



FEBRUARY 19, 2026

County board awaits plans and cost estimates for \$35 million construction project

BY KELLI MILLER

GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

NORWICH - The plan by the Chenango County Board of Supervisors to construct a new \$35 million office building is still taking shape with engineers finishing blueprints and LeChase construction reviewing for estimated costs. Chairman of the Board Jeffrey Blanchard said final decisions will be made once costs are presented.

“Basically, the engineers are close to finishing the drawings and then we’ll send those over to the LeChase team to provide an estimate total for the renovation,” said Blanchard.

“That process will take LeChase about four weeks, and then we’ll know if we’re within budget,” Blanchard said. “We may need to make some changes if we’re over the budget,



Chenango County Board awaits completion of plans and cost estimate to ensure \$35 million construction project is feasible. (Evening Sun file photo)

so we’re waiting to see if this project is feasible.”

Blanchard noted once they have solid numbers, possibly mid-April, they will schedule a public meeting.

“This project has been carefully thought out and we’re doing our due diligence in considering all options,” he said.

Opponents of the building project have questioned the county’s financial stewardship and consider saving the \$35 million by leasing space elsewhere.

Only some of the county-run departments are lawfully required to stay within the City of Norwich, the county seat.

Leasing commercial space would provide necessary room for departments to adequately function while also keeping property on the local tax rolls. But that idea, says Blanchard, comes with its own challenges.

“When we started planning for the new building, we had no idea Grand Union would be moving out,” Blanchard said.

“But leasing a building for the government to use is costly,” he continued. “The owners of that building will want to make a profit and some of the expenses would be school, town, city, and village taxes. Those taxes would be paid with the taxpayers’ money.”

“We could consider leasing a building short term but only in an emergency situation,” he added.

The long-term project makes more sense as the

county owns the property and has been off the tax roll for decades,” said Blanchard. “This saves the taxpayers’ money.”

The discussion over an office building overhaul has been in the works for nearly seven years, although plans of demolishing the county’s current office building and constructing a new facility have only recently been entertained by county legislators.

According to county officials, the current 1960-era office building may be structurally sound, but it simply isn’t conducive to modern business and meeting demands of today’s technology.

Among their concerns, the building has dated electrical and windows, a waning roof and airflow system, and a partial floor below ground level with limited space which makes it near

impossible to install an elevator for easier access to public offices.

The county assembly began exploring the possibility of a new building project in 2024. In May 2025, a \$1.7 million contract agreement was signed with Hunt Engineers, Architects, and Surveyors of Horseheads, NY; and in June, the county board approved the same amount in bonds to cover costs of planning and specifications of the project and signed a \$1.5 million contract with the construction management and consultation company LeChase Construction of Binghamton.

For more information and to follow the project timeline, go to the Chenango County website at www.chenango-countyny.gov.

Leinbach’s Glacier spreads joy during the bitter cold of winter

BY JESSICA BENSON

GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

EARLVILLE – Anyone who has driven on Route 12B between Earlville and Sherburne this winter has encountered an interesting sight. At 114 Reese Road, Earlville, a large ice sculpture can be seen from the road, and every day, the icy temperatures keep the ice sculpture growing.

Property owners Eric and Deb Leinbach said the project started as a fluke.

Eric said he has a small spring on his property that feeds into a pond via a water line that is constantly flowing. “I thought it would be a cool idea to attach



Along Route 12B between Earlville and Sherburne this winter is an interesting sight. A large ice sculpture can be seen from the road, and every day, the icy temperatures keep the ice sculpture growing. (Photo by Jessica Benson)

a pressure washer house to the end of it and make it snow,” Eric said. When Eric came back the next day, there was

no snow, but the water had sprayed all over a tree and created an icy display.

The happy accident

inspired Eric to keep experimenting. “Last year was the first year that it’s been big enough

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Sherburne convenes agricultural roundtable to strengthen local supply chains and support farmers

SHERBURNE - Regional agricultural leaders, farmers, researchers, and economic development partners gathered Thursday at the Sherburne Inn for an agricultural roundtable focused on strengthening local supply chains, supporting farm businesses, and navigating emerging challenges facing American agriculture.

The three-hour convening created space for direct dialogue between farmers and regional institutions to identify barriers, share available resources, and explore pathways for sustainable agricultural economic growth driven by our local community.

The roundtable was convened by Sherburne Town Planning Board Chair Stephanie Staley and Town Supervisor Charlie Mastro, in partnership with the Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, Inc. (MVEDD), in response to feedback gathered during Sherburne's ongoing ten-year comprehensive planning process. Community engagement efforts revealed a clear need for farmers to connect directly with currently available resources while strate-

gizing ways to reduce the administrative and cognitive burden associated with grants, funding, and farming modernization.

Participants included representatives from Cornell University, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chenango County—including Director Craig Brown—as well as representatives from Madison County Cornell Cooperative Extension, Chenango County Farm Bureau, Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, Inc. (MVEDD), and regional agricultural leaders. Dairy farmers and maple producers from Sherburne were in attendance, alongside presenters sharing concrete tools to help local producers access new markets. Notably, Victoria Giarratano of Cornell University presented on the Taste NY program, outlining opportunities for local specialty food producers to place products on shelves regionally and potentially nationally.

Discussions centered on localizing supply chains, integrating academic research directly into farm operations, and identifying systemic resource challenges that limit farmers' access to



Above: Participants and stakeholders mingle at the regional agricultural roundtable. Below: Supervisor Charlie Mastro and Chair Stephanie Staley of the Sherburne Town Planning Board listen to farmers. (Submitted photos by Heather Devitt of Mohawk Valley Economic Development District Inc.)

capital. Mohawk Valley Economic Development, Inc. (MVEDD) and Cornell representatives highlighted grant pathways and technical assistance opportunities, while also identifying current gaps that regional partners can jointly advocate to address.

"It's crucial we get

direct feedback from our farmers. We've heard some of the pitfalls facing farmers, and I'm tired of seeing America bite the hand that feeds," said Stephanie Staley, Chair of the Sherburne Town Planning Board. "I believe everyone in this room has the capacity to come together to

identify and resolve the challenges facing our economy. When farmers are at the center and we come together, I truly believe we can build the American agricultural systems we want with Sherburne leading the way."

As a next step, Chair Staley recommended

integrating this work into Sherburne's comprehensive planning process and aligning it with the community's request for a future business incubator. Participants also expressed interest in a follow-up convening in late 2026 or early 2027, structured as a hands-on workshop to directly connect farmers with technical resources, funding support, and cutting edge implementation tools.

The roundtable reflects a nonpartisan, community-driven approach focused on unity, economic viability, and practical problem-solving, with the goal of ensuring local farmers are equipped to succeed in a rapidly changing policy and market environment.

About the Conveners

The agricultural roundtable was convened by Stephanie Staley, Chair of the Sherburne Town Planning Board, in partnership with Town Supervisor Charlie Mastro and the Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, Inc. (MVEDD), as part of Sherburne's broader comprehensive planning and economic development efforts.

- Information from the Town of Sherburne



By Sophia Root
Commerce Chenango

NORWICH - Commerce Chenango will host their annual Economic Outlook Breakfast on Tuesday, Feb. 24 at the Northeast Classic Car Museum, 24 Rexford Street in Norwich. This event is sponsored by NBT Bank and NBT Insurance Agency and begins at 7:30 a.m. with networking and breakfast, followed by keynote speaker Kenneth J. Entenmann, CFA, NBT Bank's Chief Economist and Chief Investment Officer.

With 40 years of



Commerce Chenango's annual Economic Outlook Breakfast will take place next week at the Northeast Classic Car Museum, in Norwich. The event is sponsored by NBT Bank and NBT Insurance Agency, followed by keynote speaker Kenneth J. Entenmann, CFA, NBT Bank's Chief Economist and Chief Investment Officer. Photos from last year's event. (Photos by Sophia Root)

investment management experience, Entenmann is a trusted voice in the financial world. He's a sought-after speaker, delivering dozens of talks each year to help individuals and businesses understand the

potential impacts of ever-evolving economic and market activity.

"At NBT, we eagerly anticipate this annual opportunity to connect with our local business community," said NBT Bank CEO Scott Kingsley. "This forum

provides an outstanding platform to explore the economic and market dynamics affecting us all in the year ahead."

To register for this event, visit the events calendar at commercechenango.com.

Admission is \$25. Sal Testani, Commerce Chenango President & CEO said, "Commerce Chenango is incredibly fortunate that NBT Bank shares the perspective of their chief economist with our community through this annual event. Ken Entenmann is both entertaining and thoughtful as he offers his perspective on the economy and markets and the forces impacting them. I hope everyone takes advantage of this opportunity."

Commerce Chenango's events and programs are supported by sponsors, including NBT Bank, NBT Insurance Agency, Preferred Mutual Insurance Company,

Kerry Bio Science, Unison, Achieve, Alvogen, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield, Blueox Energy, Evening Sun, Mirabito Energy, Norwich Wealth Management, NYS Veteran's Home at Oxford, and Pennysaver/Impact Marketing.

Organized in 1959, Commerce Chenango is a not-for-profit community-based organization dedicated to enhancing the economic growth of Chenango County and the surrounding area. Visit www.commercechenango.com for more information on Commerce Chenango services and programs.

An opportunity to change how Chenango County does business

BY MISSY HAYES
COMMUNITY COLUMNIST

Chairman Blanchard and Chenango County Supervisors: You have the opportunity to change how the County Supervisors have done business for so many decades!

It's been a secretive society, good 'ole boys network, the old guard, whichever cliché you wish to use. Get elected, don't ask a lot of questions and do what we want, which isn't always what the residents need.

This is well known so I'm not sharing anything new here. I am not the adversary. I am simply one of your constituents asking serious, logical questions in a courteous manner and looking for answers. I'm also suggesting ideas that may or may not have been considered in a real needs assessment, what options can fill those needs, and have all the options been

explored.

Today, I'm sharing an article. I have a membership to Strong Towns which provides valuable information from www.strongtowns.org. While Strong Towns focuses mainly on cities and towns, the information can be extended to larger municipalities.

I'm sharing an article that talks about the following:

"Impact fees fund construction, but critically, they do not fund sustainability. They make it possible to build infrastructure. Ribbons are cut. Photos are taken. The balance sheet looks temporarily healthier because a revenue source exists for construction. But the real costs—operations, maintenance, and eventual replacement—arrive much later. When they do, there is no second impact fee waiting to cover them. This is where the illusion begins. Most municipal insolvency does not begin with reck-

less spending. It begins with deferred maintenance."

I understand Chenango County has tremendous reserves. However, planning for long term sustainability needs to occur alongside the construction design! Sustainability, maintenance, and upgrades seem to be put on the county's back burner. And I use the DPW building and the current office building as examples.

I will take this a step further and suggest that research into business trends and artificial intelligence and how it will affect data collection and providing services needs to happen before you can truly understand what you need in a new facility. You have some unused space in your current office building. You also have some departments located in other buildings.

Serious questions: Has anyone on your building committee researched

how AI will reduce your space needs in the next 4-6 years or how you may be able to consolidate into fewer locations? With AI, digital automation, and remote work opportunities, what will your office space needs actually be? It seems logical to remodel and lease space, certainly for financial reasons, but also to have the opportunity to reduce your leased footprint if/when needed. You can't do this in a structure you build, unless you decide to offer space for rent.

The Grand Union building provides a new opportunity to remodel and lease which fills a vacant building, leaves it on the tax role, gives the county the ability to reduce space (if needed) in the future, provides an existing structure ready to remodel, provides great parking and first floor access, and possibly provides the opportunity to consolidate departments currently in other off-campus buildings.

Bottom line questions, in my opinion, are 1) is it logical to assume that county services can be effectively and reliably offered from spaces other than a brand new building on the county's campus? 2) is it logical to explore the remodel/lease option since the Grand Union recently announced its closure? 3) what committee will need to approve exploring this option and/or approve the new office building project before sending it to the full board for a vote and when? and finally 4) do you want to know what your constituents think?

Supervisors are elected to reflect the will, needs, and priorities of their residents. Knowing constituent views helps ensure decisions align with public interests rather than assumptions or narrow perspectives.

Public hearings, comment periods, and transparency requirements exist so officials consid-

er citizen input before major actions—especially spending, land use, and long-term capital projects.

When residents feel heard, they're more likely to trust county government—even if they disagree with outcomes. Engagement builds credibility and reduces cynicism.

Supervisors are stewards of public funds and authority. Understanding constituent sentiment helps them justify decisions and remain accountable at election time

Constituents often provide real-world insight into how policies affect daily life—taxes, infrastructure, public safety, schools, zoning, etc. This feedback can reveal unintended consequences or practical improvements.

Link to Strongtowns: www.strongtowns.org and www.strongtowns.org/journal/2026-2-4-the-impact-fee-illusion?apxci=00641aeeba663a3f6f3e8500&utm_campaign=4-general-digest-26-2-6&utm_content=4-general-digest-26-2-6&utm_medium=email&utm_source=orto

StoopFest for Steve to raise funds and spirits on February 22

BAINBRIDGE - Community members come together to support of Steve Eisenburg, a self-employed carpenter, musician, and well-respected member of the Bainbridge community, who was recently diagnosed with Stage 4 lung cancer.

Steve is currently undergoing a variety of

treatments, including chemotherapy, and is no longer able to work. Members of the musical community have banded together to organize a special fundraising event, not to cover his staggering medical bills, but to help provide for his "daily bread" and other essential living expenses. Just as

importantly, organizers hope the outpouring of support will help lift his spirits, because community support is good medicine.

The fundraising event, "StoopFest for Steve," will be held on Sunday, February 22, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Sidney Community Cultural Center.

The event will feature over a dozen performers across two stages, highlighting the strength and generosity of the local music community.

The festival's name pays tribute to Steve's longtime summer concert series, "Music on the Stoop," which he has hosted for many years in downtown Bainbridge.

Community members who wish to contribute can do so through GoFundMe under "StoopFest-for-Steve." Organizers are also seeking gift certificates, gift cards, and themed baskets from businesses and individuals for on-site raffles during the event.

Supporters can fol-

low event updates on Facebook at "StoopFest for Steve."

Organizers extend their heartfelt thanks to everyone contributing to Steve's financial support and well-being.

- Information from the Bainbridge Chamber of Commerce

Leinbach's Glacier spreads joy during the bitter cold of winter -

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to see from the road," he said. Last winter, the project began in December and the ice sculpture was located behind the pond. Only the top of it could be seen from the road. This year, Eric knew he wanted to do more.

"We began at the end of November," Eric said. To make the display more visible, he and Deb added lights to the display early, but because of the rapidly building ice, the lights quickly became buried. "The first set shorted out, but we keep adding more as it gets thicker." Colored solar lights were just

added to the front of the display to illuminate it last week.

According to Eric, the goal is to try to get the glacier sculpture to be as big as it can be, but of course, much of that is up to nature. "The thicker and harder the ice is, the more it has that natural blue tint," Eric said.

The water line sprays

out onto two trees that were previously planted on the property. Eric said both trees died before they began using them as a base for the sculpture. Additional branches and tree parts were brought over and ratchet strapped to the existing base.

"We've had lots of interest from the pub-

lic," Eric said. "If we're here working for half an hour at least five cars stop to take a look."

"Our goal is to give people something to talk about and a little fun in the longest part of winter," Deb said. "It feels good to be bringing smiles to people's faces." Eric and Deb welcome people to check

out Leinbach's Glacier but cautioned that spectators should view the glacier from the road. The conditions near the glacier are icy and dangerous due to the constantly shooting water. Those who are unable to see the glacier in person can follow along by searching for Leinbach's Glacier on Facebook.

NY State Police: Norwich man charged with felony assault after attack with liquor bottle

NORWICH - On February 8 the New York State Police arrested Mark A. Lunsford, 30 of Norwich for the class "E" felony of 2nd degree attempted assault, and 4th degree criminal mischief.

Just after 1:00 p.m., NY Troopers were dispatched to a domes-

tic dispute on County Road 19 in the Town of Plymouth.

A police investigation determined that after a disagreement with a victim, Lunsford punched the victim then struck the victim in the head with a glass liquor bottle causing it to break. The fight was broken apart

by a third party and Lunsford left the scene.

Lunsford was located at a residence in the city of Norwich and arrested. He was transported to the Chenango County jail for centralized arraignment.

- Information from the NYS

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Outdoor Chenango: Conservation economics



Eric Davis

Outdoor Chenango

What is the difference between preservation and conservation? Can you give an example of each?

These questions are commonly asked at Sportsman Education courses. I also remember getting asked this question as an undergraduate student in the Wildlife Management program at SUNY Cobleskill. I have even been asked this question when being interviewed for various job openings in the fish and wildlife field.

Preservation is the act of managing something

in a way by doing very little to nothing. Think of the root of the word, preserve. The goal of preservation is to protect nature from human use. Conservation is the protection of natural resources through active management. This means studying the resources and using various management tools to arrive at the best outcome for the resources. Regulated hunting is a common tool used in conservation. It is also worth recognizing that doing nothing is a tool used in conservation sometimes.

As already mentioned, regulated hunting is a tool used in conservation. In North America, unlike anywhere else in the world, the wildlife of the nation is considered a public resource no matter where they may live. With this notion, the government is responsible for managing these resources on behalf of the public. Under the model, the

public is given access to the resources through regulated hunting.

The benefits of hunting include helping prevent disease spread by reducing high populations, providing a source of lean organic meat, and balancing human-wildlife conflict. Deer hunting helps reduce deer populations which results in over 200% fewer deer-vehicle collisions than if deer hunting was not allowed in the United States. Humans can mentally benefit directly from hunting. A 2002 study indicated that hunters ranked experiencing solitude, relaxation and relieving stress, and time to think among the most popular outcomes associated with hunting.

Hunting helps fund state wildlife agencies through excise taxes and license sales. The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (also known as the Pittman-Robertson Act) puts an excise tax on firearms,

ammunition and other hunting and shooting items that are collected from the manufacturer directly. This money is held by the Department of the Interior and is dispersed to each state using a formula based on how many hunting licenses were sold by the state as a fraction of all the licenses sold nationwide and how big the state is. It is usually close to a \$3-to-\$1 ratio for federal to state money.

Over \$18 million of hunting licenses were sold in New York for the 2024-2025 season. In 1970, the Act was amended to provide funding for hunter education and public target ranges in addition to the original purpose of restoration of wild birds and mammals and to acquire, develop, and manage their habitats. So not only do hunters directly contribute to the conservation of game animals by buying their license, they also contribute when

they purchase firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, and other hunting equipment. In 2017, \$882 million were apportioned nationwide under the Pittman-Robertson Act.

Hunters also impact habitat management through the purchase of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp, also called the Federal Duck Stamp. In 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act. All waterfowl hunters who are 16 years old and older must purchase and carry a Federal Duck Stamp with them while waterfowl hunting. Out of every dollar that purchases a duck stamp, 98 cents go directly towards the purchase or lease of wetlands and wildlife habitat. Since it was passed, the Duck Stamp Act has collected over \$800 million that protected over 5 million acres of habitat across the United States. Currently, the Federal

Duck Stamp costs \$25 and is available for purchase at United States Postal Service Offices.

There are additional economic impacts of hunting to local communities. Hunters may travel out of town to go hunting, where they will spend money on gas, food, and hotel rooms. Gun shops are always busy during the last week or two before the start of gun season. It seems that every hunter stops hunting on opening day so that they can all go to the diner for coffee at the same time! The money they spend at local businesses help pay the employees of those stores. The stores also collect sales tax, some of which goes to the local government and can end up being used to repair roads or provide other services to the community.

Free freshwater fishing days are announced

ALBANY — Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) have announced the 2026 dates for Free Fishing Days in New York. The requirement for a freshwater fishing license is waived during the following six days in 2026: February 14 through 15, June 27 through 28, September 26 (National Hunting and Fishing Day), and November 11 (Veterans' Day). Free Fishing Days support the governor's "Get Offline, Get Outside" initiative.

"Free Fishing Days

provide the perfect opportunity for residents and visitors to affordably explore, unplug, and get outside," Governor Hochul said. "New York State's waters offer some of the best fishing opportunities in the nation, hosting memorable fishing experiences that increase tourism and benefit the economy. In addition to the many health benefits associated with recreating outdoors, fishing can provide more opportunities to connect with family and friends, something that seems harder and harder to do with increasing demands on time in today's world."

DEC's Free Fishing Days program began in 1991 to give New Yorkers who might not fish a chance to try the rewarding sport of freshwater fishing at no cost, introduce people to a new hobby, and encourage people to support conservation by purchasing a New York State Fishing License.

Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Amanda Lefton said, "A wide variety of sport fish are thriving in thousands of freshwater lakes, ponds, streams, and rivers across New York State. Recreational fishing can be an exciting, affordable, and rewarding challenge that reminds us to slow down and take time to enjoy our valuable natural resources.

Whether you're new to the sport or a seasoned angler, I encourage everyone to get outside and visit New York's waters during this year's Free Fishing Days."

DEC offers a host of resources for those interested in getting started in fishing. The "I Fish NY Beginners' Guide to Freshwater Fishing" provides information on everything from rigging up a fishing rod, to identifying your catch and understanding fishing regulations. There's also a video series on DEC's YouTube channel that complements the Beginners' Guide. DEC's Places to Fish webpages are a reliable source of information when planning your next fishing trip. DEC's official mobile app, HuntFishNY, now

features "The Tackle Box," which provides anglers with one-stop shopping for fishing regulations, boating access, and stocking information within a map-based interface from the convenience of your smart phone.

Free Fishing Days further support Governor Hochul's "Get Offline, Get Outside" initiative that promotes physical and mental health by encouraging New York's children and families to put down their phones and computers, take a break from social media, and enjoy recreation and outdoor social gatherings. One of the ways teens and youth can find ideas to get offline is through DEC's Get Offline, Get Outside Challenge, which offers 50 fun and interesting activities for youth to complete by the age of 19.

In addition to Free Fishing Days, there are also "learn to fish" opportunities available through DEC-approved free fishing clinics. For a list of what's currently scheduled visit DEC's website.

To help make fishing more affordable and

help inspire the next generation of anglers, DEC has also partnered with libraries across the state to provide a Fishing Rod Lending Program. While borrowing a book, library patrons can sign out a fishing rod. This program offers an opportunity for people to try fishing before deciding to purchase their own gear. For more information and a list of the more than 80 participating libraries, visit DEC's website.

Free Fishing Day participants are reminded that although the requirement for a freshwater fishing license is waived during free fishing days, all other fishing regulations remain in effect. Outside of free fishing days, anglers over the age of 16 must have a valid fishing license. For more information on purchasing a license visit DEC's website.

The New York State Department of Health (DOH) provides advice to anglers about what fish are safe to eat and how often. Visit DOH's website to search by waterbody location.

— From New York State DEC

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THE EVENING SUN
The GAZETTE
Wharton Valley

Luncheon at Gilbertsville Baptist Church

GILBERTSVILLE-A soup and sandwich luncheon will be held on Saturday, Feb. 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the New Life Fellowship Hall, Baptist Church,

Commercial Street, Gilbertsville. The menu will feature a variety of soups, chili, sandwiches and pie for dessert. Eat in or take out with a free will offering.

The Early Files *by Peggy Finnegan*

WEEK #8

THIRTY YEARS AGO

February 22, 1996

Looks like we are in for some more snow.

Town officials, in a report to FEMA, now estimate damages from January floods to be \$311,000, an increase of \$27,300 from original figures.

Pittsfield Man Killed in Pedestrian Accident

FORTY YEARS AGO

February 19, 1986

Snowbanks are very high.

Expansion of the library planned to include space for meetings of the many organizations which use the facility.

Laurie Paddock turned 14.

B.J. Stebbins escaped serious injury when a branch fell on his head as he was cutting a tree.

Mrs. Mae Balcolm saw a sun dog – the most beautiful she had ever seen.

FOR SALE: 2 bdrm mobile home, blocks, skirting. Clean. \$4,495, \$550 down.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

February 18, 1976

We are enjoying milder weather and bare roads for the first time this year.

Mrs. Ron Bice was injured when a silo unloader broke, cutting her head.

Lucinda Parker was named ECS Betty Crocker Family Leader

of Tomorrow.

A woodchuck crawled out through the snow, then crawled back for another nap.

SIXTY YEARS AGO

February 25, 1966

A statewide sales tax became a way of life for everyone in New York August 1st.

Theodore Welch was born Dec. 24, 1883, the son of Frederick and Genevieve Collins Welch.

Baby David Cornell spent the afternoon at his grandparent's while his parents enjoyed a movie in Norwich.

The key from a sardine or coffee can may be used as a camp needle.

SEVENTY YEARS AGO

February 23, 1956

Fred Wadsworth had the misfortune to fall in such a manner that his legs were run over by an ECS bus.

Arthur Hayes, 76, died two hours after a head-on collision below White Store.

Mrs. Harold Larrabee sprained her ankle. She is able to get around but is limping slightly.

Dennis Bolton is recovering from pneumonia as an after-effect of chicken pox.

The Fire Dept. was called to the Eldred Lamb farm to extinguish a chimney fire.

EIGHTY YEARS AGO

February 20, 1946

Winter lashed back with fury after several days of mild weather. Over a foot of snow fell in the storm.

Charles Gardner is cutting logs for George Lyon.

A large basement barn on the Harold Schmidt farm burned to the ground due to defective wiring.

Elbert Rood entertained a party of eight at pitch.

John Ludington returned to his pre-war business of managing the Socony gas station in Edmeston.

Word was received of the tragic death of Norman Kaiser, 16, when his truck and an O&W train collided near Solsville.

Sheffields put a new metal smokestack on their plant.

WANTED TO HIRE: Single lady under 40 who is neat and good with the public to work in second-hand store. Good pay and good hours.

NINETY YEARS AGO

February 19, 1936

The snow plow got into a ditch near Irving Dart's and, during the time that elapsed, the celebrated White Horse Pass around the bend east of Grant Myers' filled badly.

The snow fence from the Myers curve to Columbus was long ago covered up, but the tops

of the telephone poles are yet visible.

Jay Risedorph is confined to his home by an injury received when he stepped on a spike, which entered the ball of his foot.

The damage that birds do to crops should be viewed as pay for ridding fields of insects and weeds.

Ronald Truax is suffering from ear trouble.

We are constantly told to give to the poor. The rich take without asking.

Arthur Myers' chimney burned out, making quite a scare. No damage was done.

The Sherburne school bus was unable to reach Columbus Friday. The road was opened just before noon.

Many are unable to get into the woods after fuel and are turning to oil and coal fires.

Raymond Horstman is out of school with a hard cold.

Miss Ethel Payne has returned home from nursing George Nearing, who passed away.

Leon Johnson was unable to make the school bus trips several times last week on account of impassable roads. The rural mail man also encountered the same difficulty.

A Chicagoan visiting Wisconsin made a phone call. Upon asking the charge, he was told 50c. "50c? Great Scot! In Chicago you can call up hell for 50c." "Possibly,"

cooly answered the operator, "It's in the city limits."

HUNDRED YEARS AGO

February 19, 1926

Thaws and rain are following the severe weather of the past few weeks.

Slash boards and manholes on the dam have been removed after icing operations at Waddingtons. If normal conditions exist this spring, lower Genesee street will not be flooded by backwater from the river.

In 24 days, 9,200 tons of ice were harvested by Waddingtons.

Twenty young people enjoyed a coasting party at the home of H.A. Follett.

Will Miller finished filling the ice house in Hoboken.

FOR SALE: Farm of 50 acres, good location on state road. \$1,200 to quick buyer.

110 YEARS AGO

February 18, 1916

The new U.S. submarine chase is capable of making 41 mph.

Supt. A.C. Bowers reports having seen his first robin of the year on Wednesday last.

A party, consisting of Charles Havens and wife, S.B. Sherman and wife, Floyd Jackson and wife, Elmer Welch and wife, W.J. Depee and wife and Clayton Jacobs and wife, enjoyed a sleigh ride to

New Berlin and took in the moving pictures.

A cat owned by A.E. Cuyle came out victorious in a battle with a skunk, killing its opponent. That is sure some cat.

A young man named Barrett Talbot arrived at the home of Isaac Welch, and in honor of the arrival I.T. smiled broadly, passed cigars to the men and over 16 pounds of candy to the ladies. Congratulations and thanks for the treat.

Just what constitutes a "reasonable amount of liquor that can be purchased in restaurants and consumed after 1:00 a.m." is bothering Chicago city fathers. Estimates range from a bottle to a keg.

John Hunter, who has been working at Earlville, has returned to the Borden Farm and will take charge of the calves.

William A. Card is confined to the bed with the grip.

Earl Matthews is drawing reins over a new horse.

Nelson Riley Gregory died after a long illness. Funeral services will be held at the school in Pecktown.

FOR RENT: Six room flat electric lights and bath. E.O. Colgrove, No. Main St.

Valuable income tax credits provide financial boost to New York families

NEW YORK STATE - The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance today urged taxpayers to review their eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Empire State Child Credit. Both credits provide financial boosts to hardworking families.

"The Earned Income Tax Credit and expanded Empire State Child Credit put money directly into the pockets of working taxpayers," said New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Acting Commissioner Amanda Hiller. "I encourage all those eligible to take advantage of these valuable benefits that can be a financial lifeline for

those struggling to make ends meet."

The Earned Income Tax Credit is a refundable credit for working taxpayers who earn less than \$68,675. This means taxpayers get a refund even if the credit amount is more than what they owe in taxes.

When combined, Federal, New York State, and New York City Earned Income Tax Credits can be worth \$12,873 for a family with three or more qualifying children.

Every year, thousands of New Yorkers qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit for the first time because of changes to their financial situation, filing status, or per-

sonal life. For eligibility requirements, please see the Tax Department's Earned Income Credit (New York State) webpage. For federal qualifications, see the IRS Earned Income Tax Credit webpage.

For tax year 2025, the Empire State Child Credit has been substantially enhanced. The maximum amount for the Empire State child credit for children under age four increased from \$330 to \$1,000 per child. This refundable credit provides support to eligible families who file New York State income tax returns.

You are eligible for this refundable credit if you are a full-year New

York State resident and have at least one qualifying child less than 17 years old on December 31 of the year you are claiming the credit for. For more information on this credit, visit Empire State child credit.

Taxpayers must file a personal income tax return to receive both credits, even if they don't owe any taxes. Most taxpayers who are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Empire State Child Credit, are likely also eligible to take advantage of the free e-filing options available through the Tax Department. Options include:

Depending on your income and other crite-

ria, you may be eligible to use Free File software to e-file your federal and state income tax returns at no cost through the Tax Department website.

Take advantage of this truly free service each year, saving hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars in tax-preparation costs.

Free File information is available in multiple languages on the Tax Department's website, www.tax.ny.gov.

If you don't qualify for Free File, we have other options—including some other free ones—that may work for you. See other e-file options for personal income tax to learn more.

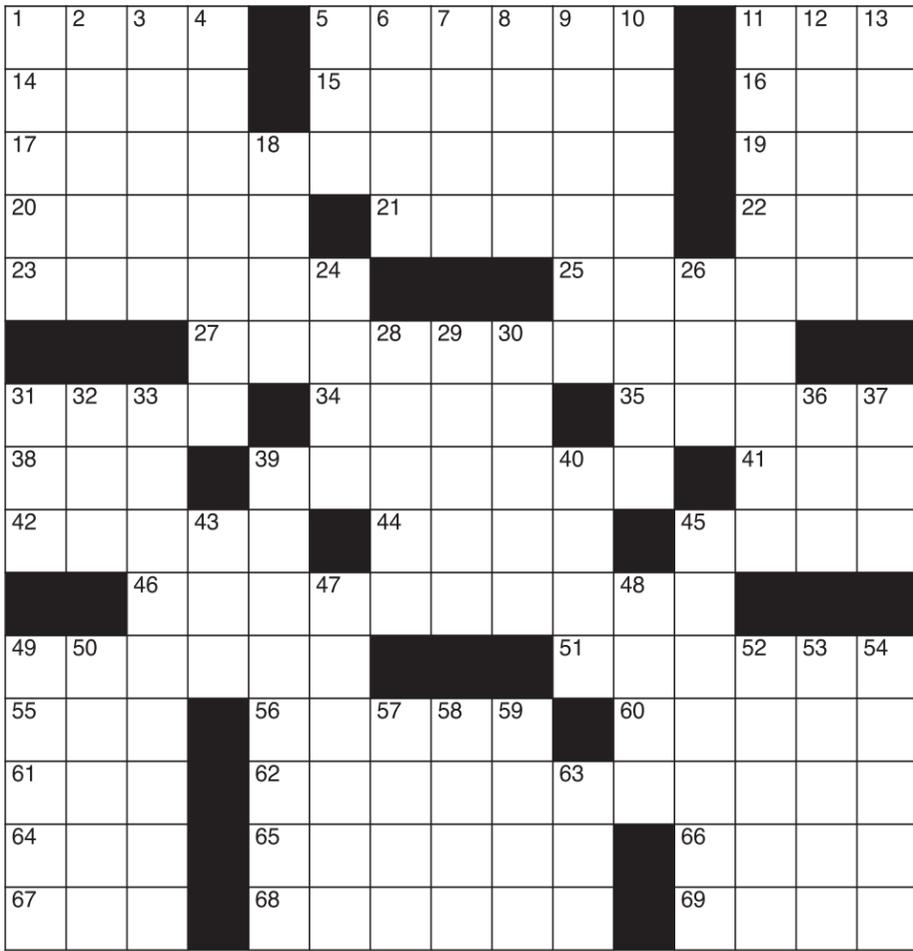
For taxpayers

who qualify, the Tax Department's Taxpayer Assistance Program (TAP) can help electronically prepare and file their federal and state income tax returns at no cost.

During a scheduled session, Tax Department representatives will guide taxpayers through free tax preparation software, step-by-step, as they complete and file their own tax return. The Tax Department's online tax software is a safe and secure way to file. It's quick and easy!

Visit the Taxpayer Assistance Program to register for a session.

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Cut quickly
- 5. A way to state clearly
- 11. River in NE Scotland
- 14. Expansive
- 15. Lacking social polish
- 16. Amount of time
- 17. Frame
- 19. Automobile
- 20. Toadstools
- 21. High school dances
- 22. Utilize
- 23. Experimented with
- 25. One-sided
- 27. Acquisitive
- 31. Potted plants
- 34. Everyone has one
- 35. Kalahari Desert lake
- 38. Unidentified flying object
- 39. People 65 and over
- 41. Small amount
- 42. Daughter of Acrisius
- 44. Ornamental box
- 45. Government agents
- 46. Uncertain
- 49. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
- 51. Treeless plains
- 55. One's sense of self-importance
- 56. Consumer advocate
- 60. Type of lounge
- 61. Body part
- 62. Can be persuaded
- 64. Woman (French)
- 65. Ready and willing to be taught
- 66. Arab ruler title
- 67. Unhappy
- 68. Gradually went away
- 69. Able to think clearly

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Brushed
- 2. Small water spirit (Germ.)
- 3. Heroes
- 4. Monetary units
- 5. Some don't want to share theirs
- 6. Free-swimming invertebrate
- 7. Litigates
- 8. Outer
- 9. Parallelograms
- 10. Uneasy feelings
- 11. Cross
- 12. A way to remove
- 13. Pages can be dog-__
- 18. Ukrainian city
- 24. A citizen of Denmark
- 26. Month
- 28. Hindu queens
- 29. Group of chemicals
- 30. Rider of Rohan
- 31. Wet dirt
- 32. Southwestern Russia city
- 33. Observed
- 36. Angry
- 37. Drivers' licenses
- 39. Musical composition
- 40. Auction
- 43. They __
- 45. Women
- 47. Be filled with love for
- 48. Thick-soled sock
- 49. Appears
- 50. Old World lizard
- 52. The leading performer
- 53. Protein
- 54. "Gunga Din" script writer
- 57. Art __, around 1920
- 58. __ Blyton, children's author
- 59. Abnormal breathing
- 63. A place to rest

WORD SEARCH

LIBRARY VISIT WORD SEARCH



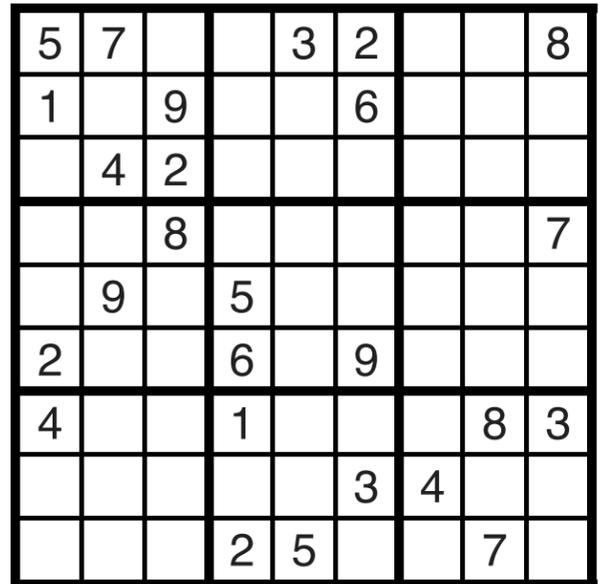
Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

- ARCHIVES
- ARRIVAL
- AUDIOBOOKS
- BIBLIOGRAPHY
- CATALOG
- CHECKOUT
- CIRCULATION
- COLLECTIONS
- DATABASE
- DESK
- LIBRARIAN
- LIBRARY
- LOAN
- MICROFICHE
- PERIODICALS
- QUIET
- READING
- REFERENCE
- RESERVE
- RETURN
- SHELF
- STACKS
- STUDY
- SYSTEM

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

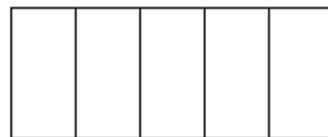


Level: Intermediate

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to the library.

S B K O O



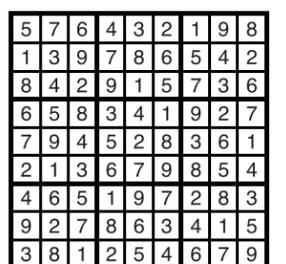
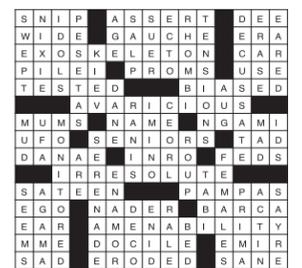
Answer: Books

GUESS WHO?

I am a singer/actress born in California on February 20, 2003. My acting debut was a role based on a character from a book series I was introduced to as a child. Early in my career I starred in movies and in a Disney show before progressing to music. A song about driving propelled my fame.

Answer: Olivia Rodrigo

Solutions:





The Chenango Arts Council will offer two Paint and Sip workshops in the month of February, in two different mediums. Both taught by Kathleen Smith. The watercolor class will be held on February 21 and an oil on February 28, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Submitted photo)

Chenango Arts Council offers 'paint and sip' creative workshops

NORWICH – The Chenango Arts Council is pleased to offer two Paint and Sip workshops in the month of February, in two different mediums. Both taught by Kathleen Smith, a watercolor class will be held on February 21 and an oil on February 28, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

All skill levels are welcome. Supplies and step by step instruction will be provided, as well as wine thanks to Nazzito's Wines and Liquors.

Students can register for these workshops at ChenangoArts.org, as well as view the paintings that will be taught.

"Kathleen's last watercolor workshop filled up so quickly," said Programming and Development Coordinator Mary Beth Miller about a recent session, "We're excited to

offer another. Everyone had a blast."

The classes will be held in Chenango Arts Council's classroom at 27 West Main Street, Norwich, 13815. Tickets are \$60 for CAC members, \$55 for non-members.

Chenango Arts Council would like to thank NBT Bank, the Roger Follett Foundation and The New York State Council on the Arts. Chenango Arts Council's programming is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

For more information, Chenango Arts Council can be reached at (607)336-2787 or info@chanangoarts.org.

Winter hours at Guilford Historical Society

GUILFORD – The Guilford Historical Society's "Tom and Wilma Gray" Research Room will be open on the second Saturday of the winter months, January through April.

The library contains extensive genealogy records for Guilford families, area cemetery records, local scrapbooks, Guilford school records, church information and much more

relating to Guilford. It will be open from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Feb. 14, March 14 and April 1; with the town historian, archivist or GHS members ready to help visitors.

The Society building is located at 124 County Road 36 in Guilford Center.

- information from the Guilford Historical Society

Chris Jones & the Night Drivers to perform at the Bainbridge Town Hall Theatre

BAINBRIDGE - If you love bluegrass music, don't miss Chris Jones & the Night Drivers when they perform at the Bainbridge Town Hall Theatre on Saturday February 21 at 7 PM. Chris Jones & the Night Drivers make some of the most distinctively elegant yet driving bluegrass music heard anywhere today.

Deeply rooted in tradition but never bound to it, they deliver original music with tight arrangements, emotional authenticity, and engaging humor. As actor and banjo player Steve Martin says, "Chris Jones' voice is there with the great masters," adding that the Night Drivers are "some of the best players in bluegrass."

Chris Jones' "Fork in the Road" won the IBMA Song of the Year award in 2007, when it appeared on the Infamous Stringdusters' album of the same name. Today, Chris continues to build on his sparkling career by writing new songs that display solid craftsmanship, deep emotion, and inventive subject matter. As he has for the past two decades, Chris creates original bluegrass music that maintains the highest standards, lyri-



Chris Jones & the Night Drivers will perform at the Bainbridge Town Hall Theatre on Saturday February 21 at 7 P.M. (Submitted photo)

cally and musically. He shows that it is possible to write directly from the heart in a way that is authentic to the roots of bluegrass as well as the contemporary world in which he lives. Make Each Second Last is the first band album to feature all material written or co-written by Jones. Bluegrass is fortunate to have such a dedicated, talented, and tasteful songwriter working in the genre, and still at the top of his game.

Collectively, Chris Jones & the Night Drivers have won 12 IBMA awards and have racked up 27 #1 songs. The band's full-length release, their first all-original album, Make Each Second Last, has received rave reviews and yielded an unprece-

dedented eight consecutive #1 songs, including the title track "We Needed This Ride." Their song, "Riding the Chief," co-written by Chris and Thomm Jutz, was nominated for 2022 IBMA Song of the Year. They have topped both the Bluegrass Today and Roots Music Review airplay charts with the latest album. Their new EP is Pages in Your Hand, has also yielded two more #1 songs, including the title track.

In July of 2022, they made their debut on The Grand Ole Opry and were soon asked to return. Chris Jones & the Night Drivers are currently signed to one of bluegrass music's top record labels, Mountain Home Music Company, for whom they've

recorded five critically acclaimed albums.

Chris Jones & the Night Drivers have become popular repeat performers at major festivals like Merlefest in North Carolina, California's Huck Finn Jubilee, and the Walnut Valley Festival in Winfield, Kansas. They have filled a wide variety of venues around the world, touring across the U.S. and Canada, and all over Europe, including Germany, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, and Ireland.

Members of the band are Chris Jones, Mark Stoffel, Nelson Williams and Grace Van't Hof. Check out their website at <https://chrisjonesgrass.com/>,

Doors open at 6:00 pm and all performances are open seating. Tickets are available at the door or you may reserve a ticket ahead by calling 607-288-3882. Tickets that evening are \$18/\$15. In the art gallery that evening, the works of Danielle Haney will be featured. The gallery is open at 6 pm before the show through intermission and is free to the public. For further information or to see future events visit www.jerichoarts.com.

- Information from the JAC

Bainbridge Free Library offers variety of activities this February

BAINBRIDGE - The Bainbridge Free Library hosting a variety of engaging activities in February. Whether you're a book lover, a craft enthusiast, or simply looking for a fun way to spend time with loved ones, there's something for everyone.

From now until Valentine's Day, the library is hosting a special event called "A Surprise Valentine (With a Book!)". Patrons can choose a wrapped book from the display, check it out, unwrap it, and enjoy the surprise read. It's a perfect way for book lovers to add a bit of mystery and excitement to their reading routine.

For those who enjoy crafting, the Yarn Group meets every Saturday from 10:00 AM to Noon. It's a relaxed and friendly environment where participants can bring their knitting, crochet, or other yarn projects to work on while socializing with others. It's an ideal way to unwind and share tips with fellow crafters.

On Wednesdays at 10:30 AM, the library offers Storytime, a great opportunity for young children to develop early reading skills through a fun mix of stories, songs, and activities. This interactive session is perfect for children ages 0-5, providing an enjoyable way to encourage a love

of books and learning.

On Saturday, February 21st, the library is hosting a Cookie Decorating Workshop at 1:30 PM. This hands-on event, led by talented baker Erin Kiser, is open to both adults and children ages 5 and up. It's a great chance to bond with family members while learning the art of cookie decorating. Space is limited, so sign up soon for this sweet opportunity to create delicious memories together.

Finally, the library's Book Club meets on Thursday, February 26th at 11:00 AM. It's an informal gathering for anyone interested in discussing what they're reading, sharing book

recommendations, and showing some love for literature. It's a great way to connect with fellow readers and discover new books.

The Bainbridge Free Library is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:45 AM to 5:00 PM, and on Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. For more information or to sign up for events, stop by the library or give them a call. Don't miss out on the exciting activities this February at the Bainbridge Free Library!

- Information from the Bainbridge Free Library

DCMO BOCES students participate in SkillsUSA Regional Competition



Advisor of the year: NY Skills USA Area II Vice President Pierce Haney introduces DCMO BOCES Culinary Arts teacher and SkillsUSA chapter advisor Jeanni Romanowski, this year's Area II Advisor of the Year.



Kaedin VanEchoute, Morris CSD 1st Place Heavy Equipment Operations



Mackenzie Spain, Unatego CSD 1st Place, Restaurant Service



LeAnna Crandall, Sidney CSD 1st Place, Nurse Assisting (Photos from DCMO BOCES)

MORRISVILLE, NY — Students from DCMO BOCES Robert W. Harrold Campus in Sidney Center and Alan D. Pole Campus in Norwich participated in the SkillsUSA Area II Competition, held at SUNY Morrisville on February 6, with nine students and a chapter advisor bringing home awards. The regional event featured 50 hands-on competitions, with approximately 975 students representing 25 schools, including CTE centers and high

schools with SkillsUSA chapters. Students demonstrated technical skills, professionalism, and leadership across a wide range of contests. DCMO BOCES student Pierce Haney (Unatego CSD) had a busy role at the event, as he is current Area II Vice President. SkillsUSA is a national organization that helps students develop the skills they need for technical, skilled, and service careers through a partnership among students, teachers, and

industry professionals. It hosts competitions on the national, state and regional levels for students. Jennifer Lawrence, Director of Career and Technical Education at DCMO BOCES, serves as the Administrator Trustee of Area II. Nanette LaTourette, Human and Retail Services Teacher at Harrold Campus, also serves as an Advisor Trustee of Area II. SkillsUSA advisors at Harrold Campus are Nanette LaTourette (Human and Retail Services

Teacher) and Jeanni Romanowski (Culinary Arts Instructor). Jamie Milk (Culinary Arts LTA) and Amanda Larsen (Conservation) LTA are the SkillsUSA advisors at Pole Campus.

DCMO BOCES is a regional provider of educational services to students and schools, and operates school campuses in Sidney Center and Norwich. To find out more about DCMO BOCES services and programs, visit www.dcmoboces.com.

Competition Results

From Harrold Campus: 2nd Place, Automotive Service – Basic: Kayla Escobar, Unatego CSD; 1st Place, Heavy Equipment Operations: Kaedin VanEchoute, Morris CSD; 1st Place, Restaurant Service: Mackenzie Spain, Unatego CSD; 2nd Place, Basic Healthcare: Chloe Stilson, Unatego CSD; 3rd Place, Basic Healthcare: Taylor French, Gilbertsville-Mount Upton CSD; 2nd Place, Medical Math:

Jade Lindroth, Gilbertsville-Mount Upton CSD; 1st Place, Nurse Assisting: LeAnna Crandall, Sidney CSD

From Pole Campus: 3rd Place Nurse Assisting: Avery Solloway, Sherburne-Earlville CSD; 3rd Place: Cabinetmaking: Tallan Davis, Greene CSD

Recognition: Area II Advisor of the Year: Jeanni Romanowski (Harrold Campus)

— Information from DCMO BOCES



Tallan Davis, Greene CSD



Kayla Escobar, Unatego CSD



Taylor French, Gilbertsville-Mount Upton CSD



Jade Lindroth, Gilbertsville-Mount Upton CSD



Avery Solloway, Sherburne-Earlville CSD



Chloe Stilson, Unatego CSD

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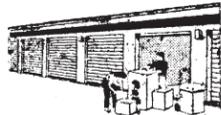


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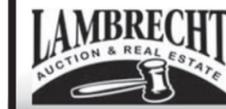
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Local indoor track teams at Section IV Class Championships; B-G girls win Section IV, Class C title

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

ITHACA - The Section IV indoor track Class Championships took place on Saturday at Cornell University in Ithaca, where the Bainbridge-Guilford/Afton/Harpursville indoor track team won the Class C/D meet as the boys took second behind Oneonta. Congratulations!

Full results can be found on ny.milesplit.com.

Good luck to everyone at the State Qualifiers meet on February 20 at Ithaca College.

BGAH:

Girls' Track:

Congratulations once again to the BGAH girls' indoor team on winning the Class C title with a total of 80 points.

Maddie Ingham took second in the 1000 meter run with a time of 3:18.14, behind Dryden's leading 3:10.58.

Ingham and Madisyn Larsen both ran the 600 meters, where Larsen took second with a time of 1:43.82, behind the leader's 1:43.62.

Ingham came in third with a time of 1:45.43.

Tabitha Charette took third in the 1500 meter race walk with a time of 9:19.62 as Isabel Suda finished fourth with a time of 9:52.87.

LaFever, Madi Beardslee, Jenna Wilson, and Sophia Suda competed in the 4x800 meter relay, where they finished fourth with a time of 11:59.65.

Ingham, Larsen, Laila Williams, and Isabel Suda took second in the 4x400 meter relay with a time of 4:30.42, behind UV's leading 4:28.67.

Macey LaFever came in seventh place in the 3000 meter run with a time of 13:25.36 with teammate Ariana Nieves behind her in eighth place with a time of 15:39.55.

Brenna George finished 14th in the 55 meter dash with a time of 8.15 seconds with Elanor Sprow in 21st with a time of 8.56 seconds.

Emma Snow finished 27th in the 300 meter dash with a time of 52.44 seconds as Railey Odell had a 33rd place finish with a time of 56.19 seconds.

Girls' Fielding:

Appalonia Bushaw

became a Section IV, Class C champion in the girls' long jump with a jump of 17 feet, five and a half inches. Kathleen Charette came in seventh place with a jump of 13 feet, three and 3/4 inches.

Bushaw took third in the high jump, clearing five feet, one inch.

Brooklenn Hall came in sixth place in the triple jump with a jump of 29-0.75 with Elanor Sprow in ninth place (27-7.50).

Tori Suda took second in the girls' weight throw with a throw of 39 feet, two inches, behind Oneonta's leading 47-8.50.

Emilie Hopkins finished fourth with a throw of 27 feet, four inches.

Suda took third in the shot put with a throw of 31 feet, three and a half inches.

Marissa Mayo came in fifth place with a throw of 31-0.75 with Abbagayle Fitzgerald in sixth with a throw of 28 feet exactly.

Boys' Track:

The BGAH boys' indoor track team took second in Class C with 69.50 points as Oneonta won with a final score of 79.50.

A team of Ethan Beardslee, Sean Fowler, Jackari Garipoli, and Owen Degan took second in the 4x800 meter relay with a time of 8:57.75, behind Walton's leading 8:55.82.

The BGAH boys' 4x800 also broke the indoor record, that had been in place for 14 years, said Coach Nick Mayo.

Camren Cuzzo, Keegan Milk, Zane Mumbulo, and Davis Barnard finished seventh in the 4x200 meter relay with a time of 1:51.47.

Harpo Hardt led the BGAH boys with a second place finish in the 55 meter hurdles with a time of 7.98 seconds, behind Oneonta's leading 7.93 seconds.

Owen Degan finished fourth in the 3200 meter run with a time of 10:05.71 as Rowan Beasinger earned a top 10 finish with a time of 11:47.53.

Degan picked up another fourth place finish in the 1600 meters with a time of 4:53.79.

Harpo Hardt came in fourth place in the 55 meter dash with a time of 6.85 seconds with

Isaiah Hampton behind him, tied for fifth place with a time of 6.86 seconds.

Sean Fowler took fifth in the 1000 meter run with a time of 2:50.87 as Jackari Garipoli ran to a seventh place finish in the 600 meters with a time of 1:34.06.

Theo Loya finished 25th in the 300 meter dash with a time of 45.28 seconds.

Boys' Fielding:

Isaiah Hampton became a Section IV, Class C champion in the boys' high jump, as he cleared six feet, two inches.

Hampton also won the long jump event with a jump of 22 feet, three inches, breaking the indoor record.

Ethan Beardslee cleared five feet, eight inches for seventh place in the high jump and Marcus Chavis cleared four feet, eight inches for 16th place.

Beardslee also finished seventh in the long jump with a jump of 18 feet, seven and a half inches.

Harpo Hardt took second in the triple jump with a jump of 41 feet, 11 and 3/4 inches with Rj Dalmida in eighth place with a jump of 35 feet exactly.

Matthew Wombacker and Aiden Lockwood both competed in the boys' pole vault, where Wombacker took third, clearing eight feet as Lockwood cleared seven feet for fifth place.

Ryan Larsen finished sixth in the shot put event, where he threw for 40 feet, 11 and a half inches as teammate Cj Closs threw for 34 feet, 11 inches for 15th place.

Larsen took fifth in the weight throw with a throw of 37 feet, 11 inches as Charlie Buccino came in seventh place with a throw of 35 feet, five and a quarter inches.

NHS:

Boys' Track:

The Norwich Purple Tornado boys' indoor track team came in ninth place out of 12 teams with 16 points in Class A/B.

Cameron Carnachan came in eighth place in the 55 meter dash finals with a time of 7.00 seconds with teammate Malik Eccleston in 18th with a time of 7.42 seconds.

Carnachan also com-

peted in the 300 meter dash, where he came in 13th place with a time of 40.39 seconds.

Connor Marshall finished seventh in the 55 meter hurdles with a time of 9.04 seconds.

Carnachan, Eccleston, Marshall, and Nic Sutton came in fourth place as a team in the 4x200 meter relay with a time of 1:41.49.

Boys' Fielding:

Norwich's Kaden Downey became a Section IV, Class A/B champion in the weight throw event with the best throw of 64 feet, seven and a quarter inches.

Liam White threw for 432 feet, four inches for seventh place in the weight throw.

Connor Marshall cleared five feet, five inches for fifth place in the boys' high jump

Girls' Track:

The Norwich girls' track team finished 10th out of 12 teams in Class A/B with 11 points.

A team of Ava Cirigliano, Bri Cirigliano, Tristan Monroe, and Layla Root led the team with a third place finish in the 4x200 meter relay with a time of 1:59.22.

Ava Cirigliano led the Norwich girls with a fourth place finish in the 300 meter dash with a time of 44.42 seconds. Nora Collins came in 19th place with a time of 55.67 seconds.

Collins also Nora Collins finished 17th in the 55 meter dash with a time of 9.09 seconds.

Mckenzie Hagenbuch came in eighth place in the 1000 meter run with a time of 3:27.41.

Hagenbuch also ran the 1500 meters, where she earned a top 10 finish with a time of 5:41.05.

Malea Sutton finished 14th in the 600 meter run with a time of 2:23.37.

Girls' Fielding:

Reagan Decker and Tristan Monroe both jumped in the long jump event, where Decker finished seventh with a jump of 14 feet, one and a quarter inches with Monroe in 10th place with a jump of 12 feet, two inches.

Decker cleared four feet, four inches for sixth place in the high jump as Monroe earned a top 10 finish in the triple jump with a jump of 27 feet, 10 and a quarter inches.

UV:

Girls' Track:

The Unadilla Valley

Storm girls' indoor track team took fifth in Class C/D with 26 points.

Margaret Kemnah, Madison Dix, Molly Gorrell, and Natalya Schrag became class champions in the girls' 4x800 meter relay with a time of 10:48.60.

Gorrell, Dix, Schrag, and Noelle Fernandez-Naughton won the Class C/D 4x400 meter relay with a time of 4:28.67.

Natalya Schrag took third in the 1000 meter run with a time of 3:23.36 as Margaret Kemnah earned a top 10 finish with a time of 3:39.31.

Madison Dix finished seventh in the 600 meter run with a time of 1:49.11 with Molly Gorrell behind her in eighth place with a time of 1:51.62.

Noelle Fernandez-Naughton came in ninth in the 300 meter dash with a time of 46.50 seconds.

Girls' Fielding:

Noelle Fernandez-Naughton finished seventh in the girls' triple jump with a jump of 28 feet, seven and a quarter inches.

Boys' Track:

The UV boys did not place in the Class meet.

Aidan James came in 14th in the 1000 meter run with a time of 3:06.55 as Thomas Harrington finished 40th in the 55 meter dash with a time of 10.24 seconds.

O-G:

Boys' Track:

The Oxford-Greene boys' indoor track team finished fourth in Class C/D with 55 points.

Gordon Smith became a Class champion as he won the 1000 meter run with the fastest time of 2:38.93.

Sherman Ludolph finished seventh in the same event with a time of 3:00.16.

Smith took second in the 1600 meter run with a time of 4:32.79, behind Lansing's leading 4:30.11.

Keegan Waltz also became a Class champion as he won the 300 meter dash with the fastest time of 36.58 seconds.

Liam Philippone finished 14th with a time of 41.74 seconds.

Sherman Ludolph came in ninth place in the 600 meter run with a time of 1:36.12.

Eddie Golden, Gordon

Smith, Liam Griffin, and Keegan Waltz took second in the 4x400 meter relay with a time of 3:40.99, behind Thomas A. Edison's leading 3:40.82.

Liam Griffin, Dawson Viele, Eddie Golden, and Liam Philippone took third in the 4x200 meter relay with a time of 1:43.66.

Dawson Viele and Eddie Golden both competed in the 55 meter dash, where Viele came in 19th place with a time of 7.61 seconds and Golden in 26th with a time of 7.86 seconds.

Boys' Fielding:

Isaac Utter took second in the weight throw with a throw of 41 feet, five and a quarter inches, behind Sidney's leading 52-7. Utter earned a top 10 finish in the shot put with a throw of 38 feet, seven inches.

Keegan Waltz took third in the boys' high jump, clearing six feet as Liam Philippone finished seventh in the triple jump with a jump of 37 feet, six and 3/4 inches.

Girls' Track:

The Oxford-Greene girls' indoor track team tied for 18th place with Candor with eight team points.

Amani Amin, Ellie Beadle, Clara Leach, and Tallena Lupinetti led the Oxford-Greene girls with a seventh place finish with a time of 2:10.49.

Clara Leach came in 12th place in the 300 meter dash with a time of 47.51 seconds as teammate Amani Amin finished 26th with a time of 52.39 seconds.

Tallena Lupinetti and Amani Amin both competed in the 55 meter dash, where Lupinetti finished 28th with a time of 8.76 seconds with Amin in 33rd (9.02 seconds).

Ellie Beadle came in 27th in the 600 meter run with a time of 2:20.40.

Girls' Fielding:

Clara Leach took second in the girls' triple jump with a jump of 31 feet, nine and 3/4 inches, behind Oneonta's leading 33-11, as Tallena Lupinetti came in eighth place with a jump of 28 feet, four and 3/4 inches.

UV bowling sweeps match vs Oxford/Greene

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

GREENE— The Unadilla Valley and Oxford/Greene bowling teams faced off at the Greene Bowlodrome on Friday afternoon. UV boys and girls won the match with the boys taking all three games and the series for a sweep and the girls taking two out of three and the series.

The Storm boys swept Oxford/Greene by a final score of 2597-2469.

Teagin Eccleston led UV with a 661 series with a 248 in his first game and a 214 in his final game.

Landin Eccleston followed with a 524 series with a 202 in his second game.

Gavyn Bass rolled a 488 series as Zach

Dutcher finished with a 472 and Brayden Prentice with a 452 series.

Logan Anderson led the Oxford-Greene boys with a 528 series with a 197 in his second game.

Orion Lamien added a 505 series with a 172 in his first game and a 179 in his second game.

Aiden Carter rolled a 500 series with a 184 in his first game as Max Drazen finished with a 487 and Logan Roth with a 449 series.

The Storm girls took all but the second game against Oxford/Greene and won the overall series with a final score of 2325-2269. UV rolled a 424 series or better.

Kylie Menard led the Storm girls with a 495 series with a 205 in her first game.

Amelia Beckwith

rolled a 488 series, leading the team with a high-game of a 207 in her first game.

Natalie Smith finished with a 461 as Sarina Bell had a 457 and Layla Stevens with a 424 series.

The Oxford/Greene girls won the second game with a score of 832-683.

Melana Gregware led all female bowlers with a 568 series, including a 225 in her second game.

Cassidy Johns followed with a 449 series as Abby Roth had a 439 series and Shynia Valmy rolled a 409 series. Haylee Erceg and Danica Fowlston split games with Erceg rolling a 165 and a 111 for a 276 series and Fowlston finishing with a 128 game.



The Unadilla Valley Storm girls' basketball team concluded its 2025-26 season against Deposit-Hancock on Tuesday night. Good season, UV and good luck to seniors Taylor Hitt, Kora Johnson, Myriah Taylor, and Yana Hyrlina. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

UV girls fall to D-H in final game of the 2025-26 season

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

DEPOSIT— The Unadilla Valley Storm girls' basketball team returned to Deposit High School on Tuesday for a MAC playoff game, where the game was played earlier than orig-

inally scheduled. UV fell 41-33 to conclude the 2025-26 season.

Myriah Taylor led the Storm with nine points within the first three quarters.

Kora Johnson added eight points as Allisyn Daniell had seven points.

Shyla Roberts finished

with six points as Avery Golliver chipped in three points in the second half.

UV finishes the 2025-26 season with a 3-16 record and a 0-10 MAC league record. Good season, UV and good luck to seniors Taylor Hitt, Kora Johnson, Myriah Taylor, and Yana Hyrlina.

UV boys fall to Sidney in final home game of the 2025-26 season

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

NEW BERLIN— On Tuesday, the Unadilla Valley Storm boys' basketball team hosted Sidney for a MAC league contest. Both teams bat-

tled but UV fell in its final home game of the season 71-58.

The Storm could not contain Sidney's Grady Loeffler (23 points) and Ayden O'Connor (20 points).

Denzel Peter led the

Storm with 18 points as Preston York and Taylor Hodge both dropped in 10 points.

UV (0-18) concludes its 2025-26 season this evening at Greene, with the tip-off scheduled for 6 p.m.

B-G bowl defeats Deposit

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

HANCOCK— The Bainbridge-Guilford Bobcats bowling team traveled to the Fox Bowling Center in Hancock to face Deposit in the final regular season matchup. Both the boys and girls won their respective matches.

Tabitha Doyle led B-G to a 3-1 victory with a final score of 2133-1944. Doyle led the team with a 518 series with a high game of a 201.

Sophie Gold rolled a

499 series with a team-high 234 game as Kelly Hubbard had a 407 series.

Kassidy Middleton, Bailey Donnelly, and Carleigh Henchey all split games.

Middleton rolled a 159 and a 101 to finish with a 260 while Donnelly had a 101 and a 145 to finish with a 246 and Henchey with a 107 and a 96 for a 203 series.

The Bobcat boys swept Deposit 4-0 with a final score of 2583-2320.

Ryan Larsen led B-G with a 573 series, includ-

ing a high game of a 212. Andrew Ireland rolled a 502 series with a high game of a 191.

Camren Cuzzo finished with a 491 series as John Leizear rolled two games, including a 208 and a 162 to finish with a 370. Ethan Beardslee also rolled a 208 and added a 147 to have a 355 series.

Aayden Ireland finished with a 292 series with a game of a 157 and a 135.

B-G heads to the MAC tournament on Tuesday at Ripics.

S-E boys snap skid with victory over Sauquoit Valley

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

SHERBURNE— The Sherburne-Earlville Timberwolves boys' basketball team snapped a four-game skid with a solid 57-42 win against Sauquoit Valley on Thursday night. It was S-E's final 2025-26 regular season game, where their record currently stands at 7-13.

Both teams had a good start until S-E dominat-

ed on both ends of the court, holding the Red Hawks to single-digits in the second and third quarters. S-E took a 28-14 lead at halftime and never looked back, even when Sauquoit Valley tried to make a comeback with 20 points in the final eight minutes. S-E stood their ground and held on to the victory.

Bryce Bevilacqua led S-E with 12 points as Jordan Palmer added 11

and Nolan Sigman with eight points.

Tomek Jusianiec finished with six points as Steven Smith and Mike Behret both had five points.

Austin Clark, Joey Tomsic, Kerrigen Buschor, Cam Mann, and Kyler Buschor all added buckets in the win.

S-E (7-13) awaits their sectionals opponent, which will be announced on Wednesday.

S-E girls snap four-game skid in big win over Mount Markham

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

WEST WINFIELD— The Sherburne-Earlville Lady Timberwolves traveled to face Mount Markham in their final regular season game. S-E snapped a four-game skid with a dominant 60-29 victory.

S-E finishes the 2025-

26 regular season with a 11-9 record, making great improvements this season.

Peyton Darragh led the Timberwolves with 18 points and eight rebounds while Morgan Mikalunas added 17 points. Eighth grader Brynn Shaver finished with a career-best nine points as Kendall Hill

had seven points and Cora Franklin with six points.

Natalie Knickerbocker added three points in the win, where the S-E defense also forced 29 turnovers and had 15 steals.

S-E (11-9) awaits its sectionals opponent, which will be announced next Wednesday.

Afton girls top Madison

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

STOCKBRIDGE — The Afton Crimson Knights girls' basketball team faced off against non-league opponent Madison on Thursday

night. Both teams played at Stockbridge Valley High School. Afton defeated Madison 37-23 on the road.

Appalonia Bushaw led the Crimson Knights with 12 points and also had five steals. Rylee

Rupakus added 11 points and five steals while Megan Racine led the team with 10 rebounds in the win.

Afton (8-11) hosts Deposit-Hancock this evening for a MAC play-offs game at 5:30 p.m.

