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**POTSDAM-
CANTON, NY**

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NORTH COUNTRY THISWEEK

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Local News
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ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY'S MOST-READ PAPER

Local schools set to lose millions

BY JEFF CHUDZINSKI
North Country This Week

CANTON -- Local school districts are set to lose millions in foundation aid from the state, if the governor is successful in removing the hold harmless provision from the state budget.

Assemblyman Scott Gray is one of many leaders opposing the change. He says the proposed cuts disproportionately affect a handful of districts within the county.

With the provision in place, the state is required to offer at least as much foundation aid each year as it did the year prior, essentially ensuring the state is unable to reduce aid indiscriminately.

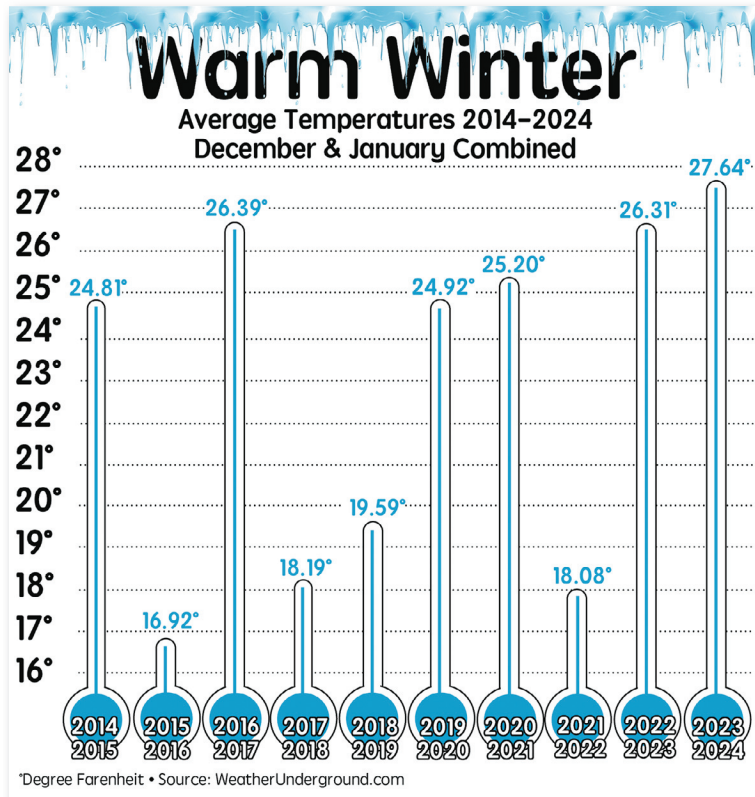
"That would be removed under the executive budget," Gray said.

Gray said those funds, which were largely used for salaries, academic development and emergency projects up to a certain dollar amount, would be heavily cut.

"That has basically kept districts whole so they didn't see a decrease year over year in their foundation aid funding," Gray said.

Gray said those funds will be shifted to other areas the governor has prioritized in the

SEE AID PAGE 16



Debbie Morgan | NCTW

Highest temps in 10 years

If you think this winter's weather so far has been much warmer than normal in our area, you are right.

The average daily temperature for this past December and January, combined, was 27.64 °F, recorded at the Massena airport, according to WeatherUnderground.com.

That was almost 5 degrees warmer than the combined average for December and January in the last ten years.

The first half of last winter was a close second place, with 26.3 °F average temperature for December 2022 and Jan. 2023, combined.

SEE WINTER PAGE 16

March timeline for streetscape work approval

BY ADAM ATKINSON
North Country This Week

POTSDAM -- The village's \$4.5 million streetscape and riverwalk trail projects could receive final contract approval from the state as early as late March.

The village could potentially put the work out for bid to contractors after that, according to a landscape architect charged with designing the enhancements who gave a project update to the village board at their meeting Feb. 5.

The board of trustees approved several measures related to the projects at the meeting, notably approving a determination of non-significance on a New York State Quality Review Act survey for the village's Downtown Streetscape and Riverwalk Trail Project. That determination indi-

cates that the project will have no significant adverse impact on the environment, and was a key next step in the process.

The board also approved several other measures related to the planned downtown enhancements.

"There's some really great work happening on our Downtown Streetscape and our Riverwalk projects," said Mayor Alexandra Jacobs Wilke at the top of the meeting.

"This work is going to be really incredible and transformative for our downtown. I'm looking forward to breaking ground," Wilke said.

Project scope

Andy Rymph, director of landscape architecture with LaBella Associates based in

SEE DRI PAGE 16

Mother who lost son says Schumer holding online safety bill hostage

BY PAUL MITCHELL
North Country This Week

CANTON -- While describing her trip to Washington, D.C. worthwhile, Mary Rodee left the nation's capital with doubts about senators and CEOs from major social media platforms taking a serious look at the dangers of online pressures placed on children.

Rodee, the mother of Riley Basford, a Potsdam teenager who took his life in an online sextortion scam in 2021, wanted to see firsthand what a new education campaign called Parents SOS (Parents for Safe Online Spaces) had to offer.

Rodee, a teacher at Canton Central School, and other parents, attended a Jan. 31 Senate Judiciary Committee hearing featuring CEOs from major social media platforms, including Meta, TikTok, Discord, and Snap, who addressed their companies' roles in safeguarding children online.

Confused by politics

"Hearing the frustrations the senators feel about the situation is confusing. Them saying we put bill after bill out of this committee and big tech kills them all. Why would a senator ask unchecked CEO's to let him know what parts of any of the online safety bills they would agree to? I can't even wrap my mind around how any of this works. There's obviously so much lurking in the bushes, so much back door decision making and back scratching," Rodee remarked. "The CEOs lied under oath, it's all incomprehensible and there are points it feels like further trauma. I find myself questioning whether the lawmakers are as guilty as big tech."

"The rally was a good experience, the young adults are very moving. One particular group wore shirts that said, I'm worth more than \$270 since internal Meta documents show them assessing young users as a \$270

SEE KOSA PAGE 16



Ashley Robla | Submitted

Empire State champs

The St. Lawrence Steel 10U AA Hockey Team wins Gold at the Empire State Games last weekend in Lake Placid. The Canton-based team was undefeated in their four games. Greg Garvey is head coach. Assistant coaches are Evan Hitchman, Eddie Slade and Patrick Smith.

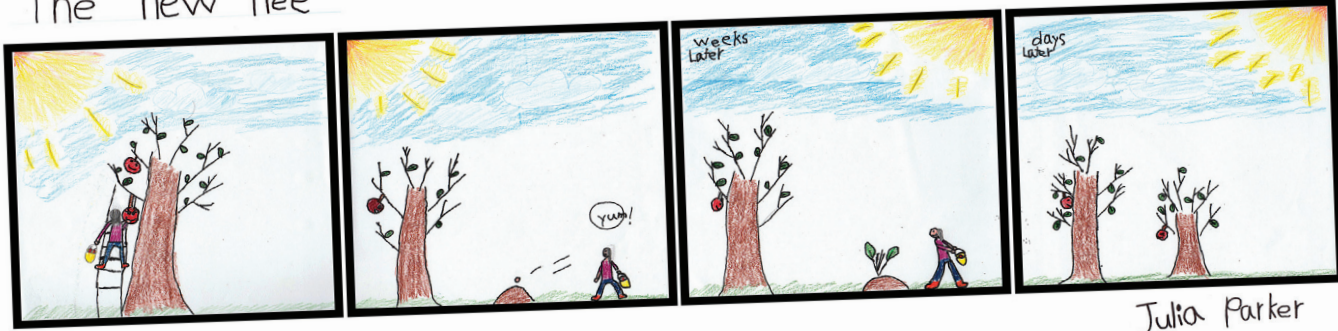
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THISWEEK**

Help Make Our Communities
STRONG



The new tree



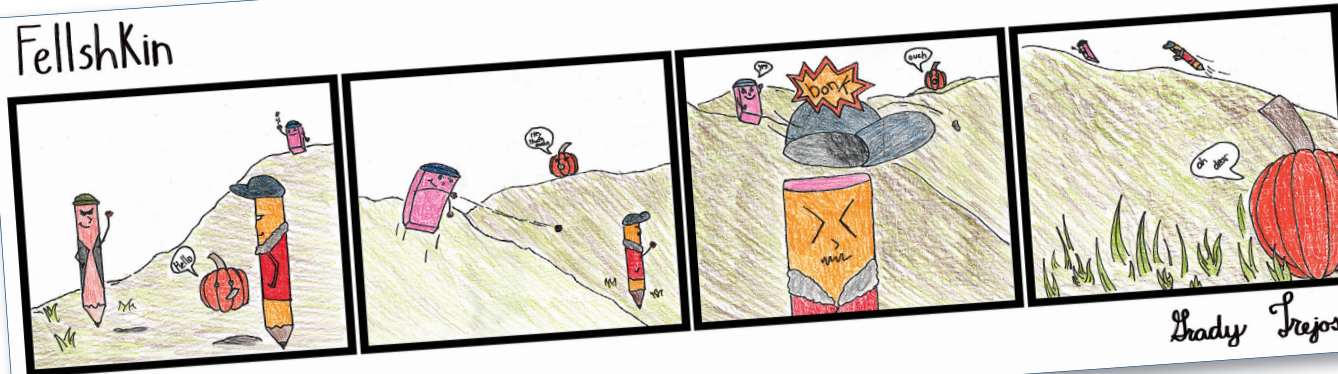
Julia Parker

The good Dragon



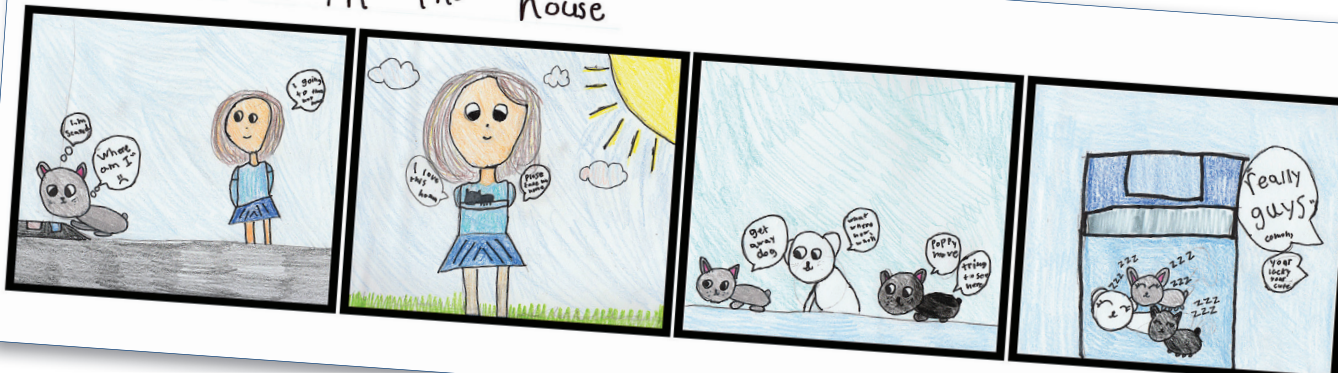
Tulloch

Fellshkin



Grady Trejos

A new cat in the house



Alexis Crump

A Dragon Love Story



Eamon Miller-Lynch

A dogs tale



Ella Hurley

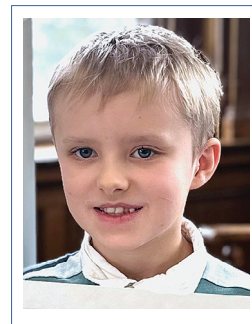
Local children design own comic strips

COLTON — Illustrator and graphic designer Chris Uribe recently helped local children design their own comic strips during a “Little Giant Story” at Colton Hepburn Library.

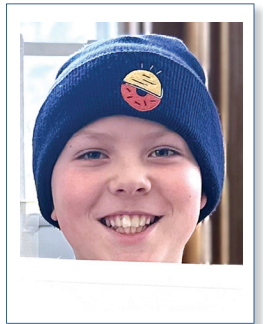
The four-session class for ages 10 to 12 was offered by the Friends of the Colton Library group, who very generously covered all expenses.

Students and their projects included Julia Parker - The New Tree; George Tulloch - The Good Dragon; Grady Trejos - Fellshkin; Eamon Lynch - A Dragon Love Story; Ella Hurley - A Dog's Tale; and Alexis Crump - A New Cat in the House

Olivia Parker organized and coordinated all the classes.



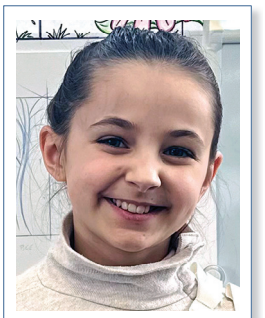
George Tulloch



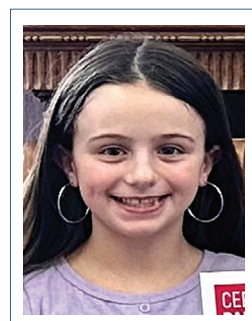
Grady Trejos



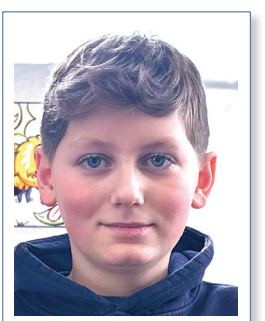
Alexis Hurley



Julia Parker



Ella Hurley



Eamon Lynch

Teen, adult art skills classes set

Chris Uribe, an experienced illustrator, graphic designer and teacher, will be offering a free three-session Adult Art Class Feb. 21 and 22 at 2 p.m. and Feb. 23 at 10:30 a.m.

The one-hour sessions are designed for teens and adults looking to further develop their art skills and learn drawing techniques.

Participants will advance their knowledge of art as they accurately drawn an image from a photo of their choice. To sign up, visit the library or the library's Facebook page.

A class for 7- to 9-year-olds is already full.

For more information about classes and future projects, please visit coltonhepburnlibrary.org



Chris Uribe



Potsdam Fire Department | Courtesy

New fire truck delivered

Potsdam Fire Department has a new rescue vehicle to serve the community. The department received a new Rescue 14, a 2023 Rosenbauer Commander, delivered by Garrison Fire & Rescue Corp on Jan. 29.

Professor critical of SUNY Potsdam personnel cuts

BY ADAM ATKINSON

North Country This Week

POTSDAM -- A longtime SUNY Potsdam professor is highly critical of the college's move to cut seven positions in an effort to address a \$9 million deficit.

"Seven of my colleagues, all tenured faculty, some with more than 30 years of service to SUNY Potsdam, were recently summoned to HR and unceremoniously informed that they will be terminated in a year. At least now, after years of vague threats, they know they are getting fired," wrote David C.K. Curry, SUNY Potsdam philosophy professor, in a letter to the editor of North Country This Week.

Curry said that the United University Professions (UUP) union which represents the college staff will not be fighting the cuts.

"Apparently, even they agree that being tenured in the SUNY System signifies nothing," he said.

"Dr. Suzanne Smith, President of SUNY Potsdam, tried to control the message by sending a campus wide email. It speaks of 'difficult decisions' and of 'continuing to adjust our workforce to serve our existing enrollment,'" wrote Curry. "Such appeals are empty."

"One might think that Dr. Smith is professionally, and morally, obligated to attempt to show that the destruction of people's careers will address rather than exacerbate the college's financial difficulties. But astonishingly, to date, SUNY Potsdam has given no justification for discontinuing nine programs, which, in turn 'justified' destruction of an unknown number of careers. Those terminated, those to be terminated, those to be retained, indeed, the entire community need to hear more than platitudes. Merely crying out 'fiscal crisis' is simply unacceptable," the professor said.

Curry writes that the personnel cuts and the program phase outs are not going to move the needle much on SUNY Potsdam's deficit. "The college is already a shell of what it was. What it will become bodes ill for the educational, cultural, and economic health of the North Country," Curry said.

Read his letter to North Country This Week online at <http://tinyurl.com/42835rdf>, or in the Feb. 9 print edition of North Country This Week.

SUNY officials have stated that the \$9 million deficit has been driven by a 43 percent decrease in enrollment in recent years. The college is cutting 10 programs, which represent about 3.9 percent of its overall enrollment, to bring the finances

back into the black. Programs to be cut include art history (bachelor of arts), chemistry (bachelor of science), dance (bachelor of arts), French (bachelor of arts), music performance (master of music), philosophy (bachelor of arts), physics (bachelor of arts), Spanish (bachelor of arts), and theatre (bachelor of arts).

Meanwhile, the UUP has called the deficit a "manufactured crisis" caused by Cuomo-era funding cuts to the SUNY system.

Interim Provost Dr. Alan Hersker did confirm the recent seven personnel cuts to North Country This Week.

"SUNY Potsdam did issue seven retrenchment notices on January 26, as a part of our ongoing \$9 million deficit reduction process. The impacted individuals include five teaching faculty and two professional staff members, all of whom had permanent appointment (often known as tenure when referring to instructional employees)," Hersker said. "We cannot provide further details about specific individual personnel actions, as they are confidential. Furthermore, our ability to consult and collaborate in such sensitive decisions is limited by our obligations under the collective bargaining agreements in place with the unions representing our faculty and staff," the interim provost said.

"From day one, I have been transparent about the depth of our challenge. There are no perfect decisions when closing a budget gap of this size. It was, and continues to be, a very painful and difficult process," SUNY Potsdam President Suzanne Smith said in an official statement to North Country This Week.

"I cannot underscore this enough: The reductions we have undertaken are not based on the rigor of impacted programs, the quality of the faculty or staff, or the experiences had by our alumni. We have simply had more programs and positions than are supported by student enrollment, which then impacts our current revenue," Smith said.

Smith said the college will assist and support staff through the process as best it can, and ensure those let go have access to the benefits to which they are entitled.

"In the meantime, we will continue to do all in our power to limit cuts in personnel wherever possible," the president said.

"In the big picture, though, we are doing the right thing by putting our campus on a path back to fiscal health. My job is to make sure that we are here for the next 207 years, and that is what I am doing," said Smith.

OBITUARIES

Daniel S. Pitts Sr., 78

Louisville

LOUISVILLE -- The family of Daniel S. Pitts, Sr., are deeply saddened on reporting his passing Friday evening, February 2, 2024, at his family home surrounded by his devoted and loving family, and under the care of Hospice.

The family has entrusted arrangements to the care and direction of the Phillips Memorial Home, in Massena.

As per his wishes, the family will be sharing time together privately with funeral services at the convenience of the family with Rev. Mark Reilly officiating.

Dan was born to the late Lloyd and Evelyn (Baxter) Pitts in Massena on October 14, 1945.

As Dan attended schools in Massena, he continued to work during his high school years graduating from Gouverneur High School in 1963.

He was introduced to his beautiful bride shortly after high school and was married to Lillian Cogdill on December 26, 1964 in St. James Church in Gouverneur, NY by the late Reverend Monsignor Robert J. McCarthy and soon began their family.

Dan relocated back home to Massena and began his fruitful career as a welder for ALCOA in 1967, where he retired after 40 years of service on September 1, 2007.

Dan was known for his strong work ethic and having a talent with working with his hands.

He had built two of the family homes he and his family shared together along with numerous personal items for family and friends.

He could be found hunting and fishing in his spare time or out in his wood lot, chopping wood as one of his favorite pastimes.

A very talented craftsman, Dan valued quality, and nothing more pleased him, than the quality time spent with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was an avid motorcycle enthusiast, and continued to ride

his bikes up until his illness.

A member of the ALCOA 25 Year Club, Dan valued his fellow coworkers and time spent at work and in their free time.



Daniel Pitts Sr.

Dan is survived by his devoted wife of nearly 60 years, Lillian; and their three children, Jodi and husband, Bob Condon, Debbie Pitts and Daniel S. Pitts Jr all of Massena, NY. Also surviving are his 7 grandchildren; Marah and Tyler Kain of Virginia, Tyler and Katie Pitts, Dylan Pitts, Zachary Pitts, Jordan Pitts of Maine, Rachel and Ryan Hartigan of Massena, NY Randy and Emily Ward of Massena, NY, along with five great-grandchildren; Blake, Rhett, Benjamin, Owen and Trevor. Brothers; Lloyd and Shirley Pitts of Hogansburg, NY, Gordon Pitts of Coopersburg, PA, and Ronald and wife Terry Pitts of Lisbon, NY, sisters; Elaine and Harold Swinyer of Brasher Falls, NY, and Bertha and Floyd Thomas of Massena, NY, along with several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Dan was predeceased by his brother, James Pitts and wife, Marie, a sister, Barbara Vasquez, a brother-in-law, Gary Vasquez and a sister-in-law, Helene Pitts.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be shared with St. Lawrence Hospice and Palliative Care; 6805 US-11, Potsdam, NY 13676 and Jerry's Run for Cancer; c/o Tammi Turner (Secretary) 3778 County Route 6, Hammond, New York 13646

Family and friends are encouraged to share memories, photos, stories, memorial trees and condolences online, by visiting www.PhillipsMemorial.com.

Ronald Dunn, 77

Canton

CANTON -- Ronald Dunn, age 77, passed away peacefully on Saturday February 3, 2024 at Maplewood United Rehabilitation and Senior Care in Canton, New York with his daughter Rondi Jo and his sister Dee by his side.

There will be no calling hours or services per his wishes.

Arrangements are under the direction of Larue & Pitcher Funeral Home, a subsidiary of Frary Funeral Home located at 515 Caroline St. Ogdensburg, NY 13669

He was born on November 7, 1946, in Ogdensburg, N.Y. He was the son of the late Luella [Dwight] Dunn.

He is survived by his daughter, Rondi Jo Dunn of Russell, NY grandson Brandon Dunn and granddaughter Riannon Dunn as well as his, great-grandchildren, Ashton, Kane, Hudson and Easton all of Russell, N.Y.

He is survived by his loving sister, Deanne "Dee" Allen Powers of Ogdensburg, his sister, Kathleen Waite of Ogdensburg and his brothers Wayne Dunn of Clinton, NY, Wendell Dunn and his fiancée Sally of Verona, NY, his sister-in-law, Janet Dunn of Whitesboro, NY and several nieces and nephews and cousins.

He was predeceased by his



Ronald Dunn

mother, very close brother Wally Dunn, and brothers Robert Dunn and Donald Dunn. his sisters,

Mary Dunn and Judy Rutherford also predeceased him as well as many great friends including his lifelong best friend Jeffery White.

After graduating from Ogdensburg Free Academy in 1965, in 1966 he enlisted in the United States Air Force.

He served as a Security Policeman at Langley AFB, Virginia. Later serving in Vietnam from 1967 to 1968.

He served in the Air Force until his honorable discharge in 1972. He was a lifelong member of the VFW Post 2936 in Ogdensburg, NY. He love gardening and building a bonfire, enjoying a Budweiser with his friends. Donations in Ronald's memory may be made to the Disabled American Veterans D.A.V. c/o Thomas BUSHNELL Post#171 101 W Hatfield ST Massena, New York 13662.

RECENT DEATHS

LOUISE CHRISTENSEN-DON, 69, Canton, March 8, 23.

JOHN LASHOMB, 58, Canton. Jan. 20. Arrangements with O'Leary Funeral Home, Canton.

DALE SHERBURNE, 89, Parishville, Jan. 26. Arrangements with Donaldson-Seymour Funeral Home, Potsdam.

MARGARET CURTIN, 97, formerly of Potsdam, Jan. 28. Arrangements with Chateaugay Funeral Home, Chateaugay.

JAMES WILKINSON, 89, Feb. 1. Arrangements with Lawrence Funeral Home, Canton.

CHARLES SILSBY, 68, Edwards, Feb. 2. Arrangements with French Funeral Home, Edwards.

RONALD DUNN, 77, Canton, Feb. 3. Arrangements with Larue & Pitcher Funeral Home, Ogdensburg.

OBITUARIES AND death notices are posted as soon as they are available at NorthCountryNow.com/obituaries

SUBMITTING OBITUARIES: Families now have the option of publishing obituaries in North Country This Week -- ask the funeral home to submit the obituary for publication in the paper as well as on NorthCountryNow.com. For more information or to submit an obituary for a former St. Lawrence County resident, email obituaries@northcountrynow.com or call 315-265-1000 ext. 33.

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NORTH COUNTRY THIS WEEK

OBITUARIES

Richard A. Brabant, 85

formerly of Ogdensburg

OGDENSBURG -- Richard A. Brabant, 85, of Bunnell, FL passed peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family on Sunday January 21, 2024.

He was born August 30, 1938, in Ogdensburg, NY to Clarence and Helen (nee Moore) Brabant.

A devoted and faithful husband, he married Joan Schneider on April 28, 1958. They were married until she passed in 1990. Richard and Jacqueline Sneed were married on September 14, 1991 and they spent 32 wonderful years together.

Richard started his career at Diamond National and St. Lawrence Seaway, before attending SUNY Canton and Potsdam State University, ultimately graduating with a degree in Psychology. He became psychiatric social worker for NYS, working at St. Lawrence Psychiatric Hospital, before retiring from Cape Vincent Correctional Facility as a pre-release counselor. He was a lifetime member of the Elks Club and the Knights of Columbus.

An avid collector, Richard loved to attend auctions to collect all kinds of things- especially old or unique tools. In his younger years, he was a very talented artist creating caricatures of friends and family. Richard also did wood carvings of deer and elk- including one for the Elks club in Ogdensburg that still hangs there. His works were also displayed at the Remington Art Museum.

After retirement, Richard started a Farmer's Market in Ogdensburg, NY. While selling his fruits, vegetables and pies (made by his wife Jackie), he loved to sit and talk to his customers.

Afterward, he would frequently write a letter to the Editor of the local Journal newspaper and report

Dale "Bud" Sherburne, 89

Parishville

PARISHVILLE - Dale "Bud" Sherburne, 89, passed away Friday morning, January 26, 2024, at Maple Ridge Lodge Assisted Living Center in Essex Junction, Vermont where he had been residing of late.

Bud was born October 17, 1934, the second son of Frank and Dorothy (Steinberg) Sherburne in Potsdam, New York.

He was very active in sports throughout his school life and played baseball, football, hockey and ran track during High School.

He graduated in 1952 from Potsdam High School. After a short time at Potsdam State, Bud joined the US Army and served proudly for 2 years.

He married Helga Reidel in 1956 and they had 2 children: Daniel and Heidi. With his marriage in 1981 to June Lavarnway Stringer he gained not only his soulmate for 42 years, but also 2 more sons and 3 daughters.

On November 3, 1957, he began his career at Niagara Mohawk and retired 47 years later in 2004.

He found another love in coaching baseball and hockey and was always pleased to receive visits from the many youngsters he worked with over the years. He was honored by the Potsdam High School Sports Hall of Fame in 2014.

Bud was multi-talented and built 2 homes - a ranch on the Back Hanawa Road, the other an A frame overlooking Blake Falls Reservoir on Coulon Drive in Parishville (on the property which had been owned by his Uncle Reginald). He had a passion for landscaping, planting flowers, and gardening.

He enjoyed visiting the Potsdam Museum to explore his family gene-

on all of his visitors.

Richard found a true calling and passion in singing old classic country music. Everyone said he sounded just like Johnny Cash. He and Jackie performed in many places while living in New York and Florida. They were known as "Echoes In Black".

Richard is survived by his loving wife, Jacqueline (nee Sneed) Brabant; his son Richard (Chris) Brabant; daughter Mary (Robert) Andrews, and daughter Barbara Brabant. He also has four living siblings: Robert Brabant, Dean (Roseanne Jones) Hilborne, Gloria (Roy) Bice, and Doreen (Rick) Shattuck; as well as 10 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews and cousins. He will be missed dearly by countless family and friends.

He is predeceased by his parents Clarence and Helen; his first wife Joan (Schneider) Brabant; his son Kenneth Brabant, his sister Diana (Clyde) Solomon, and his brother Kenneth Hilborne.

A celebration of Richard's life will be held at a later date in New York and will be announced accordingly. Please check back for more details.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating in Richard's honor to Alzheimer's Research, Hospice, or the Humane Society.

Heritage Funeral and Cremation Service of Bunnell, FL assisted the family with arrangements. www.HeritageFlagler.com.



Richard Brabant



Dale Sherburne

alogical lineage and spent hours at Bayside grooming the many family plots. He was a member of the

Elks, VFW, and the Parishville Amvets.

Bud is survived by his loving wife, June; his son, Daniel (Laura Callahan) Sherburne (Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina) and daughter, Heidi Lynn Sherburne

(Potsdam) as well as 3 step daughters: Peggy (Dick) Dora (Bloomingdale, NY), Linda (Art) Spellman (Burlington, VT) and Nancy (Dave) Whitson (Vermontville, NY) and twelve grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren. He is also survived by a brother, John Sherburne (Webster, NY) and 4 sisters: Lois Bartlett (Wernersville, PA), Mary Ezell (Durham, NC), Sue (Terry) Doell (Rochester, NY), and Nan (Rob) Heath (Wethersfield, CT), and many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents, a sister (Sara Eckl) and 2 step sons, (Rick and Larry Stringer)

Calling Hours will be on Thursday, May 2, 2024, at Donaldson-Seymour Funeral Home Potsdam, NY.

There will be a Celebration of Bud's Life Friday, May 3, 2024, at Trinity Episcopal Church (Potsdam) followed by a private Burial at Bayside Cemetery in Potsdam.

Friends are encouraged to share memories and offer condolences online at www.donaldsonseymour.com.

POTSDAM -- Margaret Ann Mellon Curtin, 97, passed away on January 28, 2024, at the Lourdes Center, St. Patrick's Manor, Framingham, Massachusetts.

Margaret was born in Chateaugay, New York on October 27, 1926, to Kathryn (Burke) and Casper Mellon.

She lived in Potsdam, NY for 57 years, from 1962 to 2019 and wintered on Hutchinson Island, Florida from 1999 to 2019.

In October 2019, she moved to Westwood, MA to be near family.

Margaret was predeceased in May 1992 by her loving husband, C. John Curtin, after 45 years of marriage. She also was predeceased by her granddaughter, Shanna Putnam and husband, Travis Clark; sister, Kathryn and husband, Edwin Knox; brother, William; and brother, Donald and wife, Joan Mellon.

Margaret is survived by her six children: Kathryn (William) Putnam, Potsdam and Stuart, Florida; Maureen Curtin, Saratoga Springs, NY; Helen (Leonard) Gallagher, Hyannis, MA; Mary (William) Fitzgerald, Ashburn, Virginia; Eileen (Mark) Mamo, Stuart, FL; and William (Renee) Curtin, Wellesley, MA; 15 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; brother, John E. (Elizabeth) Mellon, Exeter, New Hampshire; and several nieces and nephews.

MASSENA -- Doris Haggart, a longtime resident of Massena, died on Wednesday, January 31, 2024, at the age of 98.

Born November 21, 1925, in Corning, New York, she was the only daughter of Valentine Rettig Doran and Genevieve May (Hauff) Doran.

She was graduated from Corning Free Academy, received a Bachelor of Education from Albany State Teachers' College in 1947, and a Masters Degree in Education from St. Lawrence University in 1960.

She married Donald Hubert Haggart on August 17, 1948, at St. Lawrence Church in North Lawrence, New York with Fr. Maguire officiating. Mr. Haggart died on July 19, 1991. Their 43-year marriage produced three (3) children, all of whom survive her: Donald Peter (Rosalie) Haggart of Georgetown, NY; Valarie (Pierre) Guerard of Lake Placid, NY; and Natalie (James) Sweatland of Massena, NY.

A long and prominent career in education was concluded in 1982 upon her retirement, having taught the intricacies of Latin and French, the joys and complexities of English grammar, and the wonders of lit-

CANTON - Louise Frances Christensen - Don (69), passed away last year on March 8th, 2023.

We were very sad to have to say goodbye to my beautiful Aunt Louise last March. She passed away from cancer at her home in DelRay Beach with loved ones beside her.

She was the daughter of Francis and Virginia Christensen.

Louise is survived by; husband, Steve Don; son, Wesley Ridout (wife, Meaghan and children, Eli & Zoe), son, Cody Ridout (fiance, Ashley Hansen), son, Daniel Don (wife, Mackenzie and children, Finnie Mae and Jett, daughter, Rebecca Don (fiance, Zachary Croteau); sister, Caroline Christensen Maloney and niece, Joann Maloney Davis (husband, Simon and children, Jack

Margaret Ann Mellon Curtin, 97

formerly of Potsdam

Margaret enlisted in the United States Cadet Nurse Corps at the State University in Plattsburgh,



Margaret Curtin

NY in 1943, an accelerated war-time program through which she received her Registered Nursing license in March 1946 and a Bachelor of Science degree in 1947.

In 1974, she earned a Masters of Education degree from St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY. She was a School Nurse and Health Education Teacher at Potsdam Central School for 29 years and, prior to that, a nurse in multiple hospitals.

Margaret was a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society from 1975 to 1991, serving as Secretary and Membership Chair.

She was an active parishioner of St. Mary's Church in Potsdam.

Margaret was a devoted and loving mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend. She was a role

Doris Haggart, 98

Massena

erature to countless students for over 29 years, educating youth in North Lawrence, Brushton-Moira and Massena schools.

She was a member of the Massena Senior Citizens, the VFW Auxiliary, and the New York State Retired Teachers Association.

An accomplished pianist, an avid reader and a talented seamstress, she also enjoyed solving crossword puzzles and playing a good game of cards. She roamed the world with her travel besties, Georgette, Roxanne and Eddie and undoubtedly made the world a little brighter.

In addition to her children, she is survived by her 10 grandchildren; Marc, Matthew and Andrew Guerard; George, Henry, John and Emily Haggart, Sara Wargo; Natalie Zona and Nicole Sweatland; and one chosen granddaughter, Maryann Caskinette; 20 great-grandchildren; a great-great grandchild and several nieces, nephews along with many



Doris Haggart

model to her children and grandchildren, continuing her education throughout her life.

She had a sharp mind, always seeking and amazing everyone with her knowledge of the world. She traveled extensively, visiting more than 25 countries after her retirement in 1991.

She had an enthusiastic greeting for those she knew, and she sought to fully get to know new acquaintances. She was known for her kindness and empathy and she warmly welcomed others into her family fold.

Throughout her life and with her husband John, they successfully juggled raising six children, whose ages are within a ten-year range, while working full time and often hosting both planned and spontaneous entertainments in their home. Their loving union was most visible when they danced beautifully across a ballroom floor.

A Mass of Christian Burial and celebration of life will be held at a later date in Chateaugay, NY.

Donations in Margaret's memory may be made to Lourdes Center, St. Patrick's Manor, 863 Central St., Framingham, MA 01701; St. Mary's Church, 17 Lawrence Ave., Potsdam, NY 13676; or St. Patrick's Church, 132 West Main St., P.O. Box 908, Chateaugay, NY 12920.

dear friends.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her brother, Valentine R. Doran, Jr., and a niece, Bette Anne Doran.

Phillips Memorial Home is honored to serve the family of Doris Haggart. Calling hours will be held on Sunday, February 4, 2024, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm and from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm; and Monday, February 5, 2024, beginning at 10:00 am until the time of funeral services at 11:00 am with Rev. Mark Reilly presiding at Phillips Memorial Home, 64 Andrews Street, Massena, NY.

Doris will be laid to rest in the spring at St. Lawrence Cemetery, North Lawrence at a date and time to be announced. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions in Doris' name be sent to the Activities Department of Massena Rehabilitation and Nursing Center; 89 Grove Street, Massena, NY 13662 or the St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging; 80 NY-310, Suite 7, Canton, NY 13617, or to a charity of one's choice.

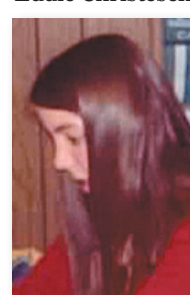
Those wishing to send condolences or share memories, photos and memorial trees, can do so by visiting www.PhillipsMemorial.com.

Louise Frances Christensen-Don, 69

Canton

& Harry).

She is predeceased by brother, Eddie Christesen.



Louise Christensen-Don

Louise attended Hugh C Williams High School, Canton Collage, SUNY Geneseo and completed her masters at SUNY Fredonia. She finished her 30 year teaching career at Indian River High School in Philadelphia, NY. After which she and Steve retired to DelRay Beach Florida. There she enjoyed the warm weather, walking 6 miles a day.

Getting up in the dark of morning, put on her flashing safety vest and walked before the hot Florida sun came out for the day.

I would text her and ask what mile are you on? If there was time I would put on my sneakers and join her for a virtual walk and talk for the last mile or two.

She loved her family, especially spending time with her grandchildren. Louise was a master at home-made breads and cakes.

She sang, played the piano and saxophone. Thank you Louise for contributing to all of our character traits we carry with us today.

She is now up in heaven with her mother on the piano, father on the sax and brother, Eddie on the drums. That is some band!

Town plans public hearing on town zoning law

BY PAUL MITCHELL
North Country This Week

CANTON – This month’s regular meeting of the Canton Town Board on Wednesday, Feb. 14, will be preceded by a fourth public hearing on a local law amending the town zoning law and other land use laws.

The public hearing will begin at 5 p.m. in the Canton Municipal Building courtroom. The town board meeting is scheduled to

begin at 6 p.m.

A Jan. 10 public hearing on the town zoning code resulted in no action from the town board.

At that hearing, language regarding kennels and animal shelters was questioned. Janes Road resident Margaret Mauch expressed her views on the matter, mainly directed at the animal sanctuary No Dogs Left Behind, 1734 NY 68.

“There is presently no request to operate an animal shelter in the

Town of Canton. With a shelter being a non-permitted land use in the current code, the next step would have been to request a land use variance. The previous applications have been withdrawn and replaced with the “grandfathered” land use of a kennel at the proposed location. This apparently satisfied all parties involved,” she said.

“Since being an “animal shelter” is no longer an issue, it should be withdrawn from the Code. On

December 15, 2025, the new NYS Shelter Law Chapter 683 governing and defining shelters will be in effect and may supersede some of the proposed animal shelter conditions. The work has already been done. The Town of Canton does not need to include in the code a land use that is no longer requested or even pertinent at this time.”

“Should the Town Board decide to leave animal shelter definitions and conditions in the new Town Zoning Code, it is important that

an animal shelter require a Special Use permit and review,” Mauch concluded.

The proposed local law also cleans up language for permitted uses for cideries in R/A zones.

Written comments will be accepted by Town Clerk Heidi Smith, at townclerk@cantonny.gov, until 2 p.m. Feb. 14.

Residents can find a copy of the 164-page document at <http://wdt.me/phYBwD>.

Drug bust nets two arrests

DEKALB -- Two North Country residents were charged with felony drug possession following a traffic stop on U.S. Highway 11 Jan. 30, according to St. Lawrence County sheriff’s deputies.

Brandon R. Graves, 35, Watertown and Sally A. Busch, 30, Canton, were charged with two counts of third-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance: Intent to sell, and two counts of criminal possession of a controlled substance: Narcotic, felonies, officers said.

Both were also charged with criminal use of drug paraphernalia, deputies said.

The pair were reportedly in possession of about 21 grams of fentanyl and 16 grams of cocaine, along with scales and other items often used to sell drugs, deputies said.

Graves allegedly used another person’s name and ID during the investigation and was additionally charged with second-degree criminal impersonation, officers said.

Both subjects were reportedly released on their own recognizances.

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ADVERTISING DEADLINE: 10 a.m., Tuesday prior to Friday’s publication date. North Country This Week reserves the right to refuse any advertising or graphics for any reason and shall not be liable for errors or failure to publish an advertisement except to the extent of the cost of the space in which the error occurred.

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Multiple bridge projects planned in SLC

BY JEFF CHUDZINSKI
North Country This Week

CANTON -- Multiple bridge projects are entering the next phase of planning before work begins this spring, thanks in large part to the Bridge NY program.

Under the terms of the program, the county has secured millions of dollars to complete work on multiple bridge and culvert projects this year. Federal funds pass through the state to the county to cover 95% of all costs up to \$5 million per project, with the county responsible for the remaining 5% and anything over the \$5 million cap, according to Highway Department Superintendent Don Chambers.

County legislators approved a handful of budget modifications related to the projects during the Jan. 29 finance committee meeting.

"The adjustments to the county budget for these Bridge NY projects basically is a result of the announcement of the funds coming in October.

At that point, when we get the projects out to bid and advertise, construction will begin and we will then do the openings in late 2023," Chambers said.

Chambers said the budget processes have been completed for the Lazy River Road bridge project that spans the Grasse River, as well as the County Route 24 and 35 bridges over Trout Brook and the County Route 22 bridge over Sawyer Creek.

For those projects, Chambers said the county will need to utilize some funds from the fund balance to ensure each project is fully funded.

"We are fortunate to have the funds to address these programs, 95% of funds from feds that pass through the state to the county," he said.

Some of those funds will be utilized for steel inspection, which takes place on site and requires the county to hire a consulting firm to go down to the manufacturing facility for inspections.

"The steel for the Lazy River Road projects is being fabricated in Pennsylvania, we need a consulting firm to go in and inspect the steel being made there," he said.

Another firm would also need to be hired to inspect the steel being manufactured in Ohio for another project, he said.

Chambers explained to legislators that the Bridge NY program places a \$5 million cap on each project and any expense over that is to be covered by the county.

Despite 95% of the project normally being covered by federal funds, in some instances the county will have to cover a little bit extra on projects, he said.

"Sometimes funding comes in from other sources and luckily we've got the funds to cover some capital projects," he said. Chambers told legislators

that a recent conversation with New York State Department of Transportation officials leads him to believe there is the possibility that the state may force the county to use CHIPS funds to cover the spread of a project if it exceeds the \$5 million cap.

"So we are being forced to use CHIPS funds and the state is taking that money elsewhere," Legislator Joseph Lightfoot asked.

Chambers said that may not be the case but it is a possibility that CHIPS funds may have to be used to finish the essential projects.

"In the past five years, how many bridge jobs have we had that exceeded the \$5 million cap," Lightfoot asked.

Chambers said none as of yet but did say in the next five years he projects that two to three projects would exceed the cap, possibly by \$2-3 million each.

"We may have structures in the \$8-9 million range. We have projects in the lower portion of the county that have larger structures in the park," Chambers said.

"With all of the issues with working in the park, is the state going to come forward with additional monies for the roadblocks they setup because it's in the park," Lightfoot asked.

Chambers said he was unsure how the state would address those projects but said it's not a simple solution of saying they required more money or need to save money but rather that the state should raise the ceiling for Bridge NY funding.

"The legislature should talk to our state reps about it. We need to adjust for inflation as well. If we change the ceiling for these projects to exceed the \$5 million cap we would be better off," Chambers said.

Though the current bridge and culvert projects are full steam ahead, Chambers said he isn't slowing down on future projects.

According to Chambers, the highway department has applied for another batch of projects through Bridge NY, all of which would not exceed the current \$5 million cap.

Those bridge and culvert projects would likely be completed in 2025, he said.

As part of his discussions with NYS DOT, Chambers said he was asked to discuss with the board just how far they would be willing to go if grant funding falls short to complete the projects.

"They want to know what we would do. It will let the DOT be assured that when a project is awarded, the county would complete it," he said.

Chambers said that may mean more projects would be funded in the future, allowing the county to upgrade infrastructure with some federal aid instead of waiting for full funding on the project years down

MASSENA ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN IN compliance with Sections 103 and 103d of the General Municipal Law, sealed bids are invited for a wire pulling trailer with 3,000 pound pulling capacity. Detailed specifications may be obtained from the Massena Electric Department, 71 E. Hatfield St., Massena, NY, 13362 or requested by phone (315) 764-0253 during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

A fully executed non-collusive bidding certificate must accompany all bids.

SEALED BIDS will be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on February 20, 2024, at the following address:

MASSENA ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT
71 E. HATFIELD ST.
MASSENA, NY 13662

ENVELOPES SHALL BE MARKED - "BID - Wire Pulling Trailer"

Bids will be publicly opened at 3:00 p.m. on February 20, 2024 at the above address.

The Massena Electric Department reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids.

POTSDAM NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Stone and Steel Gym LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/17/2024. Office location: St. Lawrence County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Timothy A. Vollmer: 8242 US Highway 11, Potsdam, NY 13676. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

OGDENSBURG LEGAL NOTICE

The City of Ogdensburg is inviting all interested parties to consider this exciting opportunity to develop a .58-acre parcel in the City's Marina District. The request for proposals (RFP) is available by contacting Director of Planning and Development, Andrea Smith at asmith@ogdensburg.org. All submissions must be received no later than 2:00 PM EST February 16, 2024. The submission shall be sent by email in a single merged file (PDF format) to: asmith@ogdensburg.org.

NORFOLK NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of Norfolk, New York Planning Board will be holding regularly scheduled Codification Project meetings on the following dates at 5:15 PM at the Norfolk Town Hall, 5 W. Main Street, Norfolk: Feb. 22, Mar. 28, Apr. 25, May 23, Jun. 27, Jul. 25, Aug. 22, Sep. 26, Oct. 24, Nov. 21, Dec. 19. Location may be subject to change due to Hall availability (change notices will be posted on Town Hall door).

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of MUDPU721 LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/23/2024. Office location: St. Lawrence County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Michael B. Riley: 3690 CR 17, Dekalb Junction, NY 13630. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

OGDENSBURG LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF BOND RESOLUTION

The resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, was adopted on December 4, 2023. The validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Enlarged Ogdensburg City School District is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

Mariah D. Pearson
District Clerk
SUMMARY OF BOND RESOLUTION

A Resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the Enlarged Ogdensburg City School District, St. Lawrence County, New York on December 4, 2023 authorizes the issuance of bonds and other obligations to fund a capital project consisting of reconstruction, renovations and improvements to the John F. Kennedy Elementary School, Ogdensburg Free Academy and the Golden Dome, and renovations, improvements and an addition to the Grant C. Madill Elementary School, acquisition of approximately 28 acres of land on NYS Rt. 37 across from the Ogdensburg Free Academy and the construction thereon of a new transportation facility, all of the foregoing to include construction, reconstruction, renovations, alterations, grading and site work, parking, athletic field and facility improvements, original furnishings, fixtures, equipment, machinery and apparatus required for such purposes, architectural fees, and all other necessary costs incidental to such work (collectively, the "Project") at a total estimated cost not to exceed \$65,500,000 and obtain the necessary funds by using by using \$1,500,000 from the Capital Reserve approved by the District voters on May 18, 2021 and \$2,500,000 from the Capital Reserve approved by the District Voters on May 17, 2022, any available EXCEL aid and, for the balance of the project costs, a tax shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and bond anticipation notes of the District are hereby authorized to be issued at one time, or from time to time, in the principal amount not to exceed \$61,500,000, and a tax is hereby voted to pay the principal and interest on said obligations when due. Under the Local Finance Law, the period of probable usefulness of the Project is thirty (30) years. Such resolution shall be kept available for public inspection in the District Offices during regular business hours for twenty days following this publication.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of 15 Lincoln Street LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-09-22. Office location: Saint Lawrence County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Timothy J. Wagoner: 5 Market St Alexandria Bay NY 13607. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Next LVL Consulting LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/24/2024. Office location: St. Lawrence County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Emma Slate: 210 Main St. - Hailesboro Road, Gouverneur, NY 13642. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of 81 Pierrepoint Avenue LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-09-22. Office location: Saint Lawrence County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Timothy J. Wagoner: 5 Market St Alexandria Bay NY 13607. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

MASSENA NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Insulation Solutions of NNY, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/12/2023. Office location: St. Lawrence. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Michael Baxter: 27 Riverside Parkway, Meassena, NY 13662. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Joyful Paws, LLC was formed on December 7, 2023. The principal offices are located in St. Lawrence County and the Secretary of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. The Post Office address which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process is 634 State Highway 420, Brasher Falls, NY 13613. Joyful Paws, LLC is engaged in any lawful business activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Bent Beam Brewing LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-04-14. Office location: Saint Lawrence County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Gary Hammond: 470 County Route 19 Hermon NY 13652. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY NOTICE OF MEETING

There will be a Special Board Meeting of the Board of Legislators held on Monday, February 12, 2024 at 5:15 p.m., at the Board of Legislators Chambers, 48 Court Street, Canton, and broadcasted live via YouTube for the purpose of a resolution authorizing a contract for schematic design for Family Court, authorizing the purchase of office furniture for Social Services, and authorizing the County Attorney to act "of counsel," and any other business that may come before the Board. The Operations and Services Committee meetings will immediately follow.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

585 HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT LLC Arts of Org. filed SSNY 11/8/23, St. Lawrence Co. SSNY design agent for process & shall mail to Zenbusiness Inc. 41 Sate St #112 Albany, NY 12207 General Purpose

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY TOWN OF STOCKHOLM PLANNING BOARD MEETING LEGAL NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Stockholm Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 6:00 PM at the Municipal Building, Winthrop in the upstairs board meeting room.

This meeting is on the request for a Special Use Permit by Kevin & Glowel Jock to put in a campground and convenience store at 3 Jock Lane (off the Benton Road; tax map #65.004-2-34.12). The proposed facility will bring local business, tourism and recreation to the Town of Stockholm.

These meetings are open to the public. Any written comments may be submitted to the Town of Stockholm Planning Board, 540 State Highway 11C, Winthrop, NY 13697.

DATED: February 5, 2024
Robin McClellan, Chairman
Stockholm Planning Board

MASSENA PUBLIC NOTICE

Dear Property Owner,
You may be eligible for a SENIOR CITIZEN TAX EXEMPTION. To qualify a person must be 65 years of age or older, own their home for 12 consecutive months, occupy their home as their legal residence used exclusively for residential purposes and meet certain income limitations. The maximum income limitation is \$29,000 for tax year 2022. Income includes: • all Social Security payments • salary and wages (including bonuses) • interest (including nontaxable interest on state or local bonds), total dividends • rentals/business • estates and/or trusts • gains from sales and exchanges received from governmental or private retirement or pension plans • annuity payments (excluding amounts representing a return of capital) • alimony and/or support money • unemployment insurance pay. You have until March 1st of each year to apply (no exceptions). Applications are available at your Town Assessors Office or online at <https://massena.us> Form RPTL-467 and County Real Property Department. Completed applications need to be mailed to the Town Assessor's office at: 60 Main St., Massena, NY 13662

MASSENA ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEM (AMI)

The Town of Massena Electric Department (MED) in Massena, New York, will receive bids until 4:00 PM local time on February 27, 2024, for an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system that includes hardware, software, professional services; and electric meter exchanges.

The main proposal document may be examined at the offices of the Massena Electric Department, 71 East Hatfield St, Massena New York, 13662 and may be obtained electronically from the Town's Consultant by contacting Cynthia Studner:

Power System Engineering, Inc.
2424 Rimrock Rd
Suite 300
Madison, WI 53713
608-268-3510

Or via email: MassenaAMIRFP@powersystem.org

The RFP documents provide instructions to respondents for submitting responses and establish the terms and conditions under which MED will contract for such services. Proposals must be made on the basis of cash payment for the property. All proposals must be accompanied by a completed intent to respond form and other requested documents as indicated in the RFP instructions.

All proposals must be received no later than February 27, 2024 at 4:00 PM, EST per the terms in the RFP instructions, and marked "Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) System for Electric Metering".

The Town of Massena Electric Department specifically reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive any irregularities or informalities or to accept any bid which they deem to be in the best interest of the MED and the Town of Massena, New York.

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the Highwav Superintendent is acceptina bids for the purchase of a 2019 1500 Regular Cab and Chassis 4x4 (gas engine) meeting the following specifications.

Model: 1500 Regular Cab Chassis 4 x 4 (gas engine)
Automatic transmission
5.3 L V-8
Standard features
Seats Front 40/20/40 split bench, Back 60-40
Auto lockina differential
Trailerina equipment package
EZ lift and lower tail gate
Power heated mirrors

Bids must be received in the Town Clerks Office, 18 Elm Street, Potsdam, NY on or before 3:00 PM on February 15, 2024. All bids must contain a non-collusive bid certificate and be CLEARLY MARKED with 1500 Cab 4x4. Bids will be opened at 3:00 PM and the Town Board will entertain the bids at the Regular meeting on March 12, 2024.

Dated: February 7, 2024

By Order of the Town Board

Cindy Goliber , Town Clerk

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of CS NY Miner Holdco, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State: 12/22/23. Office location: St. Lawrence County. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: Corporate Creations Network Inc., 600 Mamaroneck Ave. #400, Harrison, NY 10528. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

Massena attorney running for newly created court judge seat

CANTON – New York State recently announced St. Lawrence County would be getting a second family court judge and Republican Effie Kyriakopoulos is hoping to win the seat.

Kyriakopoulos served as Assistant District Attorney in 2002. In 2009, she began working at a Massena private law firm, becoming a partner at Snider, Kyriakopoulos & Smith, LLP.

Since 2019, she has been serving the community as a Referee of the New York State Unified Court System.

Court Attorney-Referees act as special referees and research and analyze complex legal issues and questions raised in civil and criminal cases heard in trial courts or on appeal to certain County Courts and may be responsible for supervision of court attorneys and support staff who are located in one or more courts situated throughout a county, judicial district, or department.

Kyriakopoulos is also a mother of three. In a press release she said that she has helped children and families in our community and prosecuted criminal defendants.

“In private practice, Effie spent a significant portion of time representing children, bringing their voices into courtrooms, as an Attorney for the Children,” a release announcing her candidacy said.

Kyriakopoulos says she has presided over thousands of

custody and family offense matters, primarily in St. Lawrence County Family Court and she prioritizes efficiency.

“Working with the staff of the court, nearly 90% of cases, assigned to her, were disposed of within six months. The best interests of children are her top priority. A trained mediator, she incorporates various skills to work towards settlement of cases, and encourages positive relationships between the parties. Effie has presided over trials, and has issued thousands of Court Orders and Orders of Custody,” the release says.

“Delaying cases results in continuation of turmoil and discord in the families of our community. The People of our county deserve to have their cases heard quickly and efficiently. In addition to traditional court appearances, I have continued virtual appearances allowing community members that have limited means to travel to the courthouse, access to the Courts. These virtual appearances have the added benefits of increased attendance, minimal interruption of the lives of litigants and significant reduction of the costs associated with legal representation, whether from a private attorney or an attorney provided through Indigent Defense,” she said in a prepared statement. “I ask that the good people of this county vote for me so that I may continue to serve them and continue to strive to make our Family Court effective and efficient... Elect Effie!”

NOTICE PURSUANT TO LOCAL FINANCE LAW SECTION 81.00

The bond resolution published herewith was adopted on January 29, 2024 and the validity of the obligations authorized by such bond resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Parishville-Hopkinton Central School District is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Stefanie Latimer, District Clerk
Parishville-Hopkinton Central School District,
New York

BOND RESOLUTION DATED JANUARY 29, 2024 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE PARISHVILLE-HOPKINTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO FINANCE CERTAIN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS CONSISTING OF CONSTRUCTION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN CONTEMPLATION THEREOF, THE LEVY OF TAXES IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS IN PAYMENT THEREOF, THE EXPENDITURE OF SUCH SUMS FOR SUCH PURPOSE, AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the qualified voters of the Parishville-Hopkinton Central School District, New York, at special meeting of such voters duly held on December 12, 2023, duly approved a proposition authorizing the levy of taxes to be collected in installments, in the manner provided by the Education Law, for the class of objects or purposes hereinafter described; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has, on October 16, 2023, duly determined and found the purpose hereinafter described constitutes a Type II action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act of the State of New York and the applicable regulations thereunder (“SEQRA”) which will not have a significant impact on the environment and such purpose is not subject to any further environmental review under SEQRA;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the favorable vote of not less than two-thirds of all of the members of such Board of Education, as follows:

Section 1. The Parishville-Hopkinton Central School District shall undertake certain capital improvements to the School District’s existing school buildings and facilities, as more particularly described in Section 3 hereof, and as generally outlined to and considered by the voters of the School District at a special voter meeting on December 12, 2023.

Section 2. The Parishville-Hopkinton Central School District is hereby authorized to issue its General Obligation Serial Bonds in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$8,158,000, pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York, in order to finance the class of objects or purposes described herein, and such amount is hereby appropriated therefor.

Section 3. The class of objects or purposes to be financed pursuant to this resolution (hereinafter referred to as “purpose”) is certain capital improvements consisting of construction and reconstruction of existing school buildings and facilities within the School District (each such building being a class “A” (fireproof and certain fire resistant) building as defined in Subdivision 11 of Paragraph a of Section 11.00 of said Local Finance Law), various site improvements, and the acquisition of certain original furnishings, equipment, and apparatus and other incidental improvements required in connection therewith for such construction and school use.

Section 4. It is hereby determined and declared that (a) the aggregate maximum cost of said purpose, as estimated by the Board of Education, is \$9,200,000; and (b) the Parishville-Hopkinton Central School District’s plan to finance the cost of said purpose is (i) to provide \$1,042,000 from the existing capital reserve fund for such costs; and (ii) to provide up to \$8,158,000 from funds raised by the issuance of said Bonds and the Bond Anticipation Notes hereinafter referred to; and (c) no money has heretofore been authorized to be applied to the payment of the cost of said purpose.

Section 5. It is hereby determined that the purpose is one of the class of objects or purposes described in Subdivision 97 of Paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law, and that the period of probable usefulness of said purpose is thirty (30) years.

Section 6. The Parishville-Hopkinton Central School District is hereby authorized to issue its Bond Anticipation Notes in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$8,158,000, and is hereby authorized to issue renewals thereof, pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York in order to finance the purpose in anticipation of the issuance of the above described Bonds.

Section 7. It is hereby determined and declared that (a) there are presently no outstanding Bond Anticipation Notes issued in anticipation of the sale of said Bonds, (b) the Bond Anticipation Notes authorized hereby shall mature within one year of the date of issuance thereof or such longer term as may be desired in accordance with the provisions of the Local Finance Law, (c) the Bond Anticipation Notes authorized hereby are not issued in anticipation for Bonds for an assessable improvement, and (d) current funds will be provided prior to the issuance of the Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes herein authorized, to the extent, if any, required by Section 107.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 8. It is hereby determined and declared that the Parishville-Hopkinton Central School District reasonably expects to reimburse the general fund, or such other fund as may be utilized, not to exceed the maximum amount authorized herein, from the proceeds of the obligations authorized hereby for expenditures, if any, from such fund that may be made for the purpose prior to the date of issuance of such obligations. This is a declaration of official intent under Treasury Regulation §1.150-2.

Section 9. The faith and credit of the Parishville-Hopkinton Central School District, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all taxable real property of said School District, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same become due and payable.

Section 10. The power to further authorize the sale and issuance of said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes and to prescribe the terms, form and contents of said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes, subject to the provisions of this resolution and the Local Finance Law of New York, including without limitation, the authority to determine whether to accept bids electronically to the extent allowed by the Local Finance Law, the consolidation with other issues, the determination to issue Bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, all contracts for, and determinations with respect to credit or liquidity enhancements, if any, and to sell, issue and deliver said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes, subject to the provisions of this resolution and Local Finance Law, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education or to the Vice President of the Board in the event of the absence or unavailability of the President. The President of the Board of Education, Vice President and the District Clerk are hereby authorized to sign by manual or facsimile signature any Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes issued pursuant to this resolution, and are hereby authorized to affix to such Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes the corporate seal of the School District and to attest the same. The President of the Board of Education is additionally authorized (but not required) to execute and deliver a financing agreement with the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York and any other agreements and documents necessary to accomplish a financing, all as may be determined in the discretion of the President of the Board of Education.

Section 11. This resolution, or a summary hereof, shall be published in full by the District Clerk of the School District together with a notice in substantially the form prescribed by Section 81.00 of said Local Finance Law, and such publication shall be in each official newspaper of the School District. The validity of said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes issued in anticipation of the sale of said Bonds may be contested only if such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said School District is not authorized to expend money, or the provisions of law which should be complied with, at the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity, is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of such publication; or if said obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 12. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SLC leaders praise lead program

BY JEFF CHUDZINSKI
North Country This Week

CANTON — St. Lawrence County officials are praising a federal program that assisted the county in lead-paint

abatement work for 23 housing units throughout the county to the tune of \$1 million.

Legislators and public health officials say the cooperative effort had a number of challenges throughout the course of the four-year program, the first of its kind in the county, however it eventually aligned with county expectations.

Initially awarded \$1 million in 2018, county officials were able to put the program into effect in 2019 after identifying the properties eligible for abatement work.

Officials say the program delivery method and standard operating procedures were based upon many years of experience running Community Development Block Grant-funded housing rehabilitation programs.

Partners in the program included the St. Lawrence County Planning Office (SLCPO), St. Lawrence County Public Health Department (SLCPHD) and the North Country Housing Council (NCHC).

Primary target areas in the county included the village of Gouverneur and Massena and the City of Ogdensburg, which have population centers that were identified as target areas “due to concentrations of children with elevated blood lead levels (EBLL) being monitored by SLCPHD on its State-mandated Lead Poisoning Prevention caseload.”

In total, the homes that were part of the program included four pregnant women, 35 children under six, 25 children between the ages of six and 17-years-old and three visiting children under six-years-old.

Two visiting children under six and 17 of the resident children under six had EBLL, officials say.

Eight units were located in Ogdensburg, while two more were in Gouverneur and one in Massena. The remaining properties were distributed throughout the county, officials say.

Of the properties included, 17 of 23 were built before 1920, while five were built between 1920 and 1945 and one was built between 1946 and 1979.

A total of seven lead abatement contractor trainings were conducted, with 67 individuals in total in attendance.

But that figure was not nearly enough, with officials saying that if such a program were undertaken in the future, additional contractors and laborers to ensure the projects can be completed in a timely fashion.

Officials say each project is required to be completed within 10 days of entry, per HUD regulations, further complicating the program that was initially delayed by the COVID pandemic.

County officials were successful in obtaining a one year extension to complete the program, pushing the end date to Oct. 2023, which also enabled the county to expend all funds on the projects.

In some cases, those projects went well over the \$20,000 budget originally allotted to them.

Legislator Jim Reagen questioned whether HUD gave the county any leeway given the remote nature of the projects, which were spread across the county.

Public Health officials say after lengthy conversations and constant communication, HUD allowed the county more leeway to ensure the work could be completed.

Of the projects completed, 13 required special dispensations to utilize more funds to complete the work.

Those requirements added time to the process but the “handlers were able to understand the processes and housing needs of St. Lawrence County,” public health officials said.

The Town of Madrid Planning Board will have a public hearing for comments on the digester project at 6:00 before their monthly meeting on February 15th, 2024.

The Town of Madrid Planning Boards regular monthly meeting will be rescheduled from February 1st to February 15th at 6:30 PM.

Zoe Hawkins,
Town Clerk
Dated: 02/01/2024

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Articles of Organization of Green Coat Photography, LLC (the “LLC”) were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (“SSNY”) on January 5, 2024, effective upon the date of filing. Office Location: St. Lawrence County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 11681 State Highway 37, Lisbon, New York 13658. Purpose: General.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Fire Commissioners of the West Stockholm Fire District, West Stockholm, New York seeks the submission to them of sealed bid proposals for the price of sale and delivery to the Fire District of one (1) new fully equipped diesel engine pumper tanker fire truck, so designed, constructed and equipped to comply with the specifications prescribed by the Board of Fire Commissioners. Bidders must also comply with the specifications required of them. Bids shall be sealed and marked “New diesel engine pumper tanker fire truck” and must be delivered by mail or in person to the Board of Fire Commissioners of the West Stockholm Fire District not later than 5:00 P.M. on February 26, 2024. All bids are to be opened publicly and read aloud at 5:00 P.M. on February 26, 2024 at West Stockholm, New York. The Board of Fire Commissioners expressly reserves the right to reject any or all of such bids for whatever reason they deem appropriate.

A bid bond in the amount of not less than ten percent (10%) of the highest, alternate bid, with the manufacturer of the apparatus as principal, shall accompany all bids. Upon award of the contract, a performance bond must, at the option of the Board of Fire Commissioners, be supplied at one hundred percent (100%) of the amount of the accepted bid.

Prospective bidders should also take notice that the obligations of the Board of Fire Commissioners are expressly contingent upon the obtaining of necessary financing and voter approvals as required by law.

Prospective bidders should also take note of the time limitations and constraints for delivery of the vehicle and performance of the obligations as set forth in the bid specifications, together with the liquidated damages clause as is set forth in the bid specifications in the event of late delivery and/or noncompliance.

Complete sets of the bid specifications and related documents may be obtained from the Fire District Treasurer; to wit, Sheryl A. Campbell, West Stockholm Fire District, Post Office Box 1, West Stockholm, New York 13696.

Email Address: Weststockholmfiredistrict@gmail.com.



Lisa Cardinal | Courtesy

SLC skaters compete at Empire Games

Skaters from Potsdam, Canton and Ogdensburg figure skating clubs (pictured above) are attending the Empire State Games. The local skaters attended opening ceremonies Thursday, Feb. 1. The games ran Friday for figure skating and continued on Sunday with the synchronized skating teams.

Relief for 'cabin fever' coming to Canton

BY PAUL MITCHELL
North Country This Week

CANTON – For decades, Canton Winterfest has served as a way for Canton and Canton area residents to treat cases of cabin fever.

This year, the Canton Rotary Club will continue that tradition by hosting a Cabin Fever Reliever Dinner on Feb. 29 at the 1844 House, Rt. 11, Potsdam.

The event also inspires the Canton Rotary Club's motto, "Service Above Self" with net proceeds from the dinner earmarked for the Church & Community Program food pantry.

"The members of Rotary believe that they have a shared responsibility to take action on our world's most persistent issues," stated Kathryn L. Mullaney, Canton Rotary Club president. "One way the Canton club does this is by supporting the Church and Community Program food pantry, contributing over \$10,000 over the last seven years."

The dinner will begin at 6 p.m. at a cost of \$75 per person. The menu includes a choice of soup or salad, entree choices of Dijon salmon, airline chicken, ribeye steak with demi-glaze, or vegetarian seasonal risotto served with mashed

potatoes and vegetables, and a dessert of mousse or pie. Takeout dinners will be available.

Interested diners need to call Jeanne Tyo-Martin at (315) 379-1520 or text Mullaney at (315) 244-9803 by Feb. 22.

"The mission of the Church and Community Program is, in turn, to provide food, clothing and other essentials to those in need by using the funds that the Canton Rotary Club can raise," Mullaney said.

Canton Winterfest 2024 will be coordinated by the St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce with details to be announced at a later date.

SLC roadwork costs to rise after state changes

BY JEFF CHUDZINSKI
North Country This Week

CANTON -- Road maintenance work will be more expensive for the county moving forward after state Department of Transportation officials changed how equipment rental rates are charged internally.

According to County Highway Department Superintendent Don Chambers, the news came months after the county had already finalized the 2023 budget. Paving projects were already underway when the change was announced.

"During the 2023 budget year, basically midway through the year, NYS DOT informed us equipment rental rates they would be charging internally would be changed," Chambers told legislators Jan. 29 during the finance committee meeting.

When putting together the 2023 budget, Chambers said he and legislators were told by state DOT officials to use 2017 rates, which have been used every year for budget planning since those rates were

implemented.

"They were the only rates we had and we were instructed to use the rates from 2017," he said.

Somewhere along the way, however, state DOT officials instructed Chambers that rental rates would match FEMA rates during 2023.

Due to a lack of snow during the early 2023 winter season, more road maintenance work was done by the county Highway Department, Chambers said.

Chambers said he initially moved to increase appropriations for winter maintenance materials like sand and salt and to increase machinery rental lines last year.

Now, appropriations are shifting and winter maintenance materials and snow machinery rental appropriations have been decreased by \$241,000.

In a concurrent move, the machinery rental appropriations have been increased by \$241,000.

The budget modification was passed during the finance committee meeting and will now move to the full board for final approval.

SLC gets grant to combat homelessness

CANTON -- St. Lawrence County has been awarded a share of a \$2.1 million federal grant to provide housing assistance and supportive services for those experiencing homelessness.

Federal officials with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the grant as part of a \$3.16 billion Continuum of Care Program that will see over 7,000 projects receive grant funding across the country.

Officials say Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties will receive a combined grant of \$2,100,877 as part of the program. Franklin and Essex Counties will receive \$299,322. In contrast, New York City will receive \$167,552,940 as part of the program.

In total, programs based in New York will receive \$303,078,527, federal officials say.

"Now, more than ever, we are doing all we can to get people off the street and into permanent homes with access to services. That is why we are making sure the service providers on the frontlines of this crisis have the resources they need," said HUD Secretary Marcia L. Fudge. "At HUD, we have served or permanently housed 1.2 million people experiencing homelessness in the last three years alone. The historic awards we are announcing today will

help expand community capacity to assist more people obtain the safety and stability of a home, along with the support they need to achieve their life goals."

HUD's Continuum of Care Program is the "backbone" federal program supporting community homelessness response systems across the country, providing grants to nonprofit providers, States, Indian Tribes, and local governments for permanent and short-term housing assistance, supportive services, planning, data, and other costs.

The \$3.16 billion announced today represents the largest-ever amount of CoC Program funding awarded to communities to address homelessness in history and provides a critical expansion of resources at a time when rates of homelessness are rising in most communities.

Included in the \$3.16 billion of total awards, approximately \$136 million was made available for competitive and non-competitive Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) renewal and replacement grants.

The 2023 awards also include approximately \$57 million for new projects that will support housing and service needs for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.



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Ash Wednesday

February 14

Ashes-To-Go on the front steps 7-7:30am

.....
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Sex offender charged in Norfolk

NORFOLK -- A St. Lawrence County registered sex offender was accused of failing to register his change of address late last year, according to St. Lawrence County sheriff's deputies.

Tyler E. Provost, 28, Canton, was charged with failure to report a change of address as a registered sex offender, felony, officers said.

The incident was reported Dec. 17 and he was charged Feb. 2, deputies said.

Provost is being held at county jail on unrelated charges, officers said.



Submitted

New officers sworn in

Mayor Alexandra Jacobs-Wilke (at right in both photos above) held her first swearing in of new officers at the Potsdam Police Department on Jan. 29. Dias Barnett (in the top photo at left), a SUNY Potsdam student originally from Nyack New York, and Brenden Flanagan (in the bottom photo at left) of Massena, took their oaths of office with family and fellow PD members looking on. Barnett, having previously completed the first phase of his police academy at SUNY Potsdam last year, will begin his final steps towards police certification this month. Flanagan has already started his training with the David Sullivan Police Academy at SUNY Canton and will be hitting the road for field training after graduation in June. "The Potsdam Police Department proudly welcomes these newest members to our ranks," said Chief Michael Ames.

Sheriff warns of scam

CANTON — The St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Office has recently been inundated with complaints from citizens reporting the receipt of a fraudulent document titled "ORDER OF ARREST."

According to the Sheriff's Office, unscrupulous individuals are exploiting this scam, demanding payment to cancel the alleged arrest order.

The fake "ORDER OF ARREST" appears to target residents of St. Lawrence County, creating a sense of urgency and fear among recipients.

The scammers claim that a payment is required to nullify the purported arrest warrant.

St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Office wants to unequivocally state that this document is entirely fake.

The St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Office, would never forward an "ORDER OF ARREST" through such means.

Moreover, under no circumstances would the Sheriff's Office demand payment over the phone to cancel an arrest warrant.

Citizens are urged to exercise caution and vigilance, the Sheriff's Office said.

If you receive a phone call or are presented with this fraudulent document, refrain from forwarding any funds.

Instead, contact law enforcement immediately to report the incident. The Sheriff's Office can be reached at 315-379-2222.

The St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Office is actively investigating this matter.

SLC unemployment rate rises

The unemployment rate in St. Lawrence County currently stands at 5.2%, without seasonal adjustment, 0.7 percent higher than the New York state seasonally adjusted rate.

According to a state Department of Labor report issued this week, the county's unemployment rate increased 1.2 percent when comparing Dec. 2022 to Dec. 2023.

The state unemployment rate is

4.5 percent.

In neighboring counties, the unemployment in Jefferson County is 5.4 percent, up 1.1 percent from 4.3 percent in Dec. 2022. Franklin County's unemployment rate is 4.6 percent, an increase of 1.0 percent from 3.6 percent in Dec. 2022.

Rates are calculated using methods prescribed by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Inmate sentenced for killing Gouverneur Correctional Facility cellmate

CANTON — St. Lawrence County District Attorney Gary M. Pasqua announced Thursday, Feb. 1 the sentencing of Londell Dyson, 34, of Dutchess County for his convictions of first-degree manslaughter and second-degree assault.

A St. Lawrence County trial jury found Londell Dyson guilty in October of killing his cell mate while housed at the Gouverneur Correctional Facility.

Dyson was sentenced to a persistent felony offender after it was determined at a separate hearing that his criminal history and the nature and circumstances of his crimes were such that an enhanced sentence would best serve the public interest, a press release

from Pasqua said.

Londell Dyson was sentenced to an indeterminate term of incarceration of 20 years to life on his first-degree manslaughter conviction, and an indeterminate term of incarceration of 15 years to life on his second-degree assault conviction. The sentences will run concurrently.

Pasqua commended Assistant District Attorneys Jamie Biondolillo and Michael Abbruzzese for their work in assisting him to secure this conviction.

He also thanked the New York State Department of Corrections and the New York State Police for their assistance with the prosecution.

911 call center licenses approved in SLC

BY JEFF CHUDZINSKI
North Country This Week

CANTON -- As the county continues to plan a massive upgrade to the county Public Safety Complex, legislators continue to take action to ensure services will go uninterrupted.

Legislators approved a resolution during the Jan. 7 services committee meeting to add five call-taking licenses for the 911 dispatch centers.

According to legislators, the license will include two in the dispatch center, one for the supervisor of dispatch and one for the backup 911 center in Massena.

By adding the additional licenses, officials say the 911 call centers will be able to streamline call taking and expediting throughout St. Lawrence County.

Over the last 25 years, the Office of Emergency Services has utilized Intrado for phone services, officials say. That system has been updated recently to allow for direct interfacing with the Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) software from Spillman, which significantly aids in 911 call taking and expediting, according to legislators.

By adding the licenses, however, the county is also added to the maintenance costs associated with the equipment, computer systems and support contracts.

Maintenance costs are typically

budgeted within multiple State and Federal grants; however, with recent changes within the grant claiming process and increasing costs of services in which the Office of Emergency Services utilizes, the maintenance cost is no longer paid for by the grants," the resolution states.

Legislators say the county is contracted as an end-user with the Houston Galveston Area Council (H-GAC), which "allows local governments and certain non-profits to contract or agree under the terms of the Act to make purchases or provide purchasing services and other administrative functions appropriately established by another agency, where these products and services are contracted after having been subjected to either a competitive bid (IFB) or competitive proposal (RFP) process."

The Office of Emergency Services does have funding available in the budget for personnel and contractual accounts due to reduced costs throughout the year, according to Director of Emergency Services Matt Denner.

The budget modification associated with the five additional licenses comes in at \$41,676.

Renovations to the public safety complex are set to begin this spring and will take nine to 12 months.

Legislators previously approved spending \$5 million in American

Rescue Plan Act funds for the project from the 2021 award.

The public safety complex was the first to be deemed ready for construction, county officials said at the time.

The acting architect on the project will be Beardsley Design & Associates, working on behalf of the county to conduct the necessary activities for the bid process.

Joe Prashaw, the buildings and grounds supervisor assigned to the county administrator's office, will be assigned to represent the county as the owner's representative and clerk of the works.

The building is currently occupied by the Sheriff's Office road patrol and civil enforcement divisions, Emergency Services (PSAP), Planning and Conflict Defender, along with New York State Police, who lease space on the first floor.

The project includes a Public Safety Answering Point (911 Center) for the County with expanded workstations and upgraded technology, a new Emergency Services Suite, a District Attorney's Office and Grand Jury Suite, a new location for the Civil Office of the Sheriff's Office, and a new suite for the Detectives of the Sheriff's Office.

The County will also look to address the safety of the tower, landscaping, and the grade of the building on the side facing Court Street.



Mark Your Calendars!!

Potsdam Humane Society

Upcoming Events

SHOE DRIVE

March 17 (St. Patrick's Day) to May 12 (Mother's Day)

Donate lightly worn shoes to raise money for the shelter animals and provide shoes throughout the world. Collection Containers will be available at the shelter. Time to clean the closet!

STRUT YOUR MUTT DOG WALK AND CRAFT FAIR

May 4 at Pine Street Arena

To request Vendor Application, Walker Pledge Sheet or donate raffle prizes, please call 315-265-3199 or email director@potsdamhumanesociety.org. Watch for updates!

Potsdam Humane Society, 17 Madrid Ave., Potsdam, NY 13676

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www.potsdamhumanesociety.org https://www.facebook.com/potsdamhumanesociety



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WHAT'S GOING ON

FRIDAY, FEB. 9

BackWater Duo

PARISHVILLE -- The BackWater Duo will perform Friday, Feb. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Valentine's Party at Amvets Post 265, 5 Catherine St. Free Valentine's Day Swag basket giveaway.

Colton Winterfest

COLTON -- The Annual Colton Winterfest will be held Feb. 9-11, with a wide variety of events. Cardboard sled races, a frying pan toss, corn hole, archery, craft and vendor sale, a white elephant sale, Trivia, Kids Fest and Shrek the Musical are among the events. A ski challenge with distance markers will be offered at Higley Flow State Park both Saturday and Sunday. Also, the sledding hill at the Fish and Game Club will be open for the weekend. Events for Friday, Feb. 9 include: spaghetti dinner 2:45-5:00 p.m. as grab and go, and 5-7 p.m. dine in or until sold out; Boys JV vs. Tupper Lake will play at 5:30 p.m., followed by Boys Varsity vs. Tupper Lake at 7 p.m.; Ski challenge at Higley Flow State Park with distance markers; Music sponsored by

Robideau's Mahogany Ridge 9 p.m.-midnight.

Yoga + Meditation

CANTON -- "The Energy of Abundance," a workshop co-taught by yoga teacher Denise Kerr and meditation coach Molly Williams. Session begins with a restorative yoga class followed by a guided meditation. Suitable for all levels of previous yoga and meditation experience. Event is a fundraiser for the Canton Yoga Loft. 6:00 p.m., - 7:15 p.m., Friday, February 9, 2024. \$15. Canton Yoga Loft, canton.yoga.loft@gmail.com, 3156058637. Canton Yoga Loft 21 Miner Street, Canton, NY.

Kirk and Miller concert

CANTON - The Cabin Fever Concert series at The TAUNY Center will feature John Kirk and Trish Miller on Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. This acoustic duet, featuring John Kirk as the primary vocalist and instrumentalist (fiddle, mandolin, etc.) and Trish Miller on banjo, guitar, and footwork, has been performing and teaching in upstate New York for over three decades. They present a repertoire rooted in old-time

music, mixed with originals, Celtic, early country songs, humorous selections, and Appalachian clog dancing. Both are music instructors at Skidmore College, and John is part of the music faculty at Bennington College as well. They have received various accolades, including John's induction into the North American Fiddler's Hall of Fame. As teaching artists, they have conducted school programs and residencies in music and dance heritage since the 1990s. Their performance highlights include appearances at notable festivals and music camps such as the Flurry in Saratoga, Great Camp Sagamore in the Adirondacks, and the Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival. Tickets are \$10 each. Reserve seats at TAUNY via donation online at <https://tauny-folkstore.myshopify.com/collections/programs>.

Fiberistas show

COLTON -- The Fiberistas, a group of quilters known for their annual challenge quilts unveiled at TAUNY each year, will set up a small quilt display in the Colton Hepburn Library for Winterfest 2024. The times available for viewing their work will be Friday, Feb. 9, from 9 a.m.-noon and Saturday, Feb. 10, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Strictly Hip Tribute Band

BRASHER FALLS -- "The Strictly Hip," a tribute band to The Tragically Hip Band, will perform Friday, Feb. 9, at Pike's Place, Brasher Falls, 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. Based in Buffalo, the band performs for The Hip's American fan base across North America. Cost is \$28.52. To order tickets: TheStrictlyHip.com.

Winter hiking class

POTSDAM - The class Winter Hiking for Beginners with Jessica Heck will be offered Feb. 9 from 5-6:30 p.m. at Anchorspace Potsdam, 22 Depot St., Suite 19. Have you always wanted to adventure in the woods and mountains in the winter, but you're unsure where to start? Join Heck to get the basics of getting into the backcountry safely with this beginner's class on winter hiking. Heck will provide a packing list and resources to check trails, weather, and conditions, along with tips and tricks for keeping warm and safe in the backcountry. This class is set in a classroom. There will be no actual hiking outside this time. \$25/person or free for Anchorspace members. For more information: <https://anchorspacepotdam.com/events>

SATURDAY, FEB. 10

Cardboard sled race

CANTON - Nature Up North's 6th Annual Cardboard Sled Race is slated for Saturday, Feb. 10, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at the SUNY Canton Sledding Hill, 34 Cornell Dr. With the race just around the corner, racers can start building their sled using cardboard, duct tape, and recyclable plastic bags. Nature Up North will also have sleds for participants to borrow if sledders just want to take some runs down the hill.

Cardboard sled races

CANTON - Nature Up North's 6th Annual Cardboard Sled Race will be Saturday, Feb. 10, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., 34 Cornell Dr., SUNY Canton sledding hill. Sled racers can use cardboard, duct tape, and recyclable plastic bags to build their championship racer. Organizers will also have sleds to borrow for those who just want to take some runs down the hill. Nature Up North will hold several cardboard sled-building workshops before this event. Visit the Nature Up North website for more information. . 0:00 a.m., - 1 p.m. a.m., Saturday, February 10, 2024. Free.

Chili and hot dog lunch

COLTON -- The Well Community Church is sponsoring a chili and hot dog luncheon as part of Colton Winterfest activities on Saturday, Feb. 10, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Colton-Pierrepont Central School cafeteria. Proceeds will be donated.

Colton Winterfest

COLTON -- The Annual Colton Winterfest will be held Feb. 9-11, with a wide variety of events. Cardboard sled races, a frying pan toss, corn hole, archery, craft and vendor sale, a white elephant sale, Trivia, Kids Fest and Shrek the Musical are among the events. A ski challenge with distance markers will be offered at Higley Flow State Park both Saturday and Sunday. Also, the sledding hill at the Fish and Game Club will be open for the weekend. Events for Saturday, Feb. 10: Free clothing giveaway 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at CPCS; White Elephant Sale 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Colton Community Church; Soup and sandwiches and bake sale 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Colton Community Church; Craft & Vendor Sale 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Colton Amvets Post 262 downstairs, sponsored by Lisa Fisher; Introduction to Archery 12 p.m. and Cardboard Sled Races with prizes 1 p.m. both held at Fish and Game Club; Shrek the Musical will be performed Saturday at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the school by the Colton-Pierrepont Music Department; Wood Carver 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Robideau's Mahogany Ridge; Chili Dinner and Hot Dogs 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the school sponsored by the Well; Trivia 3 p.m. at Raquette River Pub; Live music with Tropical Theme 8 p.m. at Raquette River Pub; quilt show at the library from 9-3.

Contra dance calling

CANTON - The TAUNY Center, 53 Main St., will offer three workshops titled Contra Dance Calling 101 on Saturdays, Feb. 10, March 2 & April 6, 2-4 p.m., at a fee of \$15. The TAUNY Center, Canton, NY Experienced North Country dance caller Beth Robinson will lead the workshops for participants to learn how to become contra dance callers. Participants will learn the language of the dance calls, including standard actions, how to give clear directional and etiquette instruction, and how to plan for a complete successful dance event. Participants will learn to call a dance and by the end of the workshop series actually do so (under Beth Robinson's guidance) at the May 4th Contra Dance at The TAUNY Center. Participants must attend all three workshops in order to be fully prepared to call a dance. Registration is required, and space is limited. For more information contact TAUNY at 315-386-4289.

Free Rock-N-Skate

CANTON -- A free Rock-N-Skate will be held Saturday, Feb. 10, starting at 7 p.m. at the Canton Pavilion. It will also include free skate rentals, hot chocolate, and pizza. The event is sponsored by SVPC Tobacco Free Communities and Reality Check. Their mission is to provide recreation, fitness, special events and wellness opportunities for local residents.

Frozen Foote Race

CANTON -- Frozen Foote 2023 Race Series starts Feb. 10. Registration opens at 9:30 a.m. with a starting time of 10:30 a.m. from the circle by Newell Field House on the St. Lawrence University campus. Race fee will be \$10 for the series and \$4 for an individual race. Walkers encouraged to begin early so everyone is off the course before noon. Runners and walkers of all ages and abilities are encouraged to participate. This is a 4 mile out-and-back route along Miner Street Road.

Kid's Valentine's lunch

NORFOLK - The Community Lunch Program for Kids will host Valentine's Day Fun for youngsters on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the (Norfolk) Hepburn Library Community Room. Those attending will listen to Valentine's Day stories, work on Valentine's Day crafts and cards, as well as frost and decorate Valentine's Day cookies to take home.

Lunar year concert

POTSDAM - Potsdam Public Library will play host to a concert celebrating the moon in one of its major roles, the Lunar New Year, also known as the Chinese New Year, on Feb. 10 at 1 p.m. The concert will consist of an ensemble made up of students from the Crane School of Music, some of whom are also members of the Orchestra of Northern New York, as well as professional musicians and faculty members Tim Yip, Risa Okina, and Ziyu Wang. There also will be a literacy component, led by Potsdam Public Library's family literacy specialist, Maria Morrison, who will read several children's books that celebrate the Lunar New Year. Free children's books on the Lunar New Year will also be available to bring home. This is a free family event, suitable for all ages.

Open mic

NORFOLK -- Singer-Songwriter Shawn Stoddard will host a Valentine's Day Open Mic at The Coach Tavern, 3 West Main St., Saturday, Feb. 10 at 8 p.m. Free Valentine's Day Swag basket giveaway.

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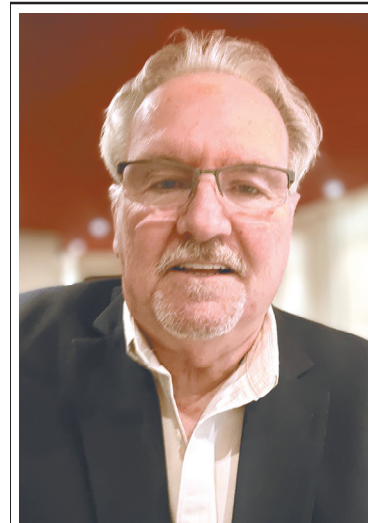
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CALENDAR . . .

[Continued from page 10.]

Rock N' Skate

POTSDAM -- A Rock N' Skate will be held at Potsdam Pine Street Arena on Saturday, Feb. 10, from 3:00-4:00 p.m. All ages welcome. Cost is \$5. Skate rentals available. Proceeds support the renovation project at the Creative Spirit Community Arts Center. For more info, contact host SLC Arts at arts@slcartscouncil.org or 315.265.6860.

Author talk

CANTON -- Author Amy Godine relates stories from her new book, *The Black Woods*, about Black pioneers who integrated a swath of the Adirondack frontier, at the St. Lawrence County Historical Society, 3 East Main St. from 2-3 p.m. \$5 suggested donation. Book signing to follow the talk. Inclement weather date: Tuesday, February 27th, at 5:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.slcha.org, call (315) 386-8133, or contact carlene@slcha.org.

SUNDAY, FEB. 11

Astronomy sermon

CANTON - The Unitarian Universalist Church in Canton serving the North Country will host Dr. Aileen O'Donoghue as a pulpit guest on Sunday, Feb. 11, 10:30 a.m. for the service, *Immersed in Wonder*. All North Country community members are welcome and invited to attend. Dr. O'Donoghue is a research astronomer specializing in radio frequency observations of galaxies and teaches physics and astronomy at St. Lawrence University. The service will be followed by a social hour.

Colton Winterfest

COLTON -- The Annual Colton Winterfest will be held Feb. 9-11, with a wide variety of events. Cardboard sled races, a frying pan toss, corn hole, archery, craft and vendor sale, a white elephant sale, Trivia, Kids Fest and *Shrek the Musical* are among the events. A ski challenge with distance markers will be offered at Higley Flow State Park both Saturday and Sunday. Also, the sledding hill at the Fish and Game Club will be open for the weekend. Events for Sunday Feb. 11: Free clothing giveaway 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at CPCS; Kids Fest with pancake eating contest, buddy sled race, s'mores and snow painting 11 a.m.-2 p.m. sponsored by Red Pine Cone; Fry pan toss followed by corn hole tournament 10 a.m. at Colton Amvets 262; White Elephant Sale 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Colton Community Church; Superbowl Festivities 6:30 p.m. at Raquette River Pub; Kids Fest with fish crafts from 1-3 sponsored by South of the Rock Bait, Beer and Tackle Shop at the South Colton Community Center.

Poetry Open Mic

POTSDAM -- Poetry Open Mic will be held Sunday Feb. 11, 2-4 p.m. at the Potsdam Public Library. The community is invited to an afternoon of poetry and self-expression with St. Lawrence Area Poets' (SLAP) "exotic" John Berbrich as he leads this monthly series. Whether you're a seasoned poet or just starting out, this in-person event is the perfect opportunity to share your work and connect with fellow poetry enthusiasts.

TUESDAY, FEB. 13

Free ham or brisket

POTSDAM - A Dorothy Day Café dinner will be offered Tuesday, Feb. 13 from 5:30-7 p.m. at St. Mary's Church community room, 20 Lawrence Ave. On the menu: Ham or brisket, macaroni & cheese, salad, dessert. Dinner is free, but donations are welcome. All are welcome to attend. Reservations appreciated but not required at 315-265-9680. Park out back and enter by the handicapped-accessible entrance.

Lenten luncheons begin

COLTON -- Community Lenten luncheons will begin on Mardi Gras Tuesday, Feb. 13 at noon at the Colton Community Church, 11 Church St. More luncheons

featuring food, prayer and music will be held Feb. 21 and 28, and March 6, 13 and 20. The event will be hosted by St. Patrick's Catholic Church and the Colton Community Church. All are welcome. Transportation is available by calling or texting Karen at 315-244-4334.

WEDS., FEB. 14

Ash Wednesday Service

POTSDAM -- The Potsdam United Methodist Church (26 Main Street) will offer two opportunities to receive ashes on Ash Wednesday. Pastor Heidi will be on the front steps of the church from 7 to 7:30am offering Ashes-To-Go. At 6pm, we will hold An Observance of Ash Wednesday service in the Sanctuary. The Potsdam United Methodist Church is handicapped accessible.

Ash Wednesday service

CANTON - The Canton UMC, 41 Court St., will host its Ash Wednesday Service on Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 12 p.m. in the sanctuary. All are welcome to attend.

Valentine's dinner, show

CANTON -- A Valentine's Dinner & Show with comedian Dylan Gott will be held Wednesday, Feb. 14 from 6-9 p.m. at the Best Western University Inn, 90 E. Main St. There will be a 4-course dinner and a show offered, or the comedy show only. Reservations are required. Call: 315-714-2643 or visit www.staystlawrence.com.

THURSDAY, FEB. 15

Tri-Town Winter Carnival

BRASHER --The 2024 Tri-Town Winter Carnival runs from Feb. 15-18 with their 'Cheers to 50 Years' celebration. On Thursday, Feb. 15: Sip and Paint 6-8 p.m. The Red Barn at Pike's Place, Brasher Falls; Skating Competition 5:25-7:35 p.m. Tri-Town Arena, Winthrop; Snowman/Sculpture Contest Deadline 4 p.m., Hammill Funeral Home, Tri-Town area; Royalty Announcement Costume Party/Dinner, 50s theme, 6-10 p.m. music by Andrew Lamora; Free jukebox 10 p.m.-midnight, The Riverview, Brasher Falls.

Yoda Nidra class

POTSDAM -- Join Yoda Nidra class with Kat Wilcox for an hour of Yoga to recharge the body, mind, and spirit at Potsdam Public Library on Thursday, Feb. 15, at 6 p.m. This class will include gentle movement and classic Yoga poses, followed by a guided Yoga Nidra meditation. Bring a yoga mat, pillow, and blanket if you have them. A limited number of yoga mats are available upon request. Spaces limited; to register: mawkey@gmail.com.

FRIDAY, FEB. 16

Comedy Show

BRASHER FALLS -- A comedy show and dinner at Pike's Place will open the Tri-Town 50th Winter Carnival Weekend on Friday, Feb. 16, at Pike's Place. Bryan Hatt and Patrick Hays will be entertainers for the night. Cocktails 6 p.m. Crowning of the Winter Festival Royalty 7 p.m., dinner 7:15-8 p.m., comedy show 8-9:30 p.m., DJ Wendy Crump 9:30-11 p.m.. Cost \$30 per person. For more info, contact Mallory: 1-315-250-6744.

Tri-Town Winter Carnival

BRASHER - The Tri-Town Winter Carnival runs Feb. 15-18. Events Friday, Feb. 16: Riverview Triathlon: Darts to benefit Kathy Carr 6 p.m., Riverview, Brasher Falls; Opening Ceremony at Pike's Place, Brasher Falls: Tickets \$30: 1-315-250-6744, semi-formal attire black/gold encouraged, cocktails 6 p.m., presentation of royalty and dinner by Gideon's Gallery 7 p.m., comedians Bryan Hatt and Patrick Hays 8-9:30 p.m., DJ Wendy Crump 9:30-11 p.m.; Music 'Divided Roads' 8-p.m.-midnight, The Riverview, Brasher Falls; Music DJ 'The Jug' 9 p.m.-midnight, North Lawrence.

Whiskey Room

POTSDAM -- McDuff's Pub & Grill, 59 Market St., will host the band Whiskey Room on Feb. 16 from 6-9 p.m.



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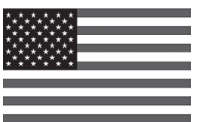
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No such thing as tenure status

Seven of my colleagues, all tenured faculty, some with more than 30 years of service to SUNY Potsdam, were recently summoned to HR and unceremoniously informed that they will be terminated in a year. At least now, after years of vague threats, they know they are getting fired.

Our union, UUP, has informed us that they will not fight the decision. Apparently, even they agree that being tenured in the SUNY System signifies nothing. If SUNY can fire faculty at will regardless of tenure status, then, on any reasonable understanding of tenure, there is no such thing.

Dr. Suzanne Smith, President of SUNY Potsdam, tried to control the message by sending a campus wide email. It speaks of "difficult decisions" and of "continuing to adjust our workforce to serve our existing enrollment." Such appeals are empty. The more difficult the decisions the more care one should take to justify them, both to oneself and to the world. Difficult decisions cry out for consultation and collaboration, and when that is all done, for some sort of public justification, particularly at a public institution.

One might think that Dr. Smith is professionally, and morally, obligated to attempt to show that the destruction of people's careers will address rather than exacerbate the college's financial difficulties. But astonishingly, to date, SUNY Potsdam has given no justification for discontinuing nine programs, which, in turn 'justified' destruction of an unknown number of careers. Those terminated, those to be terminated, those to be retained, indeed, the entire community need to hear more than platitudes. Merely crying out 'fiscal crisis' is simply unacceptable.

It is quite evident that this is just the beginning. As the discontinued programs get 'taught out' their surviving faculty make themselves obsolete by fulfilling their professional duties. Moreover, it is clear that these program discontinuances and resultant firings, devastating as they are, get SUNY Potsdam nowhere near to covering its deficit, though they certainly do undermine the academic integrity of what was once a respectable public institution of higher education. The college is already a shell of what it was. What it will become bodes ill for the educational, cultural, and economic health of the North Country.

David C.K. Curry
Professor of Philosophy, SUNY Potsdam

Willmart family says thank you

The Linda Willmart family wishes to thank all friends who called, sent cards, or stopped by with their condolences on our loss of a wife, mother, grandma, or friend.

Thanks to the Potsdam-Canton Hospital 2nd floor nurses and Intensive Care Unit team for the great care she received, and to Reverend Lee Sweeney, for all the visits and prayers he shared with her.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

**Roger, Kev & Jackie & Hunter,
Brian, Dan, The Willmart family,
and neighbors**

Potsdam Mosque extends helping hand

In a heartwarming display of community support, the local Potsdam mosque has generously contributed \$1000 to the student-founded non-profit organization, Second Chance Scholars. Founded by Brandon Rodriguez, Second Chance Scholars is a non-profit organization dedicated to aiding individuals tran-

sitioning from incarceration into society.

The organization focuses on facilitating successful reintegration through educational opportunities upon release.

This significant donation, in partnership with Potsdam@RCF, is making a tangible impact by assisting a deserving student in securing housing upon release, allowing them to continue their education in HVAC at SUNY Canton.

The Potsdam mosque, known for its commitment to community welfare, has demonstrated its dedication by donating \$1000 to Second Chance Scholars. This gesture underscores the mosque's ethos of supporting local initiatives that aim to empower individuals through education.

"There are so many people who struggle with dignity in life and who are wronged and judged, maybe even heartbroken. They don't find anyone to give them a hand or ask how they are doing, to help alleviate their sorrow or to protect them. The messenger of God, Mohammed (God's Blessings and Peace upon him) ordered Muslims with seven things: he reminded of visiting the sick, to walk behind funeral processions, to bless one who sneezes, to reply to greeting, to support a wronged (person), to answer a call, and to honor commitments). Through this donation, our mosque is supporting a person who deserves the second chance he is pursuing, is answering a call of duty, and is honoring our commitment to the well-being of all human beings" Imam Tarik Ait Maatallah said.

Second Chance Scholars, a non-profit organization founded by a student, focuses on providing opportunities for individuals seeking to rebuild their lives through education. The organization strives to create pathways for those who have faced adversity, ensuring they have a second chance to pursue academic and professional goals. The collaboration with Potsdam@RCF further amplifies the impact of the mosque's donation. Potsdam@RCF, known for its commitment to community development, is playing a pivotal role in channeling resources to where they are needed the most, aligning with their mission to foster positive change within the local community.

The \$1000 contribution from the mosque, in conjunction with Potsdam@RCF, has been instrumental in securing housing for a student who is on the path to reintegration after being released. This support is particularly crucial for the student, who is set to continue their education in Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) at SUNY Canton. By facilitating housing for a student pursuing HVAC study, the initiative not only addresses immediate needs but also contributes to the long-term educational and career goals of the recipient.

The collaborative effort between the local Potsdam mosque, Second Chance Scholars, and Potsdam@RCF exemplifies the strength of community bonds and the positive impact that can be achieved when various entities join forces for a common cause. This donation not only provides tangible support to a student in need but also serves as a testament to the community's commitment to fostering second chances and facilitating educational opportunities for all.

Ayisha Khalid
SUNY Potsdam student

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**A digital detox:
No phone February**

In the hustle and bustle of our technologically driven lives, have you ever found yourself mindlessly scrolling through your phone, only to forget the simple reason you picked it up in the first place? I recently stumbled upon a thought-provoking reel on Instagram during my regular doom-scrolling session, where an individual reminisced about the pre-mobile phone era, pondering what we used to do while waiting for friends in a café. This reflection sparked a realization about the grip our devices have on our daily routines and the precious moments we might be missing. I seriously do not remember what I did when there was no phone during my childhood.

As a Ph.D. student at Clarkson, entrusted with planning my own lay, I've often found myself veering off course due to unforeseen digital distractions.

The constant notifications and colorful app interfaces are designed to keep us engaged and contribute to our increasing screen time. Have you ever innocently picked up your phone to check the time, only to find yourself lost in an app, 10 minutes later, having completely forgotten the original purpose? realizing the power of the app algorithm designed to keep you invested in them for as long as possible.

This introspection led me to a decision – a challenge for myself and anyone willing to join in – “No Phone February.” For the next 29 days (yes, even in a leap year), I'm committing to switch off my phone and rely on more traditional forms of communication, such as emails and letters.

Of course, occasional Zoom meetings and scheduled video calls with family and friends in India are inevitable, but constant reliance on my phone will be put on hold.

Intrigued by the Amish community's ability to schedule daily appointments without smartphones, I sought inspiration on embracing a simpler, less digitally dependent lifestyle. To capture daily memories, I'll be dusting off my vintage Kodak VR 35 film camera, replacing the instant gratification of smartphone photography with the nostalgia of film.

The upcoming month is sure to present challenges and unforeseen hurdles, but my hope is that this intentional break from smartphone dependency will offer valuable insights into our technology addictions. “No Phone February” isn't just a personal challenge; it's an invitation to step back, reassess our relationship with technology, and rediscover the joys of simpler, more deliberate living. Join me in this digital detox adventure, and let's explore a world beyond the screen together.

**Nagarajan Radhakrishnan
Potsdam**

**Socialism is not
a dirty word**

In his letter on Jan. 1, 2024, Ron Shirtz accused Ms. Hodges of name-calling, and claimed to care about carefully examining facts.

Despite this, the rest of his letter was far from rational. To start, Mr. Shirtz uses the term “socialism” as if it's a dirty word. How do I know his? Because he goes out of his way to define socialism as a dirty word in his letter.

“So like socialism, where a small elite in charge determines what's best for everyone?”

and
“Wages cannot keep up with the increase of 30% or more of the price of consumer goods. Raising the minimum wage exacerbates the problem.”

Sneaky name calling is still name calling. And Mr. Shirtz's above claims are nothing but name calling, but sneakier. Socialism is a political position that is concerned with providing social safety nets for average citizens.

Safety nets such as social security, workman's comp, healthcare, care for the disabled. Most other developed nations have socialized medical care.

Japanese citizens, for example, boast paying half of what US citizens do in healthcare costs, for objectively better service.

How much better? Life expectancy in Japan is about 6 years higher than in the USA.

The difference? Japan has a nationalized healthcare service, that is regulated by its government, that keeps costs low and quality high. In other words “socialism”.

The US? It allows private insurance companies to price-gouge the average American citizen, leading to many, many tragic and unnecessary deaths, all in the name of corporate greed.

As far as whether or not the minimum wage can keep up with the cost of consumer goods....

Wages for average Americans in the USA have been stagnating since the 1970's.

Prices have done nothing but increase. This cannot continue forever. The longer this continues, the more the rich will get richer, and the poor will get poorer.

If Mr. Shirtz cares to live in a world where the “to the victor, goes the spoils” he is more than welcome to continue supporting Donald Trump, a wealthy elitist.

Alternatively, if Mr. Shirtz (or any other readers of this letter) care to live in a country where we can afford

such luxuries as basic health care, rent, food, and shelter, it might just be time to reconsider whether or not “socialism” is a dirty word.

**Willow Shirtz
Canton**

**Donations sought
for graduation party**

The parents of the Senior Class of 2024 at Norwood-Norfolk Central School are planning for the annual “Drug and Alcohol Free All-Night Graduation Party.” This will be the 73rd anniversary of this time honored tradition at our school.

This party has a history of being a gift that the parents and the community give to the graduating seniors. It is designed to provide a safe, wholesome and enjoyable evening for our graduating sons and daughters.

This year's party will take place following graduation. We are hoping to provide food, various forms of entertainment, games and prizes for approximately 73 graduating seniors.

Please help us in our efforts to keep our children safe and off the roads during this very important time of their lives. Any contributions to their worthwhile event would be greatly appreciated.

We are also accepting donations of merchandise and/or gift certificates. Our organization is a registered 501(c)(3), which permits your gifts to be tax deductible.

Thank you in advance for your

consideration of donations. This event would not be possible if it weren't for the generosity of businesses and community members like you.

Checks can be made payable to “NNCS Drug & Alcohol Free Party”

and mailed to NNCS Drug & Alcohol Free Party, PO Box 216, Norfolk, NY 13667.

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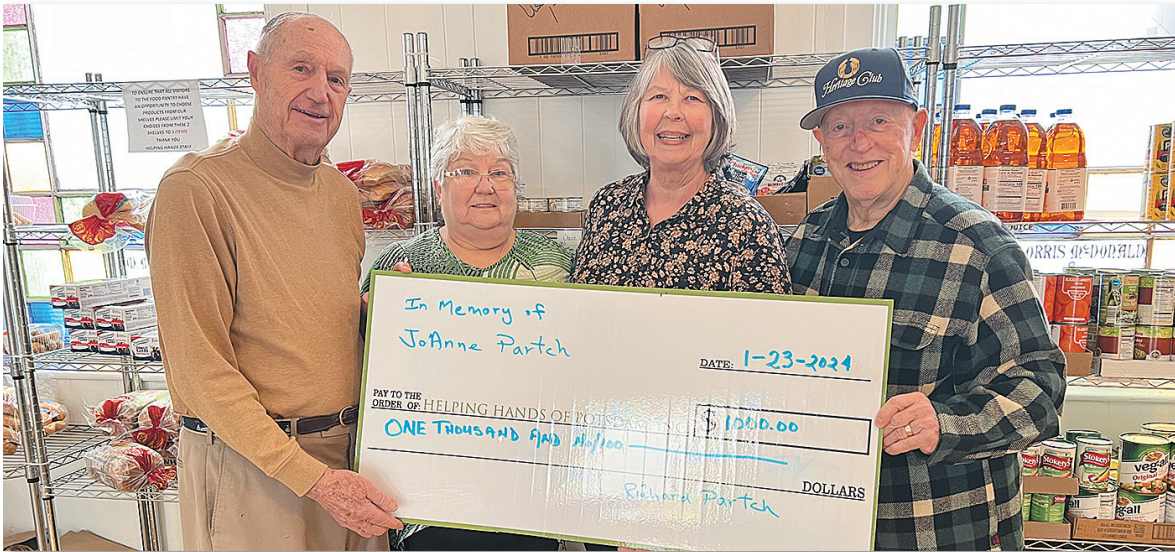
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Neighbors helping neighbors



Casella Waste Systems recently made a \$5,000 donation for the annual Cindy Talcott Memorial Golf Tournament. From the left are Casella Market Area Manager Bill Meyers, Casella Territory Sales representative Helen Sullivan, Helping Hands Executive Director Tamie Sauve, and Helping Hands Golf Tournament committee member Kevin Talcott.



Helping Hands of Potsdam (Hannawa Falls) recently acknowledged the Partch Family and honored the late JoAnne Partch for a generous donation of \$1,000 to support the organization's operations. From the left are Richard Partch, Florence Wright, Betty Connolly, and Roger Hart.



LaVigne's IGA of Potsdam raised \$2,000 for the Potsdam Holiday Fund through the sale of "Holiday Happiness" tags. The Holiday Fund thanks IGA for its hard work and generosity in the sale of the tags, which they have done for the past 16 years, raising more than \$36,000 for the program. Left to right: Potsdam Holiday Fund board members Duane Pelkey, Laurean Pelkey and Carol Willmert, Front End Supervisor Paula Collett, Potsdam Holiday Fund President Traci Giffin, LaVigne's IGA of Potsdam Owner Kirk LaVigne, Meat Cutter Chip Giordano, Store Manager Amber Hughes, Deli/Bakery Manager Sue Tyler, Produce Manager Leslie Donovan, Deli Clerk Thomas Matthie, and Dairy/Frozen Manager Colleen LaPoint.



SeaComm recently presented \$10,000 to the St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum in Madrid. Pictured from left from the St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum Board of Trustees are President Ron Sheppard, Treasurer Lee Dezell, and SeaComm President & Chief Executive Officer Scott A. Wilson.



Sons of the Norwood American Legion donates to the Waddington's "Twenty-Second Annual Come Hook Some Cold Hard Cash Ice Fishing Derby" to be held February 10. Pictured from left are Norwood Sons of the Legion 1st Vice Chris Burnham, Waddington Donation Coordinator Kevin Patnode and Waddington SAL member John Bigelow.



Niles Asset Management, with offices in Brushton, Canton and Potsdam, recently donated \$3,000 in support of Fort Tribute. These funds will assist in the fort's ongoing operations. From left is Terry Niles, President of Niles Asset Management, Graham Niles, VP of Niles Asset Management and Scott Wilson, Fort Tribute Volunteer Coordinator.

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Astronomer to lead sermon at UU Church

CANTON – The Unitarian Universalist Church in Canton serving the North Country will host Dr. Aileen O’Donoghue as a pulpit guest on Sunday, Feb. 11, 10:30 a.m. for the service, Immersed in Wonder.

All North Country community members are welcome and invited to attend.

Dr. O’Donoghue is a research astronomer specializing in radio frequency observations of galaxies. She has used the Very Large Array radio telescope in New Mexico, the Arecibo Telescope in Puerto Rico, and the Green Bank Telescope in West Virginia.

O’Donoghue teaches physics and astronomy at St. Lawrence University.

“We’re so pleased to host Dr. O’Donoghue on the pulpit”, said Rev. James Galasinski, Minister of the church. “As UU’s we affirm and promote the direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life.”

In her work as a research astronomer and teacher, Dr. O’Donoghue explores the wonders of the universe.

“When we get dark and clear skies in the North Country, you can see that we live in a universe. It’s easy to forget that when we’re walking around under clouds, but there is a universe out there and it’s in motion and it’s dynamic, and it’s the origin of the very substance of ourselves and everything we know. It’s glorious to be able to see it and watch it move!”, said O’Donoghue in a conversation about the Milky Way with NCPR Host Todd Moe, who is also a member of UU Church of Canton.

Dr. O’Donoghue researches the appearance, motions, and origins of the Sun, Moon, stars, and Earth and observes the glow of galaxies hundreds of millions of light years away. When asked about the concept of awe she said, “Every day is a day to be amazed. The very existence of the universe and of our ability to perceive and analyze it creates awe that makes spirits soar.”

O’Donoghue will share the awe of the galaxies during her sermon with the broader community. The service begins at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, February 11, and will be followed by a social hour.

French Conversation Corner at library

POTSDAM – Calling all French speakers! Bienvenue à tous les francophones!

Are you a high beginner, intermediate, or advanced French speaker?

If so, you are invited to join the six-week French Conversation Corner at Potsdam Public Library, starting Thursday, Feb. 8, at 6:30 p.m.

Improve your comprehension and speaking skills through casual, semi-structured conversation. Please note that this is not a French language or grammar class.

Tri-Town Winter Carnival next week

BRASHER — Snow sculptures, outhouse and wheelbarrow races, corn hole and tug of war contests, food and live music are among the many events planned for the 2024 Tri-Town Winter Carnival Feb. 15-18.

The ‘Cheers to 50 Years’ celebration will also include a Snowmobile Poker Run, parade, bounce houses, craft fair, swimming at the elementary school, fireworks and more.

Thursday, Feb. 15

Sip and Paint 6-8 p.m. The Red Barn at Pike’s Place, Brasher Falls; Skating Competition 5:25-7:35 p.m. Tri-Town Arena, Winthrop; Snowman/Sculpture Contest Deadline 4 p.m., Hammill Funeral Home, Tri-Town area; Royalty Announcement Costume Party/Dinner, 50s theme, 6-10 p.m. music by Andrew Lamora; Free jukebox 10 p.m.-midnight, The Riverview, Brasher Falls.

Friday, Feb. 16

Riverview Triathlon: Darts to benefit Kathy Carr 6 p.m., Riverview, Brasher Falls; Opening Ceremony at Pike’s Place, Brasher Falls: Tickets \$30: 1-315-250-6744, semi-formal attire black/gold encouraged, cocktails 6 p.m., presentation of royalty and dinner by Gideon’s Gallery 7 p.m., comedians Bryan Hatt and Patrick Haye 8-9:30 p.m., DJ Wendy Crump 9:30-11 p.m.; Music ‘Divided Roads’ 8 p.m.-midnight, The Riverview, Brasher Falls; Music DJ ‘The Jug’ 9 p.m.-midnight, North Lawrence.

Saturday, Feb. 17

Craft Fair 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Middle School Cafeteria, Brasher Falls; Snow babies 9-10:30 a.m., Riverview, Brasher Falls; Longest icicle contest 9-10:30 a.m., Riverview; Snowshoe XC Ski Poker Run 9-10 a.m. DEC parking lot, Vice Rd, Brasher Falls; Storytime/Book sale 10:30-11:30 a.m. Badenhause Library, Brasher Falls; Trivia Game ends 3 p.m. Badenhause Library; Brasher Falls Teddy Bear Sleepover drop off bears 9-5 p.m. Badenhause Library; Parade 11 a.m. starts at ABCD Hardware, ends at SLC, Winthrop; Pulled Pork lunch 11 a.m.-1 p.m. or til sold out, North Lawrence VFD; Snowmobile Poker Run noon - 6 p.m. ends at Riverview, Brasher \$20 per hand.

Kids Zone at SLC Elementary School 12-3 p.m. with adult present: bounce house, carnival games, fun time coding, story time, Family Swim 1-2 p.m.; Frank’s Wing Eating Contest 1 p.m., Frank’s Pizzeria, Brasher Falls; Out House Races and Frying Pan Toss 1-3 p.m.

Helena Genera Store, Helena; Corn Hole Tournament 1 p.m. \$40 entry, to benefit Jesse Erickson family, Pike’s Place, Brasher Falls; Piano Recitals featuring CE students 1-3 p.m. Methodist Church, Brasher Falls;

Dangling Donuts 1-2 p.m. Maria Elaina’s Bakery & Diner, Brasher Falls; Charity Hockey Game 2:15 p.m. Tri-Town Arena, Brasher Falls, to benefit Tri-Town Food Pantry;

Bonfire S’mores 4-6 p.m. High Peaks Winery, Winthrop; Spaghetti Dinner 4-7 p.m. American Legion, Winthrop; 1950’s Family Sock Hop Creative Endeavors 6-8 p.m., Crapser Hall, Brasher Falls; Riverview Triathlon: Pool/Foosball to benefit Kathy Carr 6 p.m., Riverview, Brasher Falls; Band The Back Water Duo 6-10 p.m.; DJ 10 p.m.-midnight, Riv-

erview, Brasher Falls; Fireworks 8 p.m. Tri-Town Arena, Brasher Falls.

Sunday, Feb. 18

Pancake Breakfast by Helena Auxiliary 8-11 a.m. Helena Fire Dept.; All You Can Eat Breakfast Buffet 8-11 a.m.

The Pitstop Diner, North Lawrence; Family 50’s 5K Fun Run 9:30 a.m. registration, 10 a.m. race, ABCD Hardware start and end, Winthrop; Local Vendor Displays 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. ABCD Hardware, Winthrop, benefits TTCC; Basket weaving, Ceramic painting, and Acrylic painting 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Crapser Hall, Brasher Falls; Lawrenceville Fire

Dept.

Food & Games: 50’s Diner 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tug o’War 11 a.m.; Bed Races and Wheelbarrow races noon-2 p.m.; Volleyball in the Snow 1-3 p.m.; Art classes at Crapser Hall: Essential Oil Bracelet 11:30, Memory Bracelet 1 p.m.; Oil Painting 1 p.m.; Fire Painting 1:30 p.m.; ESTC Pony Riders & Games 2-4 p.m. 9455 St. Hwy 11, Winthrop; Bingo by Summer Festival 3-4:30 p.m. BWFD Fire Station, Brasher Falls; Closing Ceremony 5-7 p.m. The Pit Stop Diner, North Lawrence.



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Mean Girls
6:50, 9:15 pm Nightly **PG-13**
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Migration
7:00, 9:00 pm Nightly **PG**
Sat, Sun 1:00, 3:00

Mean Girls
6:50, 9:15 pm Nightly **PG-13**
Sat, Sun 12:30, 3:00

Anyone But You: The Valentine Encore
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Sat, Sun 12:30, 3:00

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AID...

proposed executive budget.

"This year that's been removed and we're seeing significant shifts in where the school aid is going," he said.

Districts that would be affected include Canton, Hammond, Madrid-Waddington, Morristown and Ogdensburg.

Those five districts aren't alone however, as Clifton-Fine is also set to lose nearly \$1 million under the proposed budget.

Clifton-Fine has also issued a statement to district residents, with Superintendent Matthew Southwick detailing a proposed cut of 24%, which would be a \$940,000 foundation aid reduction.

That would mean that taxpayers would be on the hook to make up the losses.

Foundation aid is essential for the fiscal health of many districts, according to north country reps, funds that are largely used for salaries, academic development and emergency projects up to a certain dollar amount.

Southwick was critical of the proposal, saying it "lacks care and concern for small rural communities such as ours and the ability for all students in the state to have the same opportunities regardless of where they live."

"We are located in the upper left corner of the Adirondack Park and are the largest employer in our area. Geographically our district is expansive as our neighboring districts to the west and east are 22 & 45 miles away respectively. To help underscore the student population we serve, it should be noted that according to Comptroller DiNapoli's website, 74% or 3 out of every 4 students walking our hallways daily are economically disadvantaged," Southwick wrote.

If foundation aid were cut to Clifton-Fine, Southwick said it would have "severe consequences in our ability to assist the students we serve," and could translate to a 21% increase in the tax levy for district residents.

School officials would also have no way to recoup those losses locally with a state imposed tax cap restriction, which limits the school's ability to raise revenue, he said.

"We acknowledge that our enrollment numbers may have decreased compared to when Save-Harmless

was enacted, largely in part due to factors such as local families leaving the North Country and the ease of home-schooling requirements. Yet, the needs of our students we serve have continued to increase significantly," Southwick wrote.

School officials say the district helps families with clothing needs, while also providing food with an internal food pantry and mental health services for students and families alike.

"We are grappling with rising expenses due to growing rates of students with disabilities, closing the academic achievement gap from the pandemic, and providing mental health services. Fewer students does not necessarily equal less need," Southwick wrote.

Senator Dan Stec has also been a vocal opponent of the measure, taking aim at the state Education Department during a recent hearing.

Stec pointed to the fact that 24 of 47 schools in his district will receive almost \$8 million less in foundation aid combined, with Clifton-Fine receiving a 24% cut to aid and Parishville receiving a 12% cut as references.

"These are devastating cuts, most of these schools are in the Adirondack park. Which means when you start calculating the formula, guess what the state of NY doesn't want more people living there. That hurts them. Number two, guess what, the state of NY owns a lot of property there so that affects their wealth ratio. Does anyone look at these runs before they put them out and fire up 337 school districts that are looking at cuts?" Stec asked.

Stec, who represents a sizable portion of St. Lawrence County, participated in a joint Legislative Hearing on Elementary and Secondary Education for the 2024 executive budget on Feb. 1.

During his allotted time, Stec questioned state Department of Education Commissioner Rosa about the proposal to eliminate the provision, a move that would heavily impact multiple districts in St. Lawrence County.

Stec joins the growing list of state representatives from both sides of the aisle who are voicing concerns over the governor's plans to eliminate the hold harmless provision.

Democrats and Republicans alike took aim at the proposal, saying it disproportionately affects rural and

smaller suburban districts while also maintaining or even increasing aid levels for larger suburban districts and city schools.

Another crucial change proposed would be the way the rate of inflation is calculated when doling out foundation aid as well.

Rather than utilizing the Consumer Price Index, Hochul wants to use the average rate of inflation over a ten-year period that would then see the elimination of the highest and lowest numbers to settle on the average rate.

State legislators have said that the change would mean an increase in foundation aid of just 2.4% instead of a 3.8% increase based on the Consumer Price Index calculation method.

During the public hearing, Rosa herself admitted that the new system does not make sense.

Hochul has continually said that the idea that foundation aid is being cut is "inaccurate," saying that aid has increased by over \$7 billion in the past two years as the result of a court order that forced the state to increase aid.

DRI...

Troy — the firm contracted by the village to do design work for its streetscape and riverwalk projects — gave an overview of both projects to the board and where the work moves from here.

The Downtown Streetscape Enhancement Project area will include areas of Market Street from its intersection with Depot Street to the intersection with Maple and Main Streets, and Raymond Street from the intersection with Market Street to its terminus at Garner Park. New sidewalks, pedestrian safety features, decorative crosswalks, pedestrian-scaled LED street lighting through National Grid, stormwater management facilities, new street trees, way-finding signage, and street furnishings are some of the enhancements expected under the project.

Rymph said other enhancements will include tightening up some of the longer pedestrian intersection crossings and the installation of new street trees and planters.

"Primarily, all new trees throughout. There are a few trees that will ultimately be able to be maintained in the corridor, but there are a lot which are either not the right tree for a location or have outgrown their original intention," Rymph said.

The landscape architect said new LED pedestrian lighting of a consistent design will tie the streetscape together. "That's a really important aspect of this project," said Rymph.

The village's Downtown Riverwalk Trail Project area includes the section of Maple Street between Market Street and Clarkson Ave., Maple Street Park at the intersection of Maple Street, Clarkson Ave., and Sandstone Drive, and a connection between Sandstone Drive and Garner Park. The scope of work of that project will include bicycle lanes, new sidewalks, pedestrian safety features, a pocket park, pedestrian-scaled LED street lighting, new street trees, art installations, and way-finding signage.

"It's a very unique experience up here in Potsdam. You have the academic institutions. You have a very strong and vibrant art culture," Rymph said.

The architect said the art included in the Riverwalk would be a way to "pull people through spaces, to energize spaces."

Rymph went over changes to date on the plan from original designs several years ago, due in part to some of the cost changes due to three years of inflation in the cost of materials since design on the project began.

Rymph said the negative declaration on the SEQRA form the board would approve later at the meeting was a key part towards moving things forward. He presented the updated designs for the projects to the board members but advised that the village meet again with its project design committee to further review the scope of work as it stands before getting started.

He said LaBella is now putting together its project documents to go back to the state Department of Transportation for design approvals.

Once the firm receives the proper permits, contracts with the state will be signed for the work. "We are actively working on that, targeting for the schedule at the end of... March to have that," Rymph said.

After contracts are signed, the architect estimates the village can then bid with contractors to start the actual work.

Rymph cautioned that the village should expect some flexibility in the project price tags for various aspects of the work given cost fluctuations of labor and materials.

Village Trustee Sharon Williams, who is the executive director of the North Country Children's Museum on Raymond Street, said the museum's DRI funded project inflated in price by about 85 percent over initial cost estimates.

Skatepark project

The proposed village art and skate park, which received preliminary project approval as part of the Riverwalk from the state just last year after DRI project funding was freed up from another project backing out, is a little behind the other parts of the project.

"We're continuing to try to find out what needs to happen to get that final release of funding for the skate park aspect of the Riverwalk project. Again, the funding has been approved but its just not in our hands such that we can release our RFQ (Request for Quote) for design services which we've had ready for about a year now. So, once that happens, we'll move that forward," said Wilke at the top of the meeting.]

KOSA...

profit per year. Meeting and spending time with the whistle blower Arturo Bejar was incredible, real validation that the lack of transparency and checks was great," she continued.

Rodee spent the next day experiencing the city but with a heavy heart.

"I love seeing the places and offices and being in the capitol. Riding the trolley and subway under the capital, being in the rotunda, being in the city, it should be fun and feel exciting but I can't get there," she stated. "Meeting new parents each trip while also continuing to get to know the mom's who have forged this path before me and learning that some of them have been fighting this for 12 years

is unbelievable."

Disturbed by Senators

Rodee is also disturbed by U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and Charles "Chuck" Schumer" refusal to meet with her to discuss KOSA (Kids Online Safety Act).

"Knowing that the predators who did this to Riley continue to do it to others while Gillibrand and Schumer never take my meeting requests. This time Gillibrand's staffer was "new to the team". Schumer's staffer said, "it's hard to get floor time." It's all meeting to meeting to meeting to listen to double talk," said Rodee. "Schumer is quite literally holding KOSA hostage while more kids get harmed every minute.

Her meeting with Congresswoman Elsie Stefanik, however, was a pleasant experience.

"Rep. Stefanik is great to talk with and her staff are hospitable and helpful. Elise says that she will support KOSA when it gets to the House, but it's easy to say that to our grief stricken faces when there's no bill in the house yet," Rodee noted. "I hope the hearings prove to everyone that they are not going to stop addicting people and using us as profit."

Accountability needed

Rodee praised the mission of KOSA as the world deals with an ever-changing social media industry.

"We need KOSA because KOSA puts accountability on good design practices. There have been no internet laws in 25 years, we know the industry is changing rapidly, the number of children harmed is growing exponentially," she said.

"I would really appreciate NY constituents calling Schumer and Gillibrand and telling them that you want KOSA, if someone needs a script, I'll give them one," Rodee said.

The main goal of Parents SOS is to raise awareness around the Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA) and really bring home the human-interest framing and highlight the lives of families who have been permanently altered by online harms.

"Social media companies profit off our children at the expense of their wellbeing and safety. We've come together to form Parents SOS because we refuse to let any other family experience this devastation. We are empowered by the memories of our beautiful children, turning pain into action," a statement from Parents SOS says.

The family has established the Riley Basford Legacy Fund through the Northern New York Community Foundation. The charitable mission and purpose of the fund is to support youth in their pursuit of safe and meaningful experience throughout their lives and in the community.

The fund supports three important focus areas. A top priority is to provide funding for education, training, and awareness to St. Lawrence County school for programs and projects centered on cyberbullying and cyber safety, anti-bullying and character education.

Rodee and Riley's father, Darren Basford have said the best way to remember Riley is to foster strong relationships with youth and educate all community members about the hazards of social media.

WINTER...

Over the past 25 years, this winter's weather so far has been the second warmest. Only Dec. 2001 - Jan. 2002 topped it at 28.93 °F.

The months of December and January the last two years have had the highest total precipitation of the past ten years, with about five inches falling over the two-month span both years, according to Weather Underground..

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Cheryl Shumway | NCTW

Fiddlers at the library

North Country Fiddlers fill the Potsdam Public Library with music during their jam session Sunday, Feb. 4. Among them, from left, are Library Director Annie Davey,

Free taxpayer assistance offered at Potsdam library

POTSDAM — An in-person free Taxpayer Assistance Program will be offered at Potsdam Public Library Monday, Feb. 19, and Tuesday, Feb. 20, from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Tax Department employees will walk you through your income tax returns as you complete your own tax return. It's quick and easy. They will help you prepare and e-file your

income tax. You must pre-register and schedule an appointment one of the select dates offered at: <https://www.tax.ny.gov/tap/calendars/> For information, a list of necessary documents, or to schedule a session, talk to a Tax Department site coordinator or visit www.tax.ny.gov/tap/.

Poetry Open Mic in Potsdam

POTSDAM — Poetry Open Mic will be held Sunday Feb. 11, 2-4 p.m. at the Potsdam Public Library. The community is invited to an afternoon of poetry and self-expression with St. Lawrence Area Poets' (SLAP) "exotic" John Berbrich as he

leads this monthly series. Whether you're a seasoned poet or just starting out, this in-person event is the perfect opportunity to share your work and connect with fellow poetry enthusiasts.

Art classes at Colton library

COLTON — Free adult art class with local illustrator Chris Uribe will be offered at Colton-Hepburn Library. The three one-hour sessions for teens and adults to further develop

art skills and drawing techniques will be held Feb. 21 and Feb. 22 at 2 p.m. and Feb. 23 at 10:30 a.m. Sign up on the library Facebook page or in person at the library.

Community Ski Challenge at Higley

COLTON -- The Friends of Higley Flow invite cross-country skiers (young and old) to join in the Community Ski Challenge at Higley Flow State Park on Friday, Feb. 16 through Sunday, Feb. 18, as part of the Colton Winterfest. The goal is to see if the community of Higley skiers can ski 145 miles which virtually crosses the North Country or better yet, ski 325 miles which is enough to claim they effectively skied across New York State. Each skier will be asked to record the miles they skied daily over these three days on a poster-sized spreadsheet in the Higley Lodge.

If skiers cannot track their miles electronically, the Friends of Higley Flow will have a chart with trail names and distances to help. This is the third year of the Community Ski Challenge, and organizers hope to beat last years' record number of 90 participants who skied 325 miles. If the region doesn't get more snow, organizers will postpone the Community Ski Challenge to Feb. 23 to the 25. Check the Friends of Higley Park web page at www.higleyfriends.org for updates.

Clarkson to host annual Warrior Fest Feb. 17

POTSDAM -- Clarkson University will host the seventh annual Warrior Fest on Saturday, Feb. 17, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The event celebrates and supports the contributions of veterans in the North Country. Warrior Fest is open to the public and is fun for the whole family.

The morning game and follow-on events will feature several raffles and giveaways and a sled hockey match between the Fort Drum Mountain Warriors and the Kingston (Ontario) Knights. The puck drops at 9:30 a.m. in Cheel Arena.

The cost for non-season ticket holders, per person over the age of 12, is \$5, and children under 12 are free. Donations are gladly accepted.

All proceeds from Warrior Fest will support the Fort Drum Mountain Warriors team and the ROTC cadet programs at Clarkson University.



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Canton's Uprooted to perform

HEUVELTON —Uprooted, a Canton-based quartet, will perform Saturday, Feb. 10, at Pickens Hall at 7 p.m. It will be an evening of Americana & Branches, with original songs and covers the last fifty years. Admission is \$12, with tickets available at Pickens General Store (315-344-7950) and at the door.

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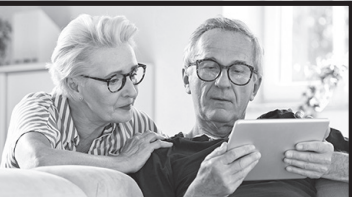
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Keep safety in mind for parties with family and friends

Parties with family and friends, concerts, movies, and sporting events now fill calendars, much as they did before the world learned of COVID-19.

Even though the novel coronavirus that arrived in late 2019 remains a concern, the vast number of people who have been

whether it's an intimate cocktail party or a backyard bash - hosts can heed these safety guidelines.

Pace/control alcoholic beverages

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says every day 32 people die in drunk-driving crashes in the United States. That equates to one person every 45 minutes.

These deaths are all preventable, and one of the simplest ways is to limit opportunities for people to drive drunk.

Party hosts are responsible for monitoring guests' drinking. Spacing out drinks and limiting access to alcohol can keep guests from becoming overly intoxicated.

Stop serving alcoholic beverages two hours before the party ends so there's little opportunity to drive intoxicated.

Provide alternative transportation to those guests who still may be unsafe to drive.

Make safety products available

Even though COVID-19 is no longer first and foremost on the minds of people, it has not completely vanished.

New variants of the virus are still developing, and many of these spread much more easily than prior versions, even if they produce milder symptoms.

Recommendations to stop the spread continue to be relevant

today.

Wipe down surfaces, mask up if you will be in close contact, improve ventilation, and encourage regular handwashing or use of hand sanitizer in the party space.

Opt for single-serve foods

Communal buffet dishes mean crowds are scooping from the same pan or pot.

To reduce the potential spread of any unwanted pathogens, consider offering pre-portioned items that guests can grab and go.

Food already portioned out on to small plates or in cups can reduce the risk of cross-contamination for those with food allergies.

Minimize entry points

Avoid the pitfalls of an invite-only event becoming a free-for-all, which can occur when teens or young adults host parties.

Have one entry and put a responsible adult in charge of checking invitations at the door.

Similarly, have a plan in place should any guests get out of hand. Safety should be a concern at any

party, large or small. Some simple strategies can ensure everyone has a safe and fun time

While COVID-19 once was a major safety concern for party hosts and hostesses, it's not the only safety issue that can affect social activities.

vaccinated and boosted, or have developed antibodies, has allowed people to return to a more normal life.

While COVID-19 once was a major safety concern for party hosts and hostesses, it's not the only safety issue that can affect social activities.

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OF BEEF BUFFET** \$35
Buffet 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

GranView & Caesar Salad
Shrimpi Puttanesca • Tortellini Alfredo Primavera
Chicken Marsala • Cracker Crumb Haddock
Vegetables • Potatoes

Complete Dinner Menu
Also Available!
4 - 8 p.m.

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315.386.1703 [Check Out Our Full Menu!](#)

Creative ways to show appreciation to wedding party and guests

Plenty of love and effort goes into coordinating a dream wedding. Although the happy couple garners most of the spotlight on such momentous occasions, they're not the only ones who will feature prominently in the wedding.

The wedding party is made up of bridesmaids, groomsmen, a ring bearer, a flower girl, ushers, and other guests of honor, such as a couple's parents.

The wedding resource The Knot reports that old school etiquette once indicated there should be one groomsman and one corresponding bridesmaid for every 50 guests, although four bridesmaids and four groomsmen tends to be the average

nowadays.

Choosing who will be included in the wedding party requires forethought and should not be rushed. The rule of thumb is to ask roughly a year to eight months before the wedding so those asked have time to prepare.

When that time comes, these fun ideas can help couples invite loved ones to be in the wedding party with style.

- Say it with a treat. Remember those heart-shaped candies that come out at Valentine's Day that are printed with various sentiments, like "Be mine"? Replicate the idea by giving prospective wedding party members cookies iced to look like tuxedos and bridesmaid gowns with a phrase like "Will you?"

- Give personalized drinkware. Whether it's wine glasses or flasks, have drinkware engraved with the names of who is being asked so that everyone can toast when they say yes. In the event that someone declines, that person will still have a thoughtful momento.

- Make custom scratch-off cards. This is one gamble that is likely to pay off when you present loved ones and friends with scratch-off tickets that reveal the question, "Will you be my bridesmaid/groomsman?"

- Put together swag bags. Take a page out of fashion shows or celebrity parties and package some luxury items into gift bags for those special people you want to stand by your side on your wedding day. High-end grooming products, jewelry, electronics accessories, and more can be great gifts for those who are likely to be in your wedding party.

- Gift robes or T-shirts: Plan ahead for staged and coordinated photos by purchasing matching robes or T-shirts for all the besties in the wedding party. Those who are up for having a good time will have no problem wearing the matching outfits when out for wedding-related events.

- Fill balloons with confetti and messages. Ask friends and loved ones to pop them to reveal your request that they be in the wedding party.

Valentine's Day DINING!

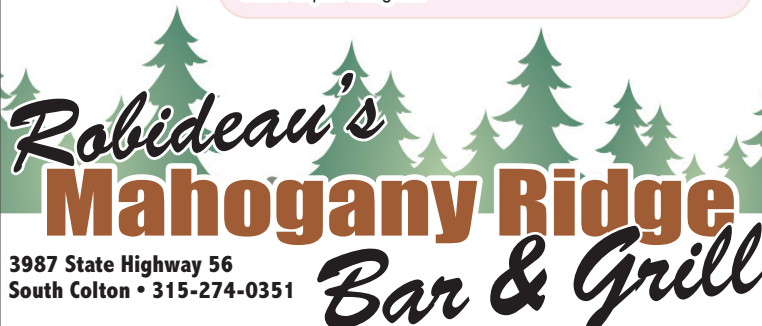
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14

Soups: Lobster Bisque

Appetizers:
Raspberry Point Oysters - half dozen either raw on the half shell or breaded and broiled
Warm Brie Tartlet - with strawberries & balsamic glaze
Jamaican jerk glazed grilled Shrimp skewers

Entrees:
Steak Oscar - marinated grilled Filet Mignon with asparagus, crab & Bernaise sauce
Surf-n-Turf: marinated grilled Filet Mignon with a grilled Lobster Tail
Lobster Ravioli - in a tomato basil cream sauce
Southwestern marinated grilled Chicken & Shrimp - with a lime tequila vinaigrette

WEEKEND SPECIALS
Friday: Fish Fry
Saturday: Prime Rib
Sunday: Breakfast 7 a.m. - Noon
Lunch at Noon
Dinner 4 - 8 p.m.



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Do you know about these wedding traditions?

Who doesn't hope for good fortune on their wedding day?

That's why there are so many traditions and steps people take to ensure luck is smiling down on them for their wedding.

Here are some traditions you may not have known about.

- According to Greek culture, tuck a sugar cube into your glove on your wedding. The sugar will sweeten your union.

- English tradition says that Wednesday is the best day to marry. Monday is for wealth and Tuesday is for health.

- The groom carries his newly betrothed across the threshold to protect her from evil spirits.

- Hindu tradition says rain on your wedding day is good luck.

- For good luck, Egyptian women are known to pinch the bride on her

wedding day.

- In Holland a pine tree is planted outside of the newlyweds' home for good luck and fertility.

- A law in 1775 said a wedding was not legal if the bride wore makeup during the ceremony.

- Wedding and engagement rings are worn on the fourth finger of the left hand because it was long believed a vein ran from that finger directly to the heart.

- Ancient Greeks and Romans said a wedding veil protected the bride from evil spirits. It has been a tradition to wear a veil ever since.

- The term "tie the knot" comes from Roman times when the bride wore a girdle tied in knots that the groom was later able to untie. Some also believe it refers to the knots of rope that were tied to form the marriage bed.



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Valentine's Day Dinner

February 14th - Starting at 4pm

Includes **FREE Dessert:** Strawberry & Chocolate Bundt Cakes

Served with a garden salad, choice of potato or rice pilaf, vegetable and roll with butter

- 10oz Delmonico Steak** with Garlic Shrimp Skewers
- Butterfly Shrimp Platter**
- Beef Medallions** with a parmesan cheese sauce
- Baked Stuffed Haddock**

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St. Lawrence County
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, INC.

HEAD START has the current openings:

Administrative Office:

Health/Disabilities Coordinator: Canton Administrative Office. Bachelors in Community Health, RN preferred. The position is full time, 35 hours per week, 43 weeks/year following the school calendar. The salary is \$19.01 per hour.

Gouverneur Center:

Anticipated Teacher: Bachelor's degree in early childhood or related field preferred (24 credit hours of early childhood). Supervisory experience is a plus. Salary range is \$17.95 to \$19.01 per hour.

Assistant Teacher (1): Person must have a minimum of a CDA (Child Development Accreditation), or a written plan of study. Early childhood experience preferred. The salary range is \$15.00 to \$15.84 per hour.

Bus Driver (1): Responsibilities include safe transporting of preschool children to/from the Head Start Center. Position requires a clean NYS Driver's License. Must be at least 21 years of age. Candidates must have a minimum of a Class C CDL, with an "S" and "P" endorsement license. Follow NYS Article 19A regulations. The salary is \$16.02 per

Massena Center:

Teacher (1): Bachelor's degree in early childhood or related field preferred (24 credit hours of early childhood). Supervisory experience is a plus. Salary range is \$17.95 to \$19.01 per hour.

Assistant Teacher (1): Person must have a minimum of a CDA (Child Development Accreditation), or a written plan of study. Early childhood experience preferred. The salary range is \$15.00 to \$15.84 per hour.

Classroom Aide / Bus Monitor (1): Person must have a minimum of a high school diploma or its equivalent. BOCES Certificate of Early Childhood, CDA, or substantial experience in early childhood daycare preferred. The salary is \$15.00 per hour.

Part Time Cook: This is a 28 hour position. Knowledge of nutritional needs of young children and Department of Health regulations preferred. The salary is \$15.00 per hour.

Bus Drivers (1): Responsibilities include safe transporting of preschool children to/from the Head Start Center. Position requires a clean NYS Driver's License. Must be at least 21 years of age. Candidates must have a minimum of a Class C CDL, with an "S" and "P" endorsement license. Follow NYS Article 19A regulations. The salary is \$16.02 per hour.

Norwood Center:

Classroom Aide (1): Person must have a minimum of a high school diploma or its equivalent. BOCES Certificate of Early Childhood, CDA, or substantial experience in early childhood daycare preferred. The salary is \$15.00 per hour.

Parishville Center:

Bus Monitor: Person must have a minimum of a high school diploma or its equivalent. Person should enjoy working with preschool aged children. The salary is \$15.00 per hour.

Gouverneur/Ogdensburg Center:

Classroom Aide (1): Person must have a minimum of a high school diploma or its equivalent. BOCES Certificate of Early Childhood, CDA, or substantial experience in early childhood daycare preferred. The salary is \$15.00 per hour.

Floating Aide for Canton, Gouverneur, Ogdensburg and Potsdam Centers (1):

Classroom Aide (1): Person must have a minimum of a high school diploma or its equivalent. BOCES Certificate of Early Childhood, CDA, or substantial experience in early childhood daycare preferred. The salary is \$15.00 per hour.

Home Based:

Home Based Visitors (4) for various areas in St. Lawrence County: Must be at least 21 years of age and have a valid clean NYS Driver's license. CDA credential, Early Childhood Education or plan of study required. Experience with preschool children preferred. Position includes weekly home visits with families. An agency vehicle is provided. The salary range is \$15.84 to \$16.90 per hour.

Health Professional for Canton/Ogdensburg Home Based (1): Experience in the Medical Field. Medical Professional, CNA, Home Health Aides, etc. Experience with young children a plus. The salary ranges from \$15.84 to \$16.90 per hour.

Job Descriptions are available on our website at www.slccdp.org

Substitutes in all positions are needed.
Positions follow the BOCES schedule/holidays.

Send letter of interest, resume and three current, signed and dated written letters of reference to Head Start, One Commerce Lane, Canton, NY 13617. Deadline is until the positions are filled. Head Start is an EOE.

Call 315-386-8574 ext.: 111, 114 or 119 for further information.

Medical Director: This Medical Director will join an engaged and cohesive medical staff, supported by a strong and thoughtful leadership team in the delivery of patient-centered care by evidence-based standards. As the Medical Director you will provide oversight of medical programs operations by ensuring a high quality of healthcare is delivered through the entire life span. Provides strategic plan and guidance and constantly monitors fiscal responsibility of medical operations. Status: Full-Time, Exempt. Salary: \$92,414.40 - \$245,044.80 (Negotiable) Deadline: March 6, 2024. Complete announcement and application instructions are available online at www.srmt-nsn.gov.

Family Practice Physician: Under the direction of the Medical Director or designee, provides primary medical care to patients of all ages and genders throughout all stages of life. Status: Full-Time, Exempt. Salary: \$92,414.00 - \$245,044.80 Deadline: March 6, 2024. Complete announcement and application instructions are available online at www.srmt-nsn.gov.

Three Sisters Advocate: Under the direction of the Lead Three Sisters Advocate, the Three Sisters Advocate is responsible for providing trauma-informed services while advocating for and supporting victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Status: Full-Time, Non-Exempt. Salary: \$15.02 - \$21.71 Deadline: Open Until Filled. Complete announcement and application instructions are available online at www.srmt-nsn.gov.

Child & Youth Behavioral Health Care Coordinator: The Child and Youth Behavioral Health Care Coordinator is a member of the Mental Health clinical team that guides the care and support of clients being served in the Mental Health clinic (including school-based satellites). Under the direction of the Child and Youth Mental Health Clinic Coordinator, the Care Coordinator will assist the Mental Health therapists (including school-based) with meeting the client's needs by providing care coordination and advocacy for clients. Status: Full-Time, Temporary. Salary: \$15.02 - \$21.71 Deadline: Open Until Filled. Complete announcement and application instructions are available online at www.srmt-nsn.gov.



Ogdensburg City School District

is accepting applications for the following opening for the 2023-2024 school year:

LABORER

(\$31,200.00/yr. to be prorated)

FULL-TIME DISTRICT EMPLOYEES LIVING OUTSIDE OF THE OGDENSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT HAVE THE OPTION OF ENROLLING THEIR CHILDREN IN THE OGDENSBURG DISTRICT

All interested candidates must submit the following:

- Cover Letter
- Civil Service Application (can be obtained in the Superintendent's Office at OFA or downloaded from our school website)
- Resume
- Letters of Reference (3 Current)
- Application deadline is February 16, 2024
- Failure to provide all requested materials will result in disqualification of the candidate's application

All requested materials are to be submitted to:

Sabrina Charleston
Ogdensburg City School District
1100 State Street, Ogdensburg, NY 13669
scharleston@ogdensburgk12.org
315-393-0900 (p) • 315-393-2767 (f)

EOE

ALL EMPLOYMENT ADVERTISING in this newspaper is subject to section 296 of the human rights law, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, creed, national origin, disability, marital status, sex, age, or arrest conviction record, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. Title 29, US Code, Chap. 630 excludes the federal government from the age discrimination provisions. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for employment which is in violation of the law. Our readers are informed that employment offerings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.



Construction Management: Field Superintendent (FS)

Watchdog Building Partners is seeking a highly qualified individual to act as an Owners Representative, who is responsible for managing various prime contracts associated with public work projects in the North Country Region of New York. The FS will oversee and manage the day-to-day coordination and operations of the project site. The FS will work closely with all Prime Contractors and assigned Project Manager to ensure a safe and quality project that is completed on time and within budget. Maintaining a work environment that values planning, collaboration, communication and being solution oriented is essential.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Minimum of 10 years of experience in a construction environment
- Possess at least 5 year's supervisory experience
- Proven ability to read and fully understand construction drawings
- Strong working knowledge of contracts, subcontracts, purchase orders and other agreements to ensure that the scope, terms and conditions are consistently and proactively being met
- Must be able to develop entire job schedules, 90 day schedules and 2 week schedules
- Familiar with Wicks Law and Public Work Projects in NY State

SALARY AND BENEFITS

- Salary range \$65k-\$95k (based on experience)
- Offer health and dental insurance
- Paid time off
- Mileage reimbursement
- 401k option

Qualified and interested applicants, please send an email to jclingerma@watchdogbp.com or call (585) 760-7855 to speak with Jeramy Clingerma.



MASSENA BRANCH SUPERVISOR

Do you have a passion for helping customers, building relationships, and delivering extraordinary customer service? We're looking for a strong leader to oversee daily operations in our Massena Branch.

Position Vacancies:

Massena Branch Supervisor

Desired Skills:

- Display strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to easily engage others in dialogue, convey sincere interest in building/deepening relationships, and demonstrate a commitment to providing personalized service.
- Demonstrate customer service skills and the ability to resolve problems independently; utilizing critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, or escalating as needed to promote member satisfaction.
- Establish solid relationships with teammates, business partners and internal network by fostering teamwork and collaboration.
- Demonstrate initiative and a commitment to continuous learning, and the ability to adapt to changing demands and requirements. Focus on adoption of digital self-serve technology.
- Strong organizational skills including the ability to manage multiple responsibilities and prioritize

Qualifications: High school diploma or GED Equivalent required, Bachelor's degree preferred or 2+ years of relevant experience.

Compensation:

- Hourly wage range \$18.00-\$22.50, dependent on qualifications.
- Additional employee incentives ■ Opportunities for Advancement

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Canton Central School

is accepting applications for the following anticipated positions:

- **Modified Boys Lacrosse Head Coach and Modified Boys Lacrosse Assistant Coach** must meet NYSED coaching requirements
- **Certified Long Term Substitute** must be certified in 7-12 Math

Applications and employment criteria can be found at www.ccsdk12.org/employment

Applications are due by 4:00 pm Monday, February 12, 2024. NYS Certification is required.

Canton Central School District is an Equal Opportunity Employer

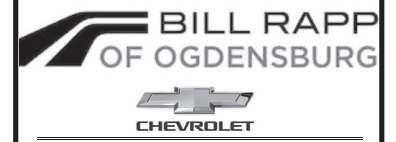


RN CASE MANAGERS

Hospice of St. Lawrence Valley is currently seeking **full-time RN Case Managers** who are independent and patient-focused to provide skilled nursing care in patient's homes and facilities, and part time and per diem RNs for admissions, home visits and vacation coverage. If you are looking for flexibility and a positive, team-centered work environment, Hospice may be for you!

Candidates must have a current New York State RN License, 1-2 years in an acute care setting and a valid New York State Driver's license.

Salary range is \$35.50/hr – 37.50/hr with generous on-call pay, travel reimbursement and paid time off. Contact Tammy Hayes, DPS, with questions or to get an application, 315-265-3105 or thayes@hospiceslv.org.



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We are looking for **EXPERIENCED and ENTRY LEVEL TECHNICIANS TO JOIN OUR TEAM!**

Please inquire by calling **Paul Dalton at 315-393-6000** and/or email resume to paul.dalton@billrappogd.com.

JobsRUs.com is a service-oriented staffing/recruiting company dedicated to working closely with our clients. We are currently hiring Customer Care Specialist, Production Workers, and Facility Cleaners with salaries ranging from \$15.00/hr to \$20.00/hr. We also have several other positions available at this time. For more information please apply at www.jobsrus.com or Contact our office at (315)265-8860.

Mapleview Cattle Company, LLC (Madrid, NY) seeks mult. Animal Scientists to work w/ cows. Assist herd mgr. Observe/manage cows. Improve all areas of cattle mgmt & health. **Salary offered:**

\$60,299. Req. bachelor's deg. in Vet. Sci., Animal Sci. or rel. & 2 yrs. exp. Full job. desc. & apply at <https://www.mapleviewdairy.com/careers>.

The Town of Madrid is seeking an Animal Control Office (ACO) for an individual with skill in handling the general control of animals, including their seizure, impoundment, and disposal. Applicant must be able to deal effectively with the public. This is a board appointed position, the salary for this job is \$4,458.00, with an additional monthly mileage stipend. If interested in filling out an application, please contact Zoe Hawkins at the Madrid Town Office. The Town of Madrid is an equal opportunity employer.

Home Health Aide: The overnight home care aide will carry out health care tasks under the supervision of the home health care supervisor or nurse case manager. Home health aides shall have successfully completed a basic training program in home health aide services or an equivalent exam approved by the Outreach Department and possesses written evidence of such completion. The home health aide will provide personal care, housekeeping, ROM (Range of Motion) exercises, assist with medications, and most importantly provide companionship to the elderly and medically ill patients. Status: Full-Time, Non-Exempt. Salary: \$15.02 - \$19.26 Deadline: Open Until Filled. Complete announcement and application instructions are available online at: www.srmt-nsn.gov.

Security Guard: Under the direction of the Head Security Guard, the Security Guard is responsible for providing the proper security needed for the Tribal Courts and maintaining order in court proceedings. Status: Full-Time, Non-Exempt. Salary: \$18.15 - \$36.41 Deadline: February 14, 2024. Complete announcement and application instructions are available online at: www.srmt-nsn.gov.



HERMON-DEKALB CENTRAL SCHOOL is accepting applications for a full-time custodial worker. Applications are available at <http://www.hdcsk12.org> or at HDCS. Please send letter of interest, application, resume, and letters of recommendation to Mark White, Superintendent, Hermon-DeKalb Central School District, 709 East DeKalb Road, DeKalb Junction, NY 13630. The Hermon-DeKalb Central School District offers employment and educational opportunities without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, or handicap. Application deadline is February 9, 2024.

NORTH COAST Occupational, Physical and Speech Therapy PLLC is seeking part-time/full-time Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Special Education Teacher and Speech Therapists to provide services to children in St. Lawrence County in home and school settings. We offer competitive rates and benefits. Interested applicants can email their resume to office@northcoasttherapy.com



Clarkson™

Employment Opportunities

Financial Aid Coordinator (Potsdam, NY)

Position Summary Guidelines: The Financial Aid Coordinator provides financial aid support for undergraduate students by providing information, advice and counsel to students, parents and staff regarding financial aid regulations and programs, including how aid impacts invoices. The position oversees the financial aid packaging for continuing students, awards special groups, administers restricted scholarships, administers the federal work-study program, manages eligibility assessments for special circumstances and general financial aid appeals for additional institutional funds. The position is responsible for the overall management of the financial aid section of the website.

Minimum qualifications: Bachelor's Degree with 2 years of experience in financial aid or related field.

Range: \$19.50- \$23.00 based on experience

Review of applications will begin immediately and continues until the position is filled. To submit your application, go to www.clarkson.edu/hr and click "Career Opportunities" below Careers at Clarkson section. An equal opportunity /affirmative action employer, Clarkson actively seeks and encourages applications from minorities, women and people with disabilities. <https://www.clarkson.edu/human-resources/career-opportunities>

Prior to a final offer of employment, the selected candidate will be required to submit to a background check including, but not limited to, employment verification, educational and other credential verification, and criminal background check.



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to download an application, under Employment at the top of the page. Print and complete the form and deliver in person to any of our stores with resume.

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Experience with hand assembly, mechanical assembly, measuring tools, hand soldering / de-soldering machines, attention to detail, electronics and computer input are an asset.

We are looking for highly motivated people who want to enhance present skills or train for a new career.

Hours are 8 to 5 Monday to Friday and excellent benefits including medical and dental insurance and retirement. Starting at \$16.50/hr.

Excellent Opportunity

Please submit letters of interest and resume to:

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DeFelsko Corporation
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www.defelsko.com
randy.beeson@defelsko.com



Morristown Central School

408 Gouverneur Street
Morristown, NY 13664

COME JOIN OUR MCS FAMILY!

WE CURRENTLY HAVE THE FOLLOWING JOB OPENINGS:

- **Secondary Special Education Teacher**
- **Substitute Bus Driver**
- **Substitute School Nurse (R.N.)**

Positions will remain open until filled.

To apply, please visit www.GreenRockets.org

(under the District & Human Resources tabs)



TEMPORARY CUSTOMER CARE SPECIALIST POSITIONS

At Community Bank System, Inc. (CBSI), we are dedicated to providing our customers with friendly, personalized, high-quality financial services and products. Just as our employees are committed to helping our customers manage their finances, we're committed to our employees. After all, they make it happen for our customers every day.

We are currently seeking applicants for **Temporary Customer Care Specialists in Canton**. This position is responsible for answering incoming bank calls while adhering to customer service standards and department policy. The CCC Specialist will also provide technical support and assistance to customers and branches for all Customer Care Center products and services as well as general customer assistance with basic deposit and loan questions.

QUALIFICATIONS:

BI-LINGUAL IN SPANISH A PLUS!

- Call Center or customer service and banking experience preferred.
- Two (2) year degree in Business or Finance with emphasis on communications or equivalent related experience, preferred.
- Proficient PC Skills including typing.
- Experience with e-mail software and the Internet.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Proficient in letter-writing using business letter skills.

Hours: Typically 40 hours a week but may consider part-time hours if Bi-lingual in Spanish.

Compensation: Minimum of \$18.25

To apply to this position or to see a full listing of current openings please go to: <https://cbna.com/careers/work-happy>

An Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or protected veteran status and will not be discriminated against on the basis of disability.



Executive Assistant to the President & Board Liaison

The Executive Assistant to the President and Board Liaison, reporting directly to the President, provides high level support to the President and the Board of Trustees. The successful candidate will have a keen understanding of how a university functions, including the unique and complimentary roles of the Board, the faculty, and the administration in a strong shared governance model. They will respect, foster positive relationships with and work productively with the wide range of constituencies, including students, parents, faculty and staff, alumni, and community members. They will represent the character and quality of the University with confidence and ease, maintain strict confidentiality and discretion, and manage a wide range of duties in a timely fashion with excellence.

\$60,000 - \$62,000 annual salary depending on experience. To view the complete position description, including minimum qualifications required, as well as application instructions please visit: <http://employment.stlawu.edu>.

All offers of employment are contingent upon the finalist successfully passing a background (including criminal records) check. St. Lawrence University is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



**EOP Director
Senior Staff Associate SL5**

Job Summary: SUNY Canton seeks an inspiring, dynamic leader to lead its Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). In this role, the Director will be responsible for the overall coordination of the Program, including operating within the SUNY EOP guidelines to achieve student recruitment, matriculation, persistence, and completion goals. The State University of New York's Educational Opportunity Program provides access, academic support, and financial aid to students who show promise for succeeding in college but who may not have had access otherwise. The ultimate goal of EOP is to make higher education possible for high potential students from historically underserved backgrounds. The Program is jointly funded by SUNY Canton and the State University of New York State-wide System Office of Special Programs.

The Director is responsible for creating a supportive environment that promotes academic and personal success, through high quality advising, academic interventions, transitional support, and student engagement. The Director is responsible for all aspects of the Program's operations, budget, recruitment, retention, and programming, with a strong emphasis on creating a sense of community among students. The Director will be committed to incorporating the Program into the university's overall educational mission and supporting the Program's contribution to university-wide goals, strategic priorities, and initiatives.

Supporting more than 100 students annually, the EOP annual budget includes staff salaries, direct aid, tutoring, summer orientation, and special projects. The Director supervises a staff of 4 full-time employees and 6-12 part-time employees including counselors, instructors, an administrative assistant, and professional and peer tutors.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Master's degree by time of appointment from a college or university accredited by the U.S. Department of Education or an internationally recognized college or university.
- Minimum of 3 years of experience in a leadership role in an opportunity program and/or academic success department or related field.
- Experience in supervision of professional staff.
- Deep understanding, dedication, expertise in supporting the needs and success of students from educationally and/or under resourced and/or underserved backgrounds.
- Demonstrated experience with diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts.
- Demonstrated experience developing, organizing, and administering budgets.
- Strong personnel management skills including team development, goal setting and measurement, strategic planning, and the ability to manage multiple functions and organize institution resources to meet goals and objectives.
- Excellent interpersonal, verbal, and written communication skills.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Terminal degree.
- Progressively responsible leadership experience at a college or university.
- Ability to foster an environment of exemplary professionalism and commitment among staff to build strong working relationships with other university departments.
- Professional experience working in an EOP/HEOP program or sister opportunity program from out-of-state.
- Experience with collective bargaining and union environments.
- Experience with Banner, MS Teams, or other relevant technology.
- Knowledge of applicable federal and state laws, statutes, campus processes, and awareness of law and policy proposals affecting EOP students.
- * Valid driver's license

Work Schedule: Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:30 and availability to work nights and weekends

Salary: \$73,000 to \$75,000

Prior to final offer of employment, the selected candidate will be required to submit to a background check including, but not limited to, employment verification, educational and other credential verification, and criminal background check.

Application Deadline: Open until filled; application review begins immediately. Persons interested in the above position should apply online at <https://employment.canton.edu/>

SUNY Canton, a unit of the State University of New York, is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer. SUNY Canton is building a culturally diverse and pluralistic faculty and strongly encourages applications from minority and women candidates.

The college is located in Canton, a village in the St. Lawrence River valley of northern New York. Located 20 miles from the St. Lawrence River and the Adirondack Park, and 70 miles from the Canadian capital city of Ottawa, Ontario, Canton holds excellent opportunities for the outdoor or cultural enthusiast. SUNY Canton is a member of the Associated Colleges, a consortium of four colleges.



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POTSDAM CENTRAL SCHOOLS

20 Leroy St., Potsdam, NY
(P)315-265-2000 • (F)315-265-2048



POTSDAM CENTRAL SCHOOL VACANCIES FOR 2024 SCHOOL YEAR

- **Custodial Worker/Bus Driver**
Must have a valid NYS CDL w/P & S Endorsements (Training is avail. for bus driver portion)
- **School Nurse – RN**
- **Teacher Aide – (Temp. Ending June 2024)**

Application deadline: February 16, 2024

An application link and additional information is available on the PCS webpage.

For questions, contact:
Ms. Davida M. Martin, Office of the Superintendent
29 Leroy St., Potsdam, NY 13676
315-265-2000, ext. 36733 • EOE

coasttherapypllc.com

Experienced bookkeeper for Maxfield's, Mama Lucia & Cactus Grill. Mon - Fri. 9 am - 3 pm, Proficiency in Excel & Quickbooks. Hazen Enterprises, Potsdam. Email resume to Lawrencehazen@gmail.com. EOE

Daytime Cleaner for Potsdam restaurant. call Larry 315 212 2707. EOE

The Village of Canton is in search of a Deputy Treasurer to join our team. Starting pay is \$42,900/year with an excellent benefit package. It is a highly responsible, confidential, and professional position. Areas of responsibility include but not limited to utility billing, tax collection and accounts payable. Extensive computer skills are a must. A complete job description is available @ www.cantonny.gov. Submit letter of interest, application, resume and three references to Sharon Brunet, Treasurer, 60 Main St, Canton, NY 13617 or email to sbrunet@cantonny.gov. AA/EOE Employer.



COLTON MIRROR & GLASS, INC. is looking to hire an apprentice in the glazing industry. Must have basic carpentry skills and be



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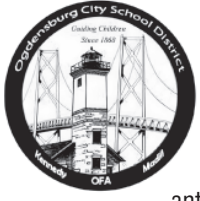
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Ogdensburg City School District

is accepting applications for the following anticipated openings for the 2024-2025 school year:

- *CERTIFIED SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS***
 - *CERTIFIED SECONDARY SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS***
 - *CERTIFIED ELEMENTARY SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS***
 - *CERTIFIED SECONDARY HEALTH TEACHER***
 - *CERTIFIED SECONDARY MATHEMATICS TEACHER***
 - *CERTIFIED SECONDARY SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER***
 - *CERTIFIED SECONDARY CHEMISTRY TEACHER***
 - *CERTIFIED PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHERS***
 - *CERTIFIED ELEMENTARY TEACHER***
- (BA+30+M / STEP 1 = \$51,012.00/yr. or Salary Commensurate with Experience)
- *CERTIFIED TEACHING ASSISTANT***
- (\$27,072.00/yr.)

FULL-TIME DISTRICT EMPLOYEES LIVING OUTSIDE OF THE OGDENSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT HAVE THE OPTION OF ENROLLING THEIR CHILDREN IN THE OGDENSBURG DISTRICT

All interested candidates must submit the following:

- Cover Letter
- Application (can be obtained in the Superintendent's Office at OFA or downloaded from our school website)
- Resume`
- Copy of New York State Teaching Certificate(s)
- Copy of New York State Teaching Assistant Certificate
- Original College Transcript(s)
- Letters of Reference (3 Current)
- Application deadline is February 12, 2024
- Failure to provide all requested materials will result in disqualification of the candidate's application

All requested materials are to be submitted to:

Sabrina Charleston
Ogdensburg City School District
1100 State Street, Ogdensburg, NY 13669
scharleston@ogdensburgk12.org
315-393-0900 (p) • 315-393-2767 (f)
 EOE



City of Ogdensburg ASSESSOR

The City of Ogdensburg is accepting applications to fill the position of Assessor.

Salary is \$48,100; 20-25 hours per week on site.

Civil Service applications are available at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall or at www.ogdensburg.org. Completed applications must be returned to Cathy Jock, City Clerk, 330 Ford Street, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 by **Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 4:00pm.**

Please review the full job posting at www.ogdensburg.org or contact City Clerk Cathy Jock at cjock@ogdensburg.org for the minimum qualifications.

The City of Ogdensburg is doing immediate review of applications received and will contact qualified applicants to schedule first interviews following review. This posting is scheduled to remain open until Tuesday, February 20th, however, please note that the recruitment may be cancelled or the position filled before the February 20th deadline.

The City of Ogdensburg is an equal opportunity employer.

Office Manager / Bookkeeper Part Time / Full Time

Pay \$17.50 to \$21.00 depending on experience

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As a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)!

Salary range: \$52,009* to \$56,146* (includes Geographic Pay of \$4,000)

As a Registered Nurse 1 – Part-Time or Full-Time!

Salary Range: \$89,685-\$97,912

Posted Hiring Salary includes the sum of the statutory hiring rate for PS&T Grade 18 (\$69,686), and Geographic Pay Differential (\$20,000); Geographic Pay Differential is added to the job rate (\$77,912) for the PS&T Grade 18; Additional Compensation may apply based on shift assignment.

These positions may be eligible for Loan Forgiveness via the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program

For more information:

Sunmount DDSOO NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)

Office of Human Resources:

518-359-4150

or Sunmount.Careers@opwdd.ny.gov

Sunmount DDSO, 2445 State Route 30, Tupper Lake, NY 12986

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer



CIVIL ENGINEER

We are a structural and miscellaneous steel fabrication company with a large design build presence in New England looking to fill an open Civil Engineer position in our Plattsburgh office.

Currently seeking applicants with a Civil Engineering degree with a focus in Structural Engineering. The position could be either full or part time, depending on the applicant. Structural steel design experience is preferred. Structural steel connection design is preferred but not required. Licensed Professional or Structural Engineers are preferred but not required. Daily tasks would include creation of analysis models, documentation of plans and details, and review of connection designs.

Full time benefits are available, and include vacation time, sick time, health insurance, life insurance, 401k and profit sharing. Pay based on experience in the salary range of \$52,000 - \$65,000 per year. Come be a part of a strong growing company!

Please email resumes to: info@jeffordssteel.com

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able to lift 80+ pounds. Must have reliable transportation. Please apply in person 6085 US HWY 11, Canton.

DISHWASHERS at Cactus Grill and Mama Lucia. Immediate opportunity. Call Larry at 315 212 2707 for interview.

EXPERIENCED PIZZA CHEF at MAMA LUCIA. Wood fired pizza. Shifts start at 3 pm. Call Larry at 315 212 2707.

CHEF POSITIONS at Hazen Enterprises. Email resume to Lawrencehazen@gmail.com Experienced Chef, organize kitchen activities, control & direct food prep, ensure food quality, experienced in all positions of cooking.

PETS & PET PRODUCTS

Golden Doodle puppies for sale, available now. First round of shots and de-wormed. No females left. For more information call (315) 816-8052 or (680) 333-0786, serious inquiries only.

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2. U.S. STATES: In which state would you find Crater Lake?
3. TELEVISION: Which animated cartoon character says, "What's up, Doc?"
4. LITERATURE: Who is the author of "The Exorcist"?
5. MATH: In Roman numerals, what is XVIII times V?
6. ANATOMY: How many vertebrae are in the human spine?
7. GEOGRAPHY: Which nation is home to Europe's largest glacier?
8. MOVIES: In which film does Doris Day sing "Que Sera, Sera"?
9. SCIENCE: What is anemophily?
10. MUSIC: Who sang the hit "Girls Just Want to Have Fun"?

Answers found elsewhere in this paper.



General Laborer

St. Lawrence University has an opening for a full time **General Laborer**. Performs work required in the care, maintenance, cleaning and housekeeping of University buildings and campus in accordance with established practices and procedures. Responsible for performing duties associated with setups and deliveries for special events in and around all campus buildings. In the absence of the material recycler or supply clerk, performs the regular duties of that position as assigned. As required performs the primary duties of other "A" classification personnel as assigned by the Management staff.

Minimum Qualifications: High School diploma (or equivalent) required. Ability to follow verbal and printed instructions. Ability to prepare or verbalize reports necessary to the position. Requires ability to lift a minimum of 45 lbs., bending, climbing, pushing and pulling. Must be able to meet University requirements to be authorized to drive University vehicles as assigned. Pay range- \$15.00 - \$19.98/hr. depending on experience. To view the complete position description, including minimum qualifications required.

Interested applicants must apply online at: <https://employment.stlawu.edu>. SLU is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity employer.

All offers of employment are subject to the applicant successfully passing a background (including criminal records) check.



Office for People With Developmental Disabilities

Career Opportunities

Start Your Career with New York State in St. Lawrence County, Franklin County, Essex County, Clinton County, or Hamilton County

Enjoy Great Benefits:

- Health Insurance • Retirement Plan • Paid Vacation • Paid Holidays • Veteran's Job Training Stipend • Paid Sick Leave • Opportunities for Advancement • Loan Forgiveness And Much More!

As a Direct Support Assistant

Salary Range: \$45,457-\$49,405

As a Developmental Disabilities Secure Care Treatment Aide

Salary Range: \$56,623 - \$64,693

The Sunmount Developmental Disabilities State Operations Office (DDSOO) is seeking DSAs and DDSCAs.

Minimum Qualifications: A High School Diploma or GED and a valid Driver's License.

As a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)

Salary range: \$52,009* to \$56,146* (* Includes Geographic Pay of \$4,000)

The Sunmount Developmental Disabilities State Operations Office (DDSOO) is seeking LPNs.

Minimum Qualifications: Must have a current license and registration to practice in New York State, or a limited permit to practice in NYS, or an application on file for a limited permit to practice in NYS.

For more information:

Sunmount DDSOO NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)

Office of Human Resources:

518-359-4150

or Sunmount.Careers@opwdd.ny.gov

Sunmount DDSO, 2445 State Route 30, Tupper Lake, NY 12986

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

LISBON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



is accepting applications for the following positions:

• Certified School Guidance Counselor/ School Counselor

Minimum Starting Salary: \$47,330 (to be negotiated based on experience)

• Certified Elementary Special Education Teacher

Minimum Starting Salary: \$47,330 (to be negotiated based on experience)

*Proper Certification Required

All interested candidates must submit the following to be considered for some positions:

- Cover Letter
- Application (Please apply using the Regional Common Application)
- Application and information about Lisbon CSD may be found at: <https://www.lisboncsd.org/>
- Resume'
- Letters of Recommendation (three)
- Original College Transcripts(s)

Application deadline is February 16, 2024.

Failure to provide all requested materials may result in disqualification of the candidate's application. Please submit information attention to:

Please submit information attention to:

Mr. Patrick J. Farrand, Superintendent of Schools
LISBON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
6866 County Route 10, Lisbon, NY 13658

EOE

POTSDAM CENTRAL SCHOOLS

20 Leroy St., Potsdam, NY
(P)315-265-2000 • (F)315-265-2048



POTSDAM CENTRAL SCHOOL VACANCIES FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

- 2 – **Math Teachers** – MS Level
- 2 – **Special Education Teachers** Elem. & HS Levels
- **Elementary Teachers**

Application deadline: **February 23, 2024**

An application link and additional information is available on the PCS webpage.

For questions, contact:

Ms. Davida M. Martin, Office of the Superintendent
29 Leroy St., Potsdam, NY 13676
315-265-2000, ext. 36733 • EOE

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ITEMS FOR SALE

hours. Fits many model tractors (60 hp min.) \$8,500. 315-244-3318

Ladies Salomon Enduro LX 800 Titanium 154 cm downhill skis and poles (used once) -\$180. Ladies size 9 ski boot (used once) -\$45. Mens size 10 Bauer Impact 300 hockey skates, brand new-\$40. 315-323-6646

