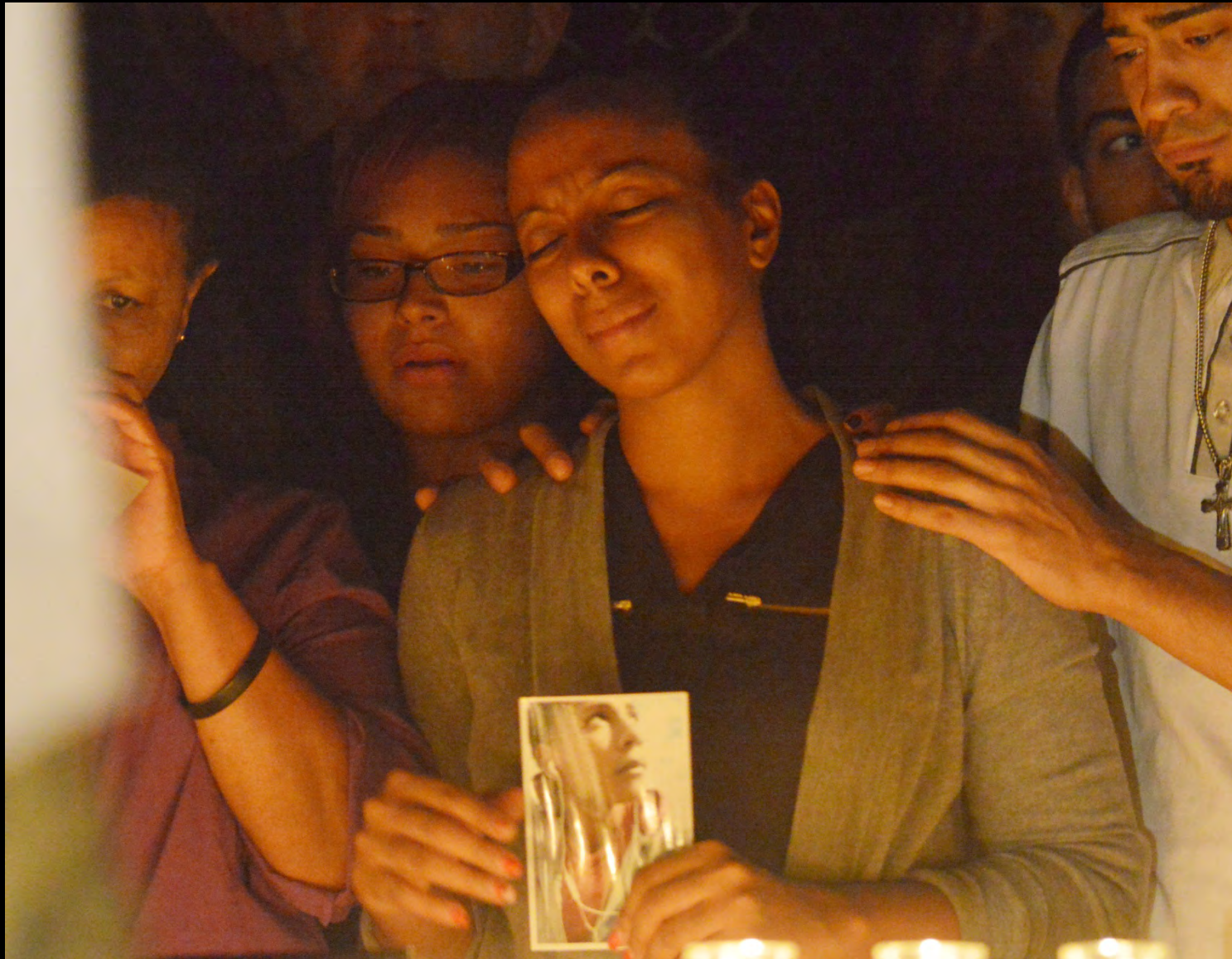
The book may be purchased at the Golden Notebook in Woodstock and Inquiring Minds bookstores in Saugerties and New Paltz. It can also be ordered at the book's website: www.holdingonlettinggo-memoir.org

and a patient who is now in a Hospice program.

As she does each week, Thomas, whose published works include several memoirs and a book about how to write them, starts things off by reading three poems aloud, following each reading with a prompt. At a previous session, she read Alison Hawthorne Demming's poem, "The Lake" in which Demming remembers how, as a child, she dipped her hand in the water and caught a sunfish. As the poem ends, she has not

Distinguished News Photography

Staten Island Advance



Distinguished Beat Reporting

Observer-Dispatch, Utica

'CONGRATULATIONS, NOW I'M AS BAD AS YOU'

In police recordings, Whittemore claims abuse at hands of his father

BY ROCCO LADUCA
rladuca@uticaod.com

Shortly after beating his girlfriend to death, then-21-year-old Clayton Whittemore had something he wanted his father to know.

"Congratulations, now I'm as bad as you," Whittemore told his father, Scott, according to Whittemore's recorded interrogation with police. The interview took place just hours after Alexandra Kogut was killed Sept. 29, 2012, inside her SUNY Brockport dorm room.

As Whittemore sat handcuffed late that night, he could not explain why he unleashed such brutality on the girl he loved. But as Whittemore's recorded remarks reveal, a childhood of alleged abuse at the hands of his father – "the one man I despise" – had turned the young New Hartford man into his own worst nightmare.

Whittemore had seen it all, he told the authorities in a 911 call and police interview:

- He watched his father beat his brother with a baseball bat.
- He watched his father throw his mother to the

PLEASE SEE WHITTEMORE, 4A

PHOTO BY ANNETTE LEIN / ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT & CHRONICLE

BELOW: Screenshots of Clayton Whittemore, then 21, of New Hartford, from a recorded interrogation as he's being questioned by police after the beating death of girlfriend Alexandra Kogut.

IN HIS OWN WORDS

A recording of Clayton Whittemore's police interrogation sheds light on what had upset the then-21-year-old New Hartford man shortly before he beat his girlfriend, Alexandra Kogut, to death on Sept. 29, 2012:

Police: What were you guys fighting over?

Whittemore: We were at my buddy's, and she was kind of talking to me a little negatively ... I said, I would just appreciate it if you wouldn't when we're out ... I'm going to talk to you, respect what I have to say ... I don't want my girlfriend talking to me, you know, that way ... I'll say something, you know, trying to make a point, I'll misspeak by accident, and then she'll twist my words or something like that. I mean, I do that to everybody sometimes.

Police: What do you think was different about tonight?

Whittemore: We fought before, I don't know ... She started slapping at me and stuff ... I was like, you're telling me not to hit you and not to yell at you, but that's what you're doing to me ... She's pushed

PLEASE SEE POLICE, 4A



Distinguished Headline Writing

Observer-Dispatch, Utica

OD
OBSERVER-DISPATCH
16 PAGES • ONLINE AT UTICAOD.COM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2014 | \$1.00

RED, WHITE, BLUE & BRONZE

SOCHI 2014
11

'It's amazing!' Erin Hamlin's Olympic dream comes true

BY ANNE DELANEY
adelaney@uticad.com

REMSEN — Remsen teacher Jodi Ehart didn't sleep Monday night.

There were a lot of restless residents in the Remsen area after the first day of Olympic luge racing when Erin Hamlin put herself in contention for a medal on a track outside of Sochi, Russia.

On Tuesday, Hamlin's dreams — those shared by her hometown fans — came true when the 27-year-old completed her third Olympic experience with a bronze medal and redefined an already stellar 15-year career.

Hamlin finished behind the German duo of Natalie Geisenberger and Tatjana Hofbauer, who took home gold and silver.

Hamlin's finish in Sochi was historically

"I'm just thrilled for this. That's her dream. She wanted that medal. I don't think the color matters."
— CAROL HAMLIN BUCZEK, ERIN'S AUNT

noteworthy for USA Luge, which placed all three women's sliders in the top 15 after the two-day competition at the Sanki Sliding Center.

With her place on the podium, Hamlin became the first U.S. athlete in Olympic history to earn a singles luge medal, standing out from first-time Olympic teammates Kate Hansen (10th) and Summer Britcher (13th).

In Remsen, where approximately 200 seventh- to 12th-graders and school staff gathered to watch in the high school library, all eyes were on Hamlin, a 2004

Remsen graduate and former two-sport athlete for the Rams.

"It's been so exciting," said Ehart, 46, a Remsen High School art teacher. "I haven't been able to sleep. I've never felt so excited about something sports-related. This is huge."

Hamlin, a 2004 O-D Teen All-Star, said at the time that her career goal was to compete in the Olympics. She met that goal times three — and more.

"It was amazing," said Ryan Polce, a 16-year-old Remsen junior. "I saw several leaders crying. I'm really proud."

Hamlin's Olympic performance came five years and five days after her previous career best result, when she became the first American woman to win a world championship in February 2009, on her home track in Lake Placid.

PLEASE SEE REG. 4A

PHOTOS BY NATHAN BLANKENHORN FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**INSIDE: PHOTOS FROM HAMLIN MAKING USA LUGE HISTORY, 4A; MORE OLYMPICS, 1C, 3C
UTICAOD.COM: HAMLIN THROUGH THE YEARS; REMSEN HONORS ITS OLYMPIC MEDALIST**

Distinguished Page Design/Presentation

Observer-Dispatch, Utica



UC HOCKEY STARTS STRONG
PIONEERS HAVEN'T LOST FAN BASE, 1C

Turn the clocks back
Remember to move your clocks back one hour.

LEARNING THE LANGUAGE OF DANCE
LIVING, 1D

ROME RESCUE MISSION TAKES ITS SERVICES ON THE ROAD IN RV
LOCAL, 3A

UP TO \$4,347
IN COUNTRIES AND ADVENTURES
SEEKED TO TRAVEL'S 100

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2014
ONLINE AT UTICADOD.COM

'INVISIBLE CHAINS'

UTICA A HOTBED FOR THOSE ENSNARED BY HUMAN TRAFFICKING

BY ROCCO LADUCA
laduca@uticadod.com

UTICA - They're invisible people, that they walk the streets of Utica. They're the girls and boys sold for sex to pay a debt, or to fulfill some desperate desire.

They're the foreign-born refugees promised a better life, only to be duped into abusive servitude with no idea how to escape.

They're the desperate workers, forced into exhaustive labor while receiving little or nothing in return.

These are the broken victims of human trafficking, a multi-billion-dollar industry that some consider the fastest growing global trade, said Elina Morales, spokeswoman for the Central New York Anti-Trafficking Task Force.

Utica is in the hotbed of sex and labor trafficking that seeps from New York's state Thruway - a reality that many find hard to accept in their own community, Morales said.

Those blunders are part of the reason why it's so hard to combat this dehumanizing evil that treats people as merchandise to be used, abused and then simply thrown away.

"The appetite of Americans with human trafficking, it's like it's one of our dirty secrets," said Morales, who's heard countless stories from victims across the region, including in Utica and Syracuse. "You don't see the invisible chains, and a lot of it happens behind closed doors."

Human trafficking victims can be anyone - from the homeless and poor to the professional and educated - but Utica's refugee and immigrant populations are especially at risk, Morales said.

PLEASE SEE MORALE, 6A

Potential warning signs of human trafficking

- Is not free to come and go as he or she wishes, although trafficking does not require physical restraint.
- Exhibits unusually fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, hostile or paranoid behavior.
- Resists with unusually fearful or anxious behavior of any reference to "law enforcement."
- Exhibits unexplained injuries or signs of prolonged and untreated illness.
- Was recruited through false promises concerning the nature and conditions of his or her work.
- Is not in control of his or her own identification documents, and is not allowed to speak for him or herself.
- Exhibits lack of knowledge of whereabouts, does not know what city he or she is in and has no money.

"This is definitely a vulnerable population that is appealing to traffickers just because they are very easy to manipulate."

ELISA MORALES
SPOKESWOMAN FOR THE CENTRAL NEW YORK ANTI-TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

PLEASE SEE MORALE, 6A

Elections countdown: Handful of key local races

BY ELIZABETH COOPER
cooper@uticadod.com

Utica's state controller and attorney general.

Closer to home, incumbent Republican Assemblywoman Claudia Tenney is challenged on the Independence Party line by Republican Herkimer County Sheriff Chris Farber for the 31st Assembly seat.

In the race for the 22nd District Assembly seat, state controller and attorney general.

Closer to home, incumbent Republican Assemblywoman Claudia Tenney is challenged on the Independence Party line by Republican Herkimer County Sheriff Chris Farber for the 31st Assembly seat.

In the race for the 22nd District Assembly seat, state controller and attorney general.

PLEASE SEE TENNEY, 4A

Can private space industry survive?

2 explosions in span of 4 days raises doubts

BY KATH HORNSTADT
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Flawed private space industry is no stranger to the space game. It's what happens when you push the boundaries of what technology can do, where people can go. And it happened again to Virgin Galactic's SpaceShipTwo.

In the past decade, the space industry has tried to go from risky and government-run to routine private enterprise - to routine that.

But it all depends on flying becoming safe and routine.

PLEASE SEE CAN, 4A

Army considers scaling back plans affecting DFAS

Union: Changes to accounting might not be as severe

BY ELIZABETH COOPER
cooper@uticadod.com

ROME - Last winter, when it came to light that the Army was considering pulling its accounting functions out of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, it seemed possible that Rome DFAS could lose as much as 70 percent of its business.

The Army still is considering making changes to how it does its accounting, but they might not be as extreme as previously envisioned.

"It has been scaled back," said Ed Aboumar, president of the local American Federation of Government Employees union, who was briefed on the plans recently. "The

WHAT IS THE ARMY PLANNING?
The Army is considering taking its accounting services to Rome's DFAS. It would use returning services members from overseas to staff an accounting hub at Fort Bragg in North Carolina. Another hub would be in Stuttgart, Germany.

IN 2013, the Army will simulate DFAS work to study the viability of taking accounting services to Rome.

PLEASE SEE ARMY, 6A

38th Herkimer County Arts & Crafts Fair

at Herkimer County Community College
The Mohawk Valley's Premier Arts and Crafts Event

Sponsored by the Herkimer County College Foundation, Inc. in support of student scholarships. 1-54 donation, 5 and under free.

NOVEMBER 8 & 9 • Saturday 10 AM-5 PM • Sunday 10 AM-4 PM • herkimeredu.ac

50,000-175,000



Distinguished Investigative Reporting

Times Union, Albany

SPECIAL REPORT: GENERAL ELECTRIC CO.'S PCB FILES

Dredging up the truth



Times Union archive

An excavator brings up sediment from the bed of the Hudson River during dredging operations on the polluted river in August 2012 at Fort Edward.

Records show GE was warned about health threats of PCBs decades before anti-dredging campaign

By Brendan J. Lyons

Fort Edward

For years, as it fought against being forced to clean up the Hudson River, General Electric Co. argued that an oil-like insulating fluid that had seeped into the river from its Washington County capacitor plants wasn't harmful to humans.

Besides, GE officials said, the river was cleaning itself.

Yet newly uncovered documents reveal that as early as the 1960s — decades before the government ordered GE to undertake the river dredging that is scheduled to resume this spring — company officials were warned of the potential serious health threats of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), which their engineers

described in confidential memos as “hazardous waste.”

The documents also indicate that GE flushed far more PCBs into the river than government regulators have estimated, and that nearly a million pounds a year of additional PCBs were carted away by scavenger crews, dumped with an attitude characterized by a GE engineer in 1970 as “out of sight, out of mind.”

Please see **GE A9** ▶

On the web

For a video on GE and to view the documents, go to http://timesunion.com/ge_dredging.

A8 ▶ How PCBs pose health hazards.



Courtesy Schenectady Museum Archives

A GE worker welds a capacitor cast at the company's Hudson Falls plant on Nov. 23, 1954. PCBs were released from the plant into the Hudson River and seeped into the underlying bedrock.

Distinguished Editorial Writing

Times Union, Albany

EDITORIAL

A missing word says it all

Of the 155 words in Proposal One, none was more important than *independent*. And in ordering the state to remove it from the measure to create an independent redistricting commission in New York, a judge affirmed what many critics knew: This proposal is a farce.

Independence was supposed to be the whole reason voters would take the state step of changing the state constitution. Now that it's clear the commission created by this proposal would not be independent, there's only one way to vote the bill No.

Or the twice-shame on voters for letting the Legislature and Gov. Andrew Cuomo get away with this charade.

The Legislature and Mr. Cuomo have touted this proposal as the answer to all the shenanigans that have gone on decades after decades in the redrawing of legislative district maps after each decennial census. The parties that run the Senate and Assembly also control the drawing of legislative districts, allowing them to craft maps that maximize their advantage in elections.

THE ISSUE

A judge finds a proposed "independent" redistricting commission is anything but.

THE STAKES:

Voters should tell lawmakers to go back and do it right.

To comment full time at [timesunion.com](mailto:timesunioncomments@timesunion.com) or at <http://blogs.timesunion.com/yourvoice>

Public demands to fix this system reached a peak in 2010, when a group called NYU, led by former New York City Mayor Ed Koch, challenged candidates to commit to an independent redistricting following the 2010 Census. Most candidates — including most of those who were eventually elected or re-elected that year — signed on. In one highly public display of unanimity, the entire Senate Republican conference took the pledge.

No sooner were lawmakers sworn in, however, that they reneged on the promise — including the Senate Republican conference. Redistricting was done just the way it's always been done.

As a sop to betrayed citizens, the Legislature and governor cobbled together the idea to change the constitution to create a presumably independent re-

districting commission that would take over the process after the 2020 Census. The problem is, the commission would be appointed almost entirely by the Legislature, and lawmakers could reject the panel's maps and draw maps of its own.

Oh, there's a catch: Some hoops they'd have to jump through to do that, but they're as challenging as you might expect from a legislature for which a promise to voters is a mere technicality. They even built in a provision that allows the commission to maintain the "bone" of existing districts — in other words, to use the maps created by the same legislature that refused to allow an independent map-drawing process the last time around.

State Supreme Court Justice Patrick McGrath said it all in his ruling, stating that the commission "cannot be described as independent."

Even so, some supporters of the proposal are sticking to their position, saying some improvement is better than none. But without independence, what improvement is there? This isn't half a loaf. It's not even a crumb. And given the reality of constitutional amendments, New Yorkers will likely have to live with this sham for a long, long time.

Tell the Legislature in November: You're not fooling anyone. And vote no.

Distinguished Beat Reporting

Times Herald-Record, Middletown





Heating & Cooling Comfort Contractors
845-782-8133
www.WKMechanical.com
Serving the Hudson Valley and Beyond

\$ CASH FOR CLUNKERS! \$

PUT THAT OLD INEFFICIENT HEATING SYSTEM TO REST
 GET UP TO \$2,000 CASH BACK TOWARDS A
 HIGH EFFICIENCY HEATING SYSTEM INSTALLATION!

CALL TODAY FOR DETAILS! LIMITED TIME OFFER!
 Plus Warranties & Guarantees. Our Competitors Think We're Crazy... We're Not!



2014-2015
 Hudson Valley
 Winner



The village's powerful voting blocs can swing elections, but critics claim they also break the rules

By Chris McKenna
 Times Herald-Record

The stakes were high last November when a team of poll watchers dispatched by the United Monroe citizens group ventured into a hangar hall and medical building where more than 6,000 Kiryas Joel voters would cast ballots.

United Monroe had been campaigning hard for a slate of Town Board candidates running on its ballot line, hoping to wrest control of a deeply integrated board by outwitting the Hasidic community's powerful voting bloc. Kiryas Joel's leaders, meanwhile, had every reason to elect Bourke and Thwait & associates of

their running in another important contest that day: the race for Orange County executive.

What unfolded in the two polling stations that day sparked new interest in election oversight and suspected voter fraud in Kiryas Joel, longstanding issues that had been out of the headlines and scrutiny of authorities for more than a decade. That rekindled controversy continued through a primary election and lawsuit last month, and soon could extend into another voting shakedown for the Nov. 4 general election.

The Times Herald-Record documented voter fraud in Kiryas Joel twice in the 1990s and once in 2001, triggering investigations — and, in one case, a stern

grand-jury report — but no prosecutions. Village officials responded each time by saying that the number of proven improprieties was petty and that they didn't condone them.

United Monroe's leaders knew about the past problems when preparing for last year's town elections, and wanted its poll watchers in Kiryas Joel to watch voters sign in and challenge those whose signatures looked nothing like the originals — known as responsible rolls — in the poll books, generally reproduced from voters' own signatures.

It proved to be a contentious day in Kiryas Joel.

In a series of sworn statements later delivered to authorities, United Monroe members

SLEEPING WATCHER On primary day in September 2014, the voter turned was tight in Kiryas Joel, but poll watchers were busy. Orange County Board of Elections observer Richard Ruffalo, left, a representative from the Dan Catron campaign, Horacio Fernandez, and Orange County Board of Elections Commissioner David Green were working with a voter whose signature, name withheld, was challenged by the Catron campaign. (PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TIMES HERALD-RECORD)

described tense encounters with another group of poll watchers who officially represented different parties but were seemingly aligned against them. They say their adversaries berated and harassed them for questioning mismatched signatures, accusing them of intimidating or disenfranchising voters.

Next came a conflict in August over requests to allow people other than Kiryas Joel residents to work in the village as election inspectors, the poll workers who oversee the poll books, distribute ballots and rule on voter challenges. The Board of Elections

initially granted those requests for the Sept. 3 primary but then rescinded them. The spurned inspectors immediately filed a discrimination lawsuit, which ended on an ambiguous note last week as another heated election approached.

Watching the watchers

The stakes last November were even higher than United Monroe leaders would have realized at the time. As public documents have since revealed, Kiryas Joel officials knew then that a group of Hasidic property owners would soon petition the Town Board to

Distinguished Specialty Publication Feature Writing

Times Herald-Record, Middletown

Robert Tonner is "one of the most influential doll designers of all time," says Pat Henry, publisher of *Fashion Doll Quarterly* magazine and a book about Tonner.

■ THE DOLLMAKER'S LONG, IMPROBABLE JOURNEY TO PARIS' Louvre Museum and Hollywood's "Harry Potter" and "Twilight" films starts in the small Midwestern farming town of Bluffton, Ind.

That's where Kingston's Robert Tonner was: the shy son of a mother who was so sick for so long – from encephalitis, sleeping sickness and then cancer – she literally spent years in bed. Tonner's father, who designed truck bodies, had to pay so much for his wife's medicine – \$125 per week on his \$100-per-week salary – that he would move his family from one home to another because he could never afford the mortgage payments.

Robert Tonner escaped this bleak world of the 1950s and '60s by doing the one thing he knew he could do since he was 3 years old: draw, especially the immaculately detailed, colorful superheroes such as Superman, who took him further away from that gray world.

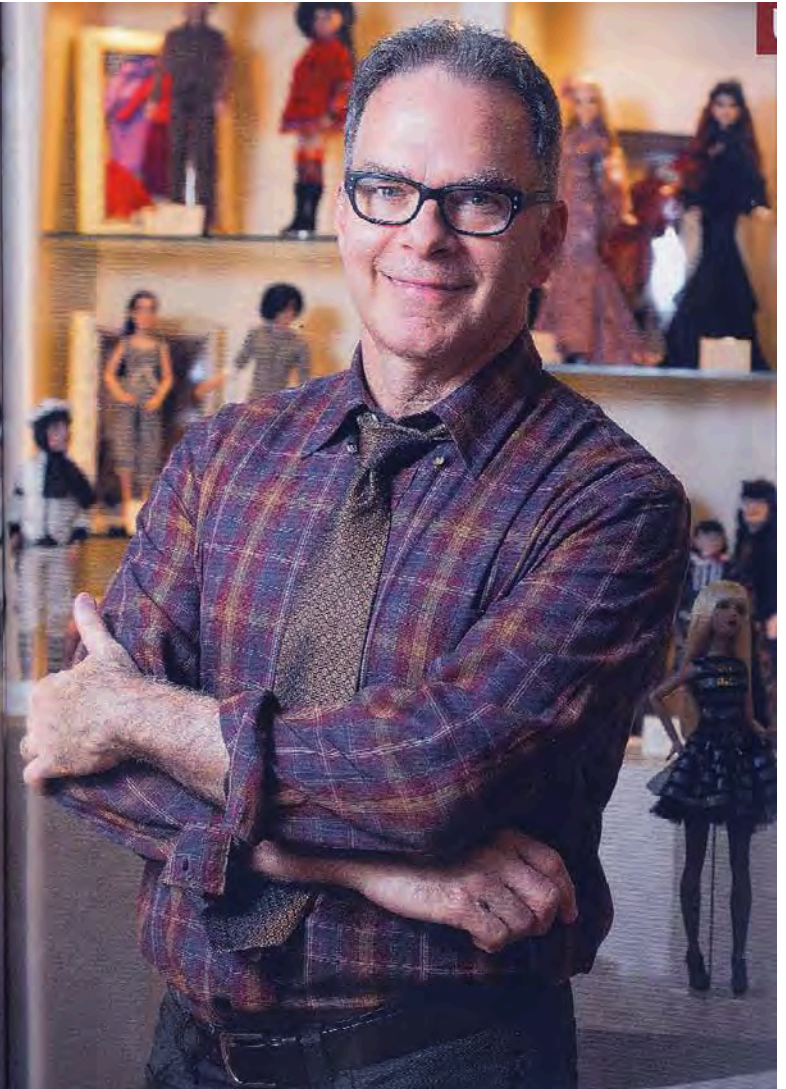
"I would literally draw for hours and hours," he says in his wood-paneled office in Kingston, surrounded by glass-encased shelves of the fruits of that drawing, his dolls, from his world renowned, multimillion-dollar Tonner Doll Co.

Continued on page 30

DOLL DOYEN

By Steve Israel
Photos by Michael Bloom

Robert Tonner's designs
set the industry standard



Distinguished Online Blog

Times Herald-Record, Middletown

HudsonValley.com/Blogs Inside Army Football Blog Search

CLASSIFIEDS CARS JOBS HOMES BLOGS COUPONS DEALS Go to www.recordonline.com

ARMY FOOTBALL
ARMY FOOTBALL INSIDER WITH SAL INTERDONATO

VIDEO: Breaking down Army candidates

By SAL INTERDONATO | Published: DECEMBER 19, 2013 | [Leave a comment](#)

Times Herald-Record columnist Kevin Gleason and I take a look at the top four candidates - Tampa Bay Buccaneers offensive coordinator Mike Sullivan, Jets special teams coach Ben Kotwica, Ohio State co-offensive coordinator Ed Warinner and Georgia Southern coach Jeff Monken - for the Army football head coach opening.

Army coaching search breakdown



The video player shows two men sitting at a table. The man on the left is wearing a light blue polo shirt and glasses, and the man on the right is wearing a dark blue sweater. They are both looking towards the camera. A large play button is centered over the video frame.

Distinguished Specialty Publication

Times Herald-Record, Middletown



Distinguished Breaking News Coverage

Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester



SADNESS, QUESTIONS FILL VOID LEFT BY GLAZERS

8:45 a.m.: Larry Glazer's Socata TB900 departs Greater Rochester International Airport, bound for Naples, Florida.

10 a.m. (approximate): Glazer contacts Atlanta Center air traffic control. "We have an indication that [not correct on the plane]," [misheard] [and] he stops responding. North American Aerospace Defense Command dispatches two F-16 fighter jets from South Carolina to investigate around 10:40 a.m.

11:30 a.m.: F-15 fighter jets dispatched from Homestead Air Reserve Base in Florida take over the monitoring duties. The jets escort Glazer's plane until it enters Cuban airspace. "I saw [his] chest rising and falling," a pilot tells air traffic control.

2:15 p.m.: Glazer's plane crashes 34 miles southeast of Fort Antonio after running out of fuel and traveling more than 1,400 miles.

"Until I hear confirmation (of their deaths), I'm going to keep talking about how they are terrific people ..."

LARRY FINE, executive director of the Jewish Community Federation of Greater Rochester

Unresponsive aircraft crashes off Jamaica

Meaghan M. McDermott and David Andreatta
Staff writers

"We need to get lower."

Minutes before air traffic controllers in Atlanta lost contact with Rochester developer Larry Glazer's Socata TB900, en route to Naples, Florida, the plane appeared to be in trouble.

"We need to descend down to 18-40, we have an indication that is not correct on the plane," pilot Larry Glazer said in air traffic recordings obtained from LiveATC.net.

Told to maintain his altitude at 25,000 feet, Glazer, identified by his plane's tail number, 900KN, said that wasn't good enough. He was cleared to drop to 20,000 feet, but minutes ticked by, and his plane didn't descend. Air traffic controllers became concerned.

"900KN, do you understand you are to descend and maintain flight level 20,000?" they said. And then, "900KN, how do you read?" "900KN, how do you read?"

The queries went unanswered.

And the plane, carrying Glazer and his wife, Jane, flew aimlessly and unresponsive over the Atlantic Ocean for hours. Pri-



Top, Larry Glazer stands in front of a building to be demolished on Alexander Street in 2010. Above, Jane Glazer tends to work at Q2 Direct.

D&C

GO DEEPER ON DIGITAL

Go to DemocratandChronicle.com for photos, videos and continuing coverage.

MORE INSIDE

- Bryant: Glazer fought for a better city. **8A**
- Larry Glazer an "unfathomable loss" for Rochester. **9A**
- Jane Glazer trained one-woman operation into thriving company. **9A**

"Together, both Larry and Jane were among the biggest believers and champions in Rochester's future and because of them, their hometown is a better place."

SEN. CHARLES SCHUMER, D-N.Y.

Distinguished Business Reporting

Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester



PHOTO OF RADIO PROVIDED BY HARRIS CORP. GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION BY JOANNE WALSH

TALKING TOUGH

Harris' rugged radios help save lives around the world

Bennett J. Loudon
Staff writer

Air Force Staff Sgt. Robert Gutierrez, leading a team of commandos in Afghanistan in 2009, was pinned down by Taliban fighters only 30 feet away. Though wounded, he managed to call in an airstrike, and received the Air Force Cross in 2011 for his actions, which helped save 10 American and 20 Afghan commandos.

Gutierrez used a Harris Falcon—one of the radios made at Harris Corp.'s Jefferson Road Operations Center.

The same plant makes Unity radios, used mainly by public safety agencies. Those, too, can save lives. They include a screen showing the location of other radios in use, so a firefighter trained by smoke and with no vis-



ABOUT THIS BUSINESS

Harris Corp. is the fourth company to be featured in our Passport to Innovation series.

It's noteworthy because:
• Soldiers and public




Testing the faceplates of Harris' car-mounted Unity radios.
JAMES GERMAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Distinguished Column Writing


Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester

**Democrat & Chronicle**
A GANNETT COMPANY

Search 

SUBSCRIBE NOW
AS LOW AS
\$29 / YEAR

HOME NEWS SPORTS LIFE BUSINESS FLAVORS OPINION USA TODAY MORE





This story is part of
DAVID ANDREATTA


Andreatta: City's Jazz Fest tix a perk, not 'work'


Andreatta: A father, a son and a baseball mitt

Andreatta: Don't be a wise guy crossing border


 523


 45





 56







Andreatta: Cops and manners on Short Street


David Andreatta, Columnist 4:48 p.m. EDT September 26, 2014



Buy Photo 

 523
CONNECT

 45
TWEET

 LINKEDIN

 56
COMMENT

 EMAIL

 MORE

There was nothing welcoming about the stoop on Short Street. It was carpeted with green artificial turf and had a thick metal chain wrapped around the wooden railing.

The three young black men on the landing were scrawny, but imposing in their own way. One had no shirt and didn't seem bothered by the evening chill that had the approaching cops and clergymen bundled up.

"What you want?" one in a hoodie demanded. The clergymen didn't answer. They just walked through the chain-link gate and up onto the porch like everything was awesome.

BARCLAY
DAMON^{LLP}

Distinguished Community Service

Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester



Pushing harder for progress in 2014

Over the past year, I've often thought of something the former mayor of Charlotte, N.C., said during an Editorial Board meeting as we launched our Unite Rochester campaign: "Who is it that cares?"

The point made by Harvey Gantt, one of the first and longest-serving African-American mayors of a major Southern city, was well taken: There must be buy-in by all segments of the community to succeed in addressing Rochester's racial and economic inequities.

Gantt spoke from experience because as a direct result of Charlotte residents mobilizing decades ago, that city is now a thriving community.

After only a year of Unite Rochester, we can hardly even begin to claim victory in getting our community to care more about inequities. But there are encouraging indicators of progress. Perhaps foremost, the spirit of Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony, who from Rochester spearheaded national crusades for justice and equality, is starting to be revived.

All across the community, conversations about race and inequality are popping up. They're taking place more often on college campuses, at public libraries, houses of worship, coffee shops and in private homes.

To stay on this path, in the year ahead the Editorial Board, with the addition of two new community members, Jim Ryan Jr. and Anna Valeria-Iseman, will push beyond conversations. Expect more action from us to help make the Rochester region the world class community that it's capable of becoming for *all* of its residents. The community partners we've worked with on this journey, such as the Facing Race = Embracing Equity initia-

James F. Lawrence
EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR
J.LAWRENCE@Gannett.com



tive, are swelling. We recognized early on the importance of face-to-face conversations with citizens about the sensitive topic of race and inequality, so we launched our Editorial Board Listening Tour. This effort paid off with community leaders and everyday people coming together to begin addressing such persistent problems as joblessness, housing and education. Clearly they care.

New to our list of community-crushing concerns needing focused attention is the topic of justice. During the more than half a dozen Listening Tour meetings the board held last year, the court and public safety systems kept bubbling up. As it happened, Judge Craig Doran, chief judge for the Rochester region, and Chuck Perreault, Monroe County jury commissioner, contacted me to enlist in Unite Rochester.

Together, we're planning a February meeting to which local judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys and law enforcement leaders will be invited. The purpose: How to make justice more just in Monroe County. Stay tuned as we bring community members into the early planning to develop new strategies.

Meantime, a group of city and suburban elected and appointed leaders formed after a Listening Tour stop last June is offering great promise. Talks are underway, for instance, between the Monroe County Sheriff's Office and the City School District about utilizing the

DemocratandChronicle.com

Sunday, June 30, 2013 Page 21A

SPECIAL REPORT FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Unite Rochester



ENGAGE ONLINE

Join the conversation about our Unite Rochester project at DemocratandChronicle.com/Unite. Read past stories, watch videos and check out our 12-page special report. See below for more online details.

district's new law enforcement academy to help address serious diversity deficiencies in the sheriff's department.

And as a result of a breakfast meeting hosted late last year by *Democrat and Chronicle* Publisher Michael G. Kane, local business leaders are organizing to begin chipping away at such problems as minority hiring.

In the works are efforts to bring the presidents of the region's colleges and universities together to help tackle the problem Mayor Lovely Warren characterized as "Two Rochesters."

It's obvious that, indeed, Rochester cares. Our challenge this year is to generate more caring *and* action.

Please join us.

Distinguished Sports Photography

Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester



Distinguished Newspaper Supplement

Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester

DemocratandChronicle.com

Friday, December 19, 2014 Page 11

ACR

ALL-GREATER ROCHESTER



M R . E V E R Y T H I N G

Senior Mike Wagner **did it all** for Section V
Class AA champion Victor this season

2014 ATHLETES OF THE YEAR



MIKE
WAGNER
Victor



ANTHONY
GAGLIANESE
Fairport



COLLIN
MAHAN
Victor



NICK
CIOLKOWSKI
McQuaid



LENA
KAUFMAN
Pittsford



ALEX
COOPER
Rush-
Henrietta



LINDSAY
STONE
Pittsford



CHARLOTTE
WILLIAMS
Brighton



TAMI
COMINS
Pittsford
Mendon



SANTITA
EBANGWESE
Pittsford
Sutherland



MIRANDA
LAKS
Brighton

Distinguished Feature Writing

The Post-Standard, Syracuse

THE POST-STANDARD

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2014

syracuse.com



Local

Sean Kirst: For Calvin Corridors, above, a caring adult made all the difference. **A-2**

Downtown living: Tickets for the annual tour are on sale. **A-5**

High time: An exclusive tour of the Crouse Hospital clock tower. **A-11**

Sports

'All pumped up': SU men's lacrosse team steams over Hobart; next, it's Duke in the ACC semifinals. **C-1**

Business

Sunday Conversation: The Rescue Mission's Alan Thornton talks about the value of humility. **D-3**

Opinion

Earth Day: CNY has cleaned up, and we can celebrate that success, but plenty of work remains. **E-1**

I-81: The state has not provided clarity for this megaproject. **E-2**

CNY

Saving money: Find cheaper airfare. **I-2**

A shotgun blast darkened Michelle Fox's world, but forgiveness and belief — along with a prosthetic face — have opened new vistas.



Michelle Fox, of Camillus, wears a prosthesis made of acrylic and silicone that covers most of her face, from her eyebrows to her upper lip. The skin tone and acrylic eyes were chosen to match her appearance before she was accidentally shot in the face in 2009.

THE FACE OF *faith*

PHOTOS BY MICHELLE GABEL
mgabel@syracuse.com

By Julie McMahon
jmcMahon@syracuse.com

Michelle Fox's ex-husband interrupted her as she fed their 3-month-old daughter in their Baldwinsville home. He wanted to show off his new shotgun. With the baby propped up on a pillow in the bedroom, he raised the weapon toward his ex-wife.

An explosion of birdshot sheared off Fox's nose, blasted a hole in the left side of her face and stripped her of sight and smell. She was in complete darkness, but couldn't understand why. She tried to talk. She tried to stand up.

Fox was airlifted to a Syracuse hospital. She remembers the pilot asking her if she wanted to live. She nodded as hard as she could. Her last memories before she was put into an induced coma were having her head shaved and choking while a feeding tube was inserted into her throat.

Distinguished Headline Writing

The Post-Standard, Syracuse

REVIEW

To whoever broke Carrie Underwood's heart: Thank you

By Chris Baker
cbaker@syracuse.com

As Carrie Underwood belted out one heart-wrenching song after another at the New York State Fair grandstand Wednesday night, I couldn't help but ask myself one pivotal question: Who would ever want to break this woman's heart?

She's beautiful. She's humble. And she's got a voice that can overwhelm even a crowd as massive as the one at the grandstand Wednesday. So when she's belting her heart out over some no-good man who did her wrong, you've got to wonder where that guy is now, and how hard he's kicking himself.

For the rest of us, however, it's a good thing some fool dared cross her. Because heart-break has provided the country superstar the material necessary to win a slew of Grammys and solidify herself as one of this generation's greatest crossover stars. And it's the backbone of a catalog that gives Underwood a chance to showcase her powerful pipes.

Underwood took to a barebones stage just after 8:45 p.m. Wednesday to a nearly full house at the state fair's big stage. She spent nearly



Carrie Underwood performs Wednesday at the New York State Fair Grandstand. (Michael Greenlar / mgreenlar@syracuse.com)

Distinguished Sports Writing

The Post-Standard, Syracuse

How will Syracuse's NCAA hearing on possible violations work, and who will likely attend?



Syracuse head coach Jim Boeheim and athletic director Daryl Gross arrive at the Consol Energy Center for interviews and practice before his team plays UNC-Asheville in the second round of the NCAA tournament in Pittsburgh in 2012. (Dennis Nitt | onet@syracuse.com)



By [Chris Carlson | ccarlson@syracuse.com](mailto:ccarlson@syracuse.com)

on October 17, 2014 at 5:03 PM, updated October 23, 2014 at 12:01 PM

[Print](#)
[Email](#)

The Syracuse University athletic department's **upcoming hearing in front of the NCAA Committee on Infractions** signifies that SU faces at least one accusation of a Level I or Level

SU NCAA INVESTIGATION

Rep. John Katko: NCAA is

Sponsored by: **"HERB" PHILIPSON'S**
Deals for the Great Outdoors
[Click For Great Deals!](#)

42nd Street Photo



Canon EOS 6D 20.2
Megapixel Digital Camera
Body Only



Canon 80
USM Au



Canon 200-400mm f4L IS
USM Lens W/ Internal 1.4X
Extender



Canon 400
US



~~\$2,245~~
\$2,069



Canon EF
USM L

Distinguished Sports Coverage

The Post-Standard, Syracuse



[Syracuse Post-Standard](http://syracusepoststandard.com)
www.syracusepoststandard.com

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2014 THE POST-STANDARD PAGE B-1

SPORTS

SU drives away Demons

By Mike Warner

Winston-Salem, N.C. — Syracuse's 2014 season might look perfect, but not on No. 20 men's basketball.

The No. 2-ranked Orange edged through one of its worst shooting performances of the season but still managed to hold off Wake Forest (67-53) at the Lenovo Center on Wednesday night.

Syracuse made just one 3-point shot in 18 attempts, making 11 out of 34 shots from the field. The Orange barely avoided its worst shooting night of the season, thanks to making six last free throws. Syracuse's previous low

STILL UNDEFEATED

Jan. 1's victory held off the 65-57 Wednesday night to remain undefeated at 25-0. The only other undefeated teams remaining were No. 2 Syracuse at 26-0 and No. 4 Wichita State (24-0).

Wake Forest (11-14-0) is a win over North Carolina. "It was a very struggling game on the offensive end of the court," Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim said. "You have to find a way to win these games and this team has been able to do

that."

The win improved Syracuse's record to 25-0, which ties the school record for the best start to a season. The 2013-12 Orange also won its first 20 games.

Syracuse, which is 5-0 and a season series lead over Wake Forest in the ACC, will try to break the record on Saturday when it hosts No. 17 Duke at the Carrier Dome.

Boeheim said Syracuse won't be guilty of looking down. Wake Forest is Syracuse's toughest opponent so far in the season. "It's a great test of what it takes to win," Boeheim said. "You have to be ready to win every game."

DEMONS PAGE 14



Syracuse's Tyler Brock gives to the basket in the Orange's game against Wake Forest Wednesday night in Winston-Salem, N.C. He led the team with 18 points in Syracuse's 67-53 victory. (AP Photo/Chris Bixler)

CLASH OF hardwood titans

Sports czar takes credit for helping launch Boeheim's legendary coaching career

By RED PETERSON

It was all the "Clash" between Jim Boeheim and Mike Krzyzewski. The two coaches, who have been rivals for decades, are set to meet in the Carrier Dome on Saturday night. The game is the first of a three-game series between the two teams. The game is the first of a three-game series between the two teams.

Boeheim, who has coached at Syracuse for 30 years, is the head coach of the Syracuse men's basketball team. Krzyzewski, who has coached at Duke for 25 years, is the head coach of the Duke men's basketball team.

The two coaches have a long history of rivalry. They have met in the NCAA Tournament several times. The last time they met was in the 2001 NCAA Tournament, when Syracuse defeated Duke in the semifinals.

The game on Saturday is expected to be a close one. Both teams are ranked in the top 20 of the AP poll. Syracuse is ranked No. 2, while Duke is ranked No. 17.

The game is expected to be a high-scoring affair. Both teams have strong offenses. Syracuse has scored over 80 points in four of its last five games. Duke has scored over 80 points in three of its last four games.

The game is expected to be a great one for fans. Both teams have a large following. Syracuse has over 100,000 fans, while Duke has over 150,000 fans.

The game is expected to be a great one for the media. Both teams have a large media following. Syracuse has over 100,000 fans, while Duke has over 150,000 fans.

The game is expected to be a great one for the community. Both teams have a large community following. Syracuse has over 100,000 fans, while Duke has over 150,000 fans.



939 wins
No. 2 all-time
(in wins in Division I men's basketball)



974 wins
No. 1 all-time
(in wins in Division I men's basketball)

Jim Boeheim
Age: 69
Head coach
Syracuse: 1978-present
Overall record: 939-264 (749)
NCAA Tournament record: 46-22 (439)
Final Four: four (1987, 1991, 2003, 2013)
National titles: one (2003)

Mike Krzyzewski
Age: turns 67 next month
Head coach
Duke: 1972-2013
Overall record: 974-201 (764)
NCAA Tournament record: 82-25 (768)
Final Four: 11 (1981, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1995, 2000, 2004, 2009)
National titles: four (1991, 1992, 2001, 2005)



KIA Basketball has been back to back Olympic gold medal under head coach Mike Krzyzewski and Jim Boeheim, one of his assistants. (AP Photo/Mark J. Smith)

[illegible]

Distinguished Feature Photography

The Post-Standard, Syracuse



Distinguished Online Photo Gallery

The Post-Standard, Syracuse

Camillus woman, shot 5 years ago, builds new life with new face



Michelle Fox's boyfriend, Mike Notaro, customized a plastic tray to protect Michelle's silicone and acrylic facial prosthesis. Five years ago, Michelle's ex-husband accidentally shot her in the face when he was demonstrating how parts from his old shotgun were interchangeable with a weapon he had just purchased. The kidnap plot backfired: Michelle's ex-husband was arrested and charged with kidnapping, Michelle's boyfriend, Mike Notaro, was charged with kidnapping, and Michelle's ex-husband was charged with kidnapping.



Crime in Central NY



Police Blotter

Search for arrests by Syracuse and Central New York law enforcement agencies and local

Distinguished Multi-Media Presentation

The Post-Standard, Syracuse

Winter Storm Damon no match for 30-year veteran letter carrier (Video)



Veteran letter carrier delivers through winter storm

Rick Stout, of Jamesville, a 30-year letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service, says the key to staying comfortable on the job in winter weather is keeping your hands and feet warm.



By [Lauren Long](#) | llong@syracuse.com

on December 10, 2014 at 4:08 PM, updated December 10, 2014 at 5:15 PM

[Print](#)
[Email](#)

Nedrow, N.Y. — Undeterred by the gusting wind and blowing snow, letter carrier Rick Stout completed his usual route Wednesday along unplowed streets and driveways shin deep in snow.



Crime in Central NY



Police Blotter

Distinguished State Government Coverage

The Journal News, White Plains

Rebuilding New York's Economy: For Regional Councils, sometimes plans are scrapped

By Jon Campbell; 12:02 a.m. EST November 24, 2013



ALBANY In early December, a theater near the Capitol is expected to again host an awards-show-style gathering, where millions in state grants and tax breaks will be doled out to hundreds of economic-development projects across New York.

Over the past two years, the state has announced grants and incentives totaling \$1.5 billion to 1,445 development projects through the Regional Economic Development Council program, which was pushed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo and revamped how the state awards dollars earmarked for job creation.

But not every project finishes with the same pomp and circumstance.

In 2011 and 2012, at least 52 grants or tax breaks awarded through the regional councils were pulled or rejected, according to data obtained by Gannett's Albany Bureau through a Freedom of Information request.

Those incentives totaled about \$40 million, records showed, though they only include awards issued through the Empire State Development Corp. — which represents about a third of the total doled out. The rest of the money was distributed by eight other state agencies.

State and council officials say the withdrawn funding points to the safeguards built into the regional program and show that councils can quickly rescind awards if the project

A vertical advertisement for the 2015 Honda Civic LX. At the top, a scenic image of a winding road through a green landscape is overlaid with the text "ALL ROADS LEAD TO BREWSTER Honda" in large, bold, blue and red letters. Below this, the Honda logo is shown. A silver 2015 Honda Civic LX is displayed in a three-quarter view. At the bottom, the text "2015 Honda Civic LX Automatic Sedan" is followed by a large red "\$165 /MO LEASE" and the small text "STK#251022W".

**ALL ROADS
LEAD TO
BREWSTER
Honda**

HONDA

2015 Honda Civic LX
Automatic Sedan

\$165 /MO LEASE
STK#251022W

Distinguished News Photography

The Journal News, White Plains



Over 175,000



Distinguished Beat Reporting

The Buffalo News



"I didn't want to live any more. I went to the back tool room and got an extension cord and double-tied it to the fan and my neck and jumped again. I woke up in the back of an ambulance."

Sterling, 22, a recovering addict, recalling a time heroin led him to attempt suicide.

Sharon Carrillon/Bufallo News

Sterling, 22, is a recovering heroin addict who has been clean for two years. Several of his acquaintances have died of overdoses since he became addicted at age 14.

Heroin's killer secret: fentanyl

HEROIN • from A1

Last year, 29 people died of heroin overdoses in the county, almost a third more than the year before. Overdose deaths from all types of opioids, ranging from prescription pain medications to street-bought heroin, claimed more than 100 lives in Erie County

Overdose deaths on increase in Erie County

Deaths from heroin overdoses, opioids have risen steadily over the past five years.

Known heroin overdose deaths in Erie County

Total known opioid deaths in Erie County, including heroin and prescription painkillers



Asking that his last name be withheld because he is a recovering addict, Sterling said he went through thousands of stolen dollars chasing after a heroin high.

"I sniffed heroin the first time, and it made me feel like God. It was just so euphoric," he said.

In time, though, it turned his life into a living hell that ended

died from heroin or a mixture of drugs that might include heroin and fentanyl or other high-powered pharmaceutical opioids.

Twisted text messages

The grieving father, asking to remain anonymous for the sake of a surviving

Distinguished Feature Writing

The Buffalo News



Picturesque East Brady, Pa., the place where it all started for the ex-Bills Hall of Fame quarterback Jim Kelly.

Photos by James P. McCoy/Bufalo News

Concern for their Jimmy

Bills fans aren't the only ones keeping close tabs on Kelly during his cancer battle

By TIM GRAHAM
NEWS SPORTS REPORTER

EAST BRADY, Pa. — Chris Weibel wanted Jim Kelly's life.

Weibel grew up 15 years behind Kelly in this tiny borough tucked inside an elbow of the Allegheny River. Weibel played quarterback, too, and admired Kelly's implausible journey from East Brady to the University of Miami to the Buffalo Bills to four straight Super Bowls to the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

East Brady is a dot on the map an hour north-east of Pittsburgh. There are no stop lights. There isn't a grocery store. The nearest McDonald's is 13 miles away.

At the Old Bank Deli & Coffee Shoppe, where the vault now holds a stash of restaurant supplies, folks chatted recently about bears rummaging about and debated whether they needed to keep their dogs indoors.

"Other than for Jim Kelly, nobody would know where in the hell it was at," Weibel said of East Brady. "You've got to know how to get there.

See Kelly on Page B2



Before he wore No. 12 for the Buffalo Bills, Jim Kelly wore No. 11 for East Brady High School, where he ran coach Terry Henry's veer offense to near perfection.

Eas

East Brady
jumped into a
Little 12 Conf
Division last
they gained fr
less in Braden
In snubbing
Coach Terry
also tied with
six consecutive
out a defeat
son, when Ed
to win the
title, the Bi
seventh gam
AC Valley.
The Eagles
travel to Bu
riday with l
back into t
title as the
near.
Other g

Distinguished Sports Writing

The Buffalo News

More reason for hope in Bills lease



Harry Scull Jr./Buffalo News

Legal experts say terms of the 10-year stadium lease are likely strong enough to hold off any relocation.

Costs of moving team seem to be prohibitive

By JERRY ZREMSKI, ROBERT J. MCCARTHY AND MARK GAUGHAN

NEWS STAFF REPORTERS

The new owner of the Buffalo Bills may be facing something far worse than a \$400 million penalty if the owner wants to move the team to another market.

A new owner may end up paying hundreds of millions in additional legal damages. And there's even a remote

possibility of jail.

Far-fetched as that may seem, legal experts say the provisions of the Bills' 10-year lease on Ralph Wilson Stadium and an accompanying non-relocation agreement are so tough that a new owner who wants to move the team would likely be in for a rough encounter with the law.

That's because in those legal documents, the Bills' founder and owner – Ralph C. Wilson Jr., who died March 25 – agreed that the county or the state could go to court to get an injunction barring the team's move.

See **Lease** on Page A10

Distinguished State Government Coverage

The Buffalo News

Unfunded mandates are cited as localities blame problem on the state

GOVERNMENTS • from A1

But here's where the rhetoric doesn't necessarily tell the complete story.

Consider Grand Island's 58 lighting districts. Not one has a single employee drawing a salary or getting health benefits from the town or waiting for a big pension upon retirement. These lighting districts are simply lines on a balance sheet, ensuring that a neighborhood's residents pay for the electricity they use.

Moreover, getting rid of such lighting districts would not cut property taxes, town officials say. The 12 hours of clerk time to administer the billing for the 58 lighting districts in Grand Island: \$250.

Now consider what the town paid last year for one small state mandate.

To write, print and mail a highly technical annual water-quality report to all residents – the state insists the letters be sent in writing via mail – cost Grand Island \$2,700, and that's among the least costly state-imposed mandates.

Cuomo seen as exaggerating

Local supervisors and one fiscal watchdog say Cuomo is chasing the wrong property tax cost drivers. They blame state mandates such as the Taylor Law, which gives public employee unions additional leverage when negotiating expired contracts, for driving up local taxes. At the same time, they complain, he is taking aim at special districts that, even if eliminated, would still cost taxpayers because they

passage of his plan to provide modest property tax rebate checks that, in a couple of years, would only go to residents of localities and school districts that cut a certain level of spending through mergers or shared-services deals. "Everything else is baloney if you don't do something about the 10,500 governments," Cuomo said last week in a radio interview.

The "proliferation" of local governments is driving up property taxes, the governor said. Friday, in another radio interview, Cuomo said localities don't want to consolidate services.

"I frankly want to pressure them to cooperate with their neighboring local governments," he said.

Cuomo's budget plan proposes tax breaks to residents in local taxing jurisdictions that stay within the 2 percent tax cap in the first year of his program. In the second year, the breaks only go to taxpayers who live in jurisdictions that agree to shared-services deals with neighboring localities that save 1 percent of combined tax levy, a requirement that rises to 3 percent in the program's third year.

His argument is that localities often create special districts to artificially keep their town general fund spending from appearing to grow. That's why localities create districts for police, fire, sidewalk repairs, garbage services and the like, the Cuomo administration contends; it helps hide a locality's total spending.

If localities won't merge, Cuomo administration officials say, they should at least end situations where every community has its own personnel office or information technology staff

A special district for one neighborhood has a total lighting tax bill of \$15,000 annually. Another neighborhood's lighting district, with fewer, less fancy streetlamps that uses less power, costs \$2,000 a year.

Imagine, she says, how people in the areas with lower lighting costs would react to getting lumped in – and therefore subsidizing – the more costly neighborhoods?

"There would be a mutiny," Cooke said of the town's 20,374 residents.

Local officials also wonder how a sewer district created a year ago and with 19 years to go on a borrowing could be merged with a 19-year-old sewer district with just one year left on the bond payments.

The special districts were created for sensible purposes, not the least of which is taxing those residents who use a specific service, she and McMahon, the tax watchdog, pointed out.

Special districts defended

"No one dreamed up to create bureaucracies," Cooke said of the special districts. "People came to us and petitioned us for lighting districts. The point is, nobody out there is ginning this up."

Other local officials make the same point. Eliminating a lighting district for the sake of cutting local units of government will have no real impact on property tax bills, they say.

"If we got rid of a lighting district and make it part of the general fund, somebody still has to pay for the lights," Cheektowaga Supervisor Mary F. Holtz said.

There are also questions about the

count mergers in recent years, such as in Hamburg, which dissolved water and sewer districts in 2007 and 2010 and connected with the county system.

Hamburg does have a special district for storm water drainage, created when the town borrowed to make improvements near an industrial park. But only the companies in the industrial park – not town residents – pay the bond's annual \$12,000 debt. And when the bond is paid off, the special district goes away, Supervisor Steven J. Walters said.

Towns also have many special sewer districts.

The theory is that sewer costs should not have to be covered by all residents if many parts of a town are still on septic systems.

"These are not independent governments. They are simply ways to focus who gets taxed for a particular service when that service is not universal throughout a community," Walters said.

But the rising cost of sewer systems makes it sensible, some local officials say, for towns to turn their systems over to the county, which can better spread out the expenses and afford the higher level of expertise needed to run some of these more complicated systems and the high expense of treating wastewater.

Walters is among those who say there is merit to looking at consolidation efforts.

In recent years, Amherst combined three drainage districts into one and two sewer districts into one.

"Just for efficiencies. It doesn't re-

Amherst, for instance, has 10 fire districts, which critics say only helps drive up property taxes because of duplicative services.

But there are political and financial obstacles to consolidation.

"The fire companies are vehement," Weinstein said. "They each want their own turf and their own trucks, and they are all volunteers, so it's hard to argue with them."

And the financial obstacles of that consolidation?

The 10 districts cost taxpayers \$8 million a year, he said, and a paid fire-fighting force would cost three times that.

The real cost drivers for property taxes are the mandates coming from Albany, local supervisors say, such as pension levels they must pay their employees or the Taylor Law, or the Wicks Law, which sharply drives up costs for construction projects.

'Unrealistic' pressure to cut

In Amherst, Weinstein said, he has cut expenses from \$119 million to \$115.1 million in the last few years. The town accomplished that despite costly state mandates, such as the requirement this year that the town pay 32 percent of a police officer's salary as a contribution to his or her pension plan, he said.

"We've got these unfunded state mandates, and the governor is putting pressure on us to lower expenses. It's unrealistic," Weinstein said. "The state is the one causing the problems. If they want to eliminate governments in New York, it should be the state government."

Distinguished Page Design/Presentation

The Buffalo News

THE BUFFALO NEWS

BUFFALONEWS.COM // THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014 // FINAL EDITION

Stories from the storm: Residents spirit persists through thick and thicker. PAGE A6
Around the region: Stranded truck crew present significant obstacle to highway crews. PAGE 10
On the Web: Get the latest storm updates, forecasts and photos at BuffaloNews.com.

HERE WE GO AGAIN



A resident of Depew shows a snow-covered path from his snow-engulfed house to his snowed-out street during the latest snow hit before two lake-effect storms Wednesday.

Hold on tight: lake-effect roller coaster ride isn't over

By T.J. FARRAR

NEWS STAFF WRITER

If this week's lake-effect misery that could be described in terms of a roller coaster, we would be coming the top of the second large drop and riding down toward again for another all-day, white-jerked-on ride.

Once Depew's weathered snow-thriller early Friday, it will be time to be whisked through an upside-down loop for the weekend when temperatures will drop, clearing and means there for 12 hours or more.

That late the potential as much to weathered snow and that, but, however, if there will be blowing, and there will, weathered snow.

After a heavy snow Wednesday from long lake-effect snow that still looks white snow of South Buffalo, the eastern suburbs and the southwest — dropping as to 15 inches of snow, some thick, white-snow-belt clouds — an additional 10 or more inches are forecast for many of these same snowbelts.

Weather service officials are worried about the snow.

See Forecast on Page A3.



Crews continue working to free motorists stranded on the New York State Thruway near Ridge Road on Wednesday. Many drivers were forced to spend two nights in their vehicles.

Stranded motorists on Thruway not happy about being abandoned

By FRANK A. CHAMBERLAIN

STAFF WRITER

David G. Chamberlain, the Thruway through Tuesday dozens of those from his home in Wallingford, N.J., to get to Toronto.

Stranded motorists of Toronto, now on his way to Massachusetts.

Some 100 trucks in Hamilton.

There and dozens of others because stranded on the Thruway.

Some 100 trucks in Hamilton.

Some 100 trucks in Hamilton.

After a, nothing needed on the Thruway have been more again.

Some 100 trucks in Hamilton.

Some 100 trucks in Hamilton.

Some 100 trucks in Hamilton.

Snowbound residents begin to hunker out as second storm takes aim

By MARK BUCKER

STAFF WRITER

After a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night.

After a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night.

After a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night.

After a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night.

After a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night.

After a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night.

After a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night.

After a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night.

After a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night.

After a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night.

After a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night, after a week of snow, heavy night.

INDEX	Source	Forecast	Actual
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000

WEATHER	Source	Forecast	Actual
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000

WEATHER	Source	Forecast	Actual
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000

WEATHER	Source	Forecast	Actual
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000
1000	1000	1000	1000

Distinguished Breaking News Coverage

Newsday

newsday.com
\$1.25 | LI EDITION
Tuesday
Feb. 23, 2014

Newsday
THE LONG ISLAND NEWSPAPER

SPORTS FINAL

HI 30° LO 18°
MOSTLY CLOUDY

CASTLE OWNER SHOT

Masked gunman wounds political power player Melius at Oheka
A2-5 | VIDEO AT NEWSDAY.COM



Gary Melius,
the owner of
Oheka Castle
in Huntington

DEB GATE

NEWS 32 LONG ISLAND

COPYRIGHT 2014, NEWSDAY LLC, LONG ISLAND, VOL. 74, NO. 175

Distinguished Editorial Writing

Newsday

Worry building in Hempstead

Board of Education needs to make the case to demolish nine schools

The Hempstead school district has big problems. Now the board of education has hatched a big plan. It wants to demolish and rebuild nine schools. The facilities in Hempstead, one of Long Island's poorest-performing districts, are indeed an issue. But this proposal does not merit a passing grade.

The buildings are old. And overcrowding is a concern: The use of several dozen trailers as classrooms is troubling; most of them are for elementary school kids as young as kindergarten-age. But it is far from clear that widespread demolition and reconstruction is the answer.

Our concern is the plan is a smoke screen to give the appearance of action, diverting attention from the increasing scrutiny the board is receiving for its dysfunction, corruption and lack of transparency — on display in a raucous community meeting Tuesday night.

In the most recent inspection reports submitted by the district to the state Education Department, seven of the nine buildings received a “satisfactory” overall building rating and an eighth was rated “unsatisfactory.” The ninth, Rhodes Elementary, has been closed since 2004

because of deterioration. While a building with a satisfactory rating might need replacing, the district has the burden of making that case. Hempstead has yet to approach the state. And in only one of the eight inspections did the district abide by state requirements that it consult with its health and safety committee before establishing a rating. Also worrisome is the insistence of board members that renovation would be more costly than reconstruction, as they acknowledge they do not have estimates for either.



Doubts are rising over proposals to raze most of the district's school facilities.

Distinguished Column Writing

Newsday

Diplomacy, the college-campus way

Move by Swarthmore Hillel emblematic of generational divide on Mideast woes



Anne Michaud

anne.michaud@newsday.com

Students at a small liberal arts college outside Philadelphia have inserted themselves into one of the most unpromising debates in world history: the question of Israel and Palestine.

Swarthmore College's Hillel, the Jewish student association, is the first in the nation to defy its parent organization and announce it will host groups and speakers who do not support Israel. The move earned the 100-student group at Swarthmore a public rebuke from the president of Hillel International, Eric D. Fingerhut, who said he will not allow the Swarthmore chapter to continue using the name Hillel.

The outcome of this clash is yet to be determined, but I am inspired by the students' brave defense of intellectual freedom. Their openness to hear-

ing diverse ideas and beliefs runs opposite to so much of what we see today: the gridlock in Washington, the struggle over gun control, the fundamentalist and ethnic hatreds fueling wars.

Call me naive, but I don't think people resolve disputes by retreating into corners with their partisans. Besides, isn't college the very place to debate ideas, test one's opinions and decide where one belongs in the world?

This campus' jump into the Israel-Palestine controversy began in 2010 when Hillel International adopted a policy barring chapters from sponsoring events, hosting speakers or partnering with groups that deny Israel's right to exist, that apply a double standard to Israel or that support a boycott or divestment of its products.

The new policy was a response to the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement, originally Palestinians who urge the boycott of Israeli products and sporting, cultural and academic institutions. Begun in



2005, BDS has grown and added last month the 5,000-member American Studies Association, which promotes the study of American culture. The ASA urges American colleges and universities to stop collaborating with Israeli scholars and academic institutions.

It's ironic that the ASA's members, who are teachers, researchers and faculty — essentially people who devote their lives to learning — would act to quash the exchange of ideas.

Threatened by the advance of the BDS movement, Hillel International retreated to its own corner, raising another irony. The organization that is the foundation for Jewish life on campus is named for Hillel the Elder, a first century sage who believed that discussion leads to learning, and that intellect should play a vital role in figuring out the right thing to do.

Last spring, students at Harvard University started a campaign called Open Hillel, which

seeks inclusive discourse at campus Hillels and wants Hillel International to reverse its 2010 policy. Nearly 1,300 people have signed the Open Hillel petition online.

The Swarthmore Hillel board voted last month to renounce the international organization's restriction. The board stated in a resolution that "all are welcome to walk through our doors and speak with our name and under our roof, be they Zionist, anti-Zionist, post-Zionist, or non-Zionist." The group hasn't yet held events or gatherings on this basis.

Fingerhut posted a gracious response online to Swarthmore Hillel, stating nevertheless that "this position is not acceptable." A spokesman for Hillel International likened some pro-Palestinian activities to "hate speech."

It's not difficult in this conflict to perceive a generational divide. The elders defend Israel's long struggle for existence. But by their openness, it's the young who may chart a path to peace.

Anne Michaud is the interactive editor for Newsday Opinion.

Distinguished Headline Writing

Newsday

entertainment >>

newsday.com/entertainment



This 'Family' enjoys corn on macabre

BY STEVE PARKS

steve.parks@newsday.com

Rhythmic clapping or finger snapping to the recurring instrumental phrase of "The Addams Family" TV theme — buh-da-da-DUM! — sparked the most spontaneous reaction (snap-snap!) to this predictably warped musical comedy at the Gateway Playhouse. But the best lines are those of Charles Addams in his New Yorker cartoons posted in the lobby.

The Gateway's season finale works hard to re-create the harmlessly morbid DNA quirks that have been a family hallmark since Addams' cartoons debuted in 1938. A TV series followed in 1964, followed by two 1990s movies and the 2010 Broadway musical starring Nathan Lane and Bebe Neuwirth.

Like its more celebrated predecessor, the cast directed by Gateway veteran Keith Andrews falls short in advancing this "Addams Family"



David Engel and Rachel de Benedet try their best to be snappy in the Gateway production of "The Addams Family."

beyond a series of gags we see coming from a cemetery-and-a-half away. David Engel and Rachel de Benedet as Gomez and Morticia Addams fit the visual bill as heads of this

supposedly sinister household. But a vapid book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, who did far better work on "Jersey Boys," and a generic score by Andrew Lippa cast them adrift

in a sea of crosscurrent story lines. De Benedet's Morticia, abetted by ancestors locked out of their mausoleum, benefits from the show's lone bull's-eye number, "[Death Is] Just Around the Corner." Engel's Gomez labors through such clunkers as "Happy Sad," which epitomizes the fatal flaw in this "Addams" confection. It tries to capture both its creator's macabre humor and a misguided urge to satisfy the vanishing generation favoring "Father Knows Best."

The "dramatic arc" bends to the wishes of daughter Wednesday's desire to date — and (horrors!) marry — the son of a "normal" couple from Ohio. Bryan Welnick as boyfriend Lucas manages to be as bland as his prospective in-laws imagine. Lucas' parents (Laurie Wells and Larry Cahn) are suitably repressed as clichéd Midwesterners. Jen Fogarty is annoyingly treble-loud as counter-rebellious Wednesday, while Amanda Bruton as Grandma, the aged

WHAT "The Addams Family"

WHEN | WHERE 2 and 8 p.m. Thursday and next Wednesday, 8 p.m. Friday and next Tuesday, 3 and 8 p.m. Saturday, 2 and 7 p.m. Sunday, through Sept. 13, 215 South Country Rd., Bellport
INFO \$25-\$69; 631-286-1133, gatewayplayhouse.com

hippie, and Shaun Rice as Uncle Fester strive heroically with punch lines that can't save the day (or night). Matthew Quinn as Lurch and Ethan Eisenberg as Pugsley nearly steal the show, as do cameos by Thing and Cousin Itt. Phelim McDermott and Julian Crouch's set and costume designs meet our expectations, while Nolan Bonvouloir's orchestra never sounds better (not their fault) than on the TV theme: Bah-da-da-DUMB!

Distinguished Community Service *Newsday*

newsday.com
\$3.99 | LI EDITION
Sunday
Oct. 5, 2014

SPORTS FINAL

Newsday

THE LONG ISLAND NEWSPAPER

HI 61° LO 45°
MOSTLY SUNNY

NEWSDAY INVESTIGATION

The Insiders



G. Melius Whelan Pines Cuthbertson Schlesinger Rosenberg Bellando K. Melius

Suffolk judges violated rules while awarding Oheka Castle owner and associates lucrative foreclosure work

COVERAGE STARTS ON A2-5 | READ THE DOCUMENTS AT [NEWSDAY.COM](http://newsday.com)

Distinguished News Photography

Newsday



Distinguished Sports Photography

Newsday



Distinguished Newspaper Supplement

Newsday



Distinguished Specialty Publication

Newsday

exploreLI \$6.99

Get our
exploreLI app

AAA

One full year:
Only \$52

- > Waived enrollment fee
- > 73% less for other family members

1-800-JOIN-AAA
(mention code: **FUN6**)

see
ad on
page 7

Expires 12/31/14. Restrictions may apply.

Newsday's 2014 Fun Book

LOOK INSIDE
Bethpage B

Distinguished Feature Photography

Newsday



Distinguished Online Photo Gallery

Newsday

Newsday



Alter egos on a roll

June 13, 2014 1:53 PM

Meet some of the members of the Long Island Roller Rebels, a flat-track roller derby league of more than 30 women with alter-ego personas like Attackacardic, Lucille Wrecking Ball, Account DeeRacula, Wushu Sugar and Femme&M. Their derby names are often a take on what they do for a living, such as a medical biller, programmer, an accountant, a health care worker and a receptionist. One team member is a phlebotomist — a blood collector — for the American Red Cross. Which, all things considered, probably is more than a little ironic.

Distinguished Multi-Media Presentation

Newsday

YouTube  



Stephanie Finochio
Stuntwoman

Newsday

1:02 / 5:06

The double lives of derby girls

 Newsday 

 **Subscribe** 2,001

953 views

 Add to  Share  More

 7  0

Distinguished Investigative Reporting

The Wall Street Journal

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.



DEADLY MEDICINE

An investigation into a risky and sometimes deadly surgical device.

Distinguished Business Reporting

The Wall Street Journal

MEDICARE UNMASKED

Taxpayers Face Big Tab For Unusual Doctor Billings

BY JOHN CARREYROU, CHRISTOPHER S. STEWART AND ROB BARRY

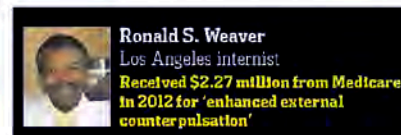
TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2014

Ronald S. Weaver isn't a cardiologist. Yet 98% of the \$2.3 million that the Los Angeles doctor's practice received from Medicare in 2012 was for a cardiac procedure, according to recently released government data.

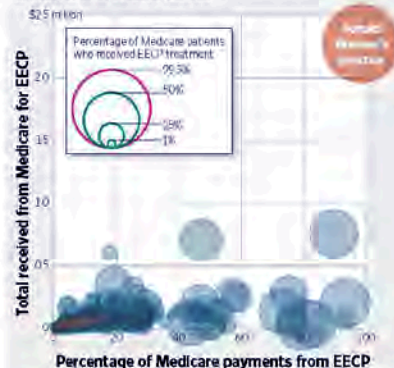
The procedure is rarely used by the nation's heart doctors. Patients are strapped to a bed with three large cuffs that inflate and deflate rhythmically to increase blood flow

through the arteries — a last resort to treat severe chest pain in people who can't have surgery.

The government data show that out of the thousands of cardiology providers who treated Medicare patients in 2012, just 239 billed for the procedure, and they used it on fewer than 5% of their patients on average. The 141 cardiologists at the Cleveland Clinic, renowned for heart care, performed it on just six patients last year. Dr. Weaver's clinic administered it to 99.5% of his Medicare patients — 615 in all — billing the



Dr. Weaver's practice performed the seldom-used cardiac procedure, a last resort to treat severe chest pain in people who can't have surgery, on nearly all of its Medicare patients.



Source: U.S. analysis of Medicare data, Global CardioCare, Interspecimen. The Wall Street Journal

John Peter Zenger Award



The John Peter Zenger Award is named for the 18th century newspaper publisher who stood trial in a landmark case establishing truth as a defense against the charge of libel.

John Peter Zenger Award

Tonight's Honorees:

Donna Donovan, *Observer-Dispatch (Utica)*

Barry Rothfeld, *Poughkeepsie Journal*

Lisa Robert Lewis, *The Record (Troy)*

Barbara Lombardo, *The Saratogian*



2013-2014

Continuing Excellence Awards Banquet

The State Room – Albany, New York