

Tompkins Weekly

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KEEPING YOU CONNECTED

TompkinsWeekly.com

FREE

Groton Community Band spans generations of musicians

Supported by Groton Central School's (GCS) 21st Century Learning Center grant, the Groton Community Band (GCB) has been going strong since January, 2023 and provides a wonderful musical opportunity for participants of all ages.

By Linda Competillo
Mark and Jackie Baxendell have been involved since the band's inception, and Mark has been its conductor since January, 2024 when its first conductor, Skyler Roswell, moved away. Liz Uktin conducted briefly in the fall of 2023.

Mark is a retired music and elementary education teacher, and Jackie taught science in Groton Jr./Sr. High School from 2005 to 2020. They have lived in Groton since 1990 and operate a beef and egg farm.

"I conduct, but it's a team effort," Mark said. "Jackie does all the administrative support. We have members from fifth grade through adults. They're mostly from Groton, but others are from Cortland, Dryden, Freeville and beyond. We even have a young boy who comes from Southern Cayuga!"

Mark said he took over conducting because, "I just have fun and didn't want to see it die after Skyler left." He added that "music is a lifetime endeavor and a good outlet for all."

Jackie and Mark both spoke about how gratifying it is for them to watch the adults helping the kids and vice versa, and how everyone is conscious of and listening to one another and all rise to the challenge of the music.

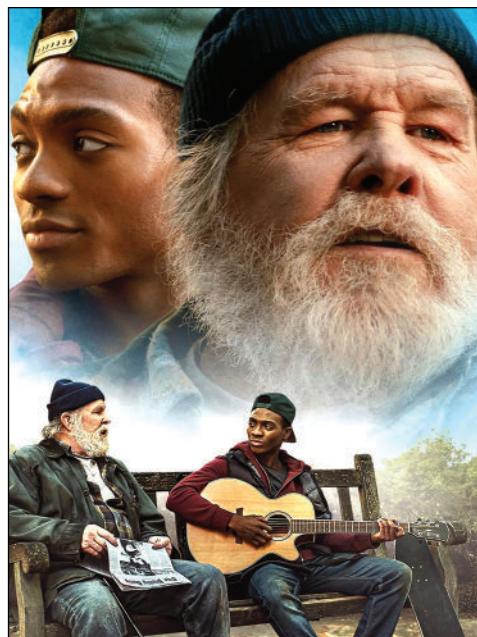
"I challenge them to shoot for the stars," Mark said, "and I don't make the music too easy. At rehearsals, I have them warm up to find pitch and then give them a sight-reading piece. That gets you better at reading music. They haven't been afraid to try it, and the band has gotten better because of it."

Jackie added, "If you aim for nothing, you'll hit it. Musicality and expression go hand-in-hand. I just love to play and encourage other people who might be nervous about picking up their instrument again. It's a real community, and I've made a lot of friends."

The current members of the GCB are Jayden Jiang and Colleen Thomas on alto saxophone, Darin LeBlanc on bass, Scott Baxendell on baritone and Stanley Mendoza on baritone saxophone. Playing clarinet are Jackie Baxendell, Alison Belcher, Terry Perkins, Trystan



Campus innovation and creativity shine Ithaca College, Cornell, and TC3 students lead the way in arts, science, and entrepreneurship



Left and right photos provided. Middle photo by Jason Koski/Cornell University.

Left to right: Dharon Jones, Ithaca College theatre program graduate, stars with Nick Nolte in *The Golden Voice*, coming to movie theaters later this month. Students at Cornell's hackathons such as this one about digital agriculture are challenged to come up with creative solutions to the world's problems in just a few days. A member of the TC3 Farm team waters produce at the college's greenhouse.

By Jaime Cone Hughes
Managing Editor

Local college campuses are brimming with innovative, unusual and unprecedented projects. From entrepreneur-led companies forged by marathon think tanks to the raw ingredients for the culinary arts, the students and faculty on our campuses are hard at work churning out the best in their fields — including Broadway stars.

Future stars shine bright at Ithaca College

Ithaca College's highly-ranked theater program has turned out many professional actors, including a couple who have risen to new heights just this year.

Dharon Jones, a graduate of the Ithaca College Class of 2020, stars with Nick Nolte in the feature film "The Golden Voice," coming to theaters Feb. 28.

The movie is about a young street singer and a homeless veteran who battle dark times through friendship and music.

"[Jones] is one of the kindest people I've ever had the pleasure of working with," said Cynthia Henderson, a professor of acting at Ithaca College since 2000. "He was hungry for the art — for everything he could learn. He just took it all in."

Henderson said Jones was "always focused, prepared, ready to explore and take chances, and those are the students we love."

Jeremy Noel, Class of 2021, also rose to stardom after graduating from Ithaca College. He is currently a member

of the ensemble and understudy for the role of Simba in "The Lion King" North American tour.

"[Noel] is an angel," Henderson said. "One of the first things he would always say is 'How can I help?' And I love that attitude, because in the helping they also learn so much."

The theatre program at IC was ranked #1 by The Princeton Review in its 2021 edition of "The 386 Best Colleges," and #11 in its 2024 edition.

There are many other Ithaca College graduates who have made a name for themselves in film and on stage. The list includes Jeremy Jordan (2007), who was nominated in 2012 for a Tony Award for his portrayal of Jack Kelly in "Disney's Newsies: The Broadway Musical," and Q. Smith (2000), who joined the North American tour of "Mary Poppins" in 2007 and later became the first featured African-American actress in any of the musical's productions in the role of Miss Andrew.

Henderson said she immediately liked the students from the first time she met them when she interviewed for her job.

"Talking with the students, I fell in love with the kindness and the thirst for knowledge, with the artistic and intellectual curiosity," Henderson said. "I love the caliber of students who are attracted to this program. They have been an absolute joy to teach and direct."

**Other Ithaca College standouts:
South Hill Forest Products and
South Hill Apiaries**

South Hill Forest Products is a stu-

dent-run business dedicated to providing high-quality, all-natural, non-timber forest products that include maple syrup, hickory syrup, salves and wooden carvings, produced on the Ithaca College Natural Lands. Jason Hamilton, a professor in the college's department of education, helps students run the business. He also helps students run the college's very own South Hill Apiaries. Find out more at southhillforestproducts.com and southhillapiaries.com/our-story.

Students 'Localify' the music platform scene

"I love the caliber of students who are attracted to this program. They have been an absolute joy to teach and direct."

CYNTHIA HENDERSON

Professor of Acting, Ithaca College

What is Localify? It's like a local version of Spotify — a platform developed primarily with the assistance of IC students to help people discover and connect with their local music scenes. The website was developed by Ithaca College associate professor of computer science and Ithaca native Doug Turnbull. Check it out for yourself at localify.org.

Cornell hackathons aim to crack the codes to the world's toughest problems

Later this month, students from all over the world will converge in Itha-

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Ithaca Loves Teachers is made possible in partnership with Visit Ithaca, Downtown Ithaca Alliance, and the Tompkins Chamber.

Our question, your answers

Street Beat

By Jaime Cone Hughes

What is your dream vacation?



The beach in Rhode Island.
Rachel, Ithaca

Editors note: For an updated version of this article with the results from the Feb. 18 Town of Ithaca Planning Board public hearing, visit <https://tompkinsweekly.com/articles/ithaca-to-hold-public-hearing-on-proposed-gas-station-burger-king/>



By Jaime Cone Hughes
Managing Editor

A proposed transformation of the Mirabito gas station and former Burger King on Pine Tree Road in Ithaca is currently moving through the Ithaca Planning Board approval process. The two buildings would be demolished and the businesses combined into a consolidated 6,000-square-foot footprint, rather than separate buildings.

The Burger King closed in 2022; the gas station, located at 301 Pine Tree Rd., is still operational.

A public hearing was held Feb. 18 at 6:30 p.m. at Ithaca Town Hall, nearly two years after Mirabito's original sketch plan was rejected by the Ithaca Town Planning Board in the winter of 2023.

"When we first took a look at it, we said, 'Hey, there's still a lot of work that needs to be done here, and come up with something new,'" said C.J. Randall, director of planning for the town of Ithaca, "and that is in essence what the application team did. They made lots of changes from their original proposal and sketch plan."



Image provided

This rendering by Delta Engineers, Architects and Surveyors shows the plans for the proposed combined Mirabito/Burger King at the corner of Pine Tree Road and Ellis Hollow Road.

proposed car wash be eliminated from the plans, saying that the site acreage is inadequate and that the current sewer system lacks sufficient capacity to accommodate a car wash.

Balestra stated that Cornell University currently owns the property, and the university has not indicated a future intention for the former restaurant.

The goal is to serve a driver-centric business model while creating a building that would still be approachable to pedestrians, which is a tricky feat, Randall explained. Typically, gas stations that are exposed on all sides can feel intimidating or hostile to pedestrians, and the town board wanted to be conscious of this, as one day there may be more people on foot in the area than there are now.

"We know that it's challenging to have a building like that in a parking lot while also being respectful of the town's wishes to have an anchored corner there."

C.J. Randall, director of planning FOR THE TOWN OF ITHACA



Photo by Jaime Cone Hughes

Mirabito is proposing to tear down the current gas station at East Hill Plaza in Ithaca, as well as the adjacent Burger King, in order to build a new, larger building that also houses a Burger King restaurant. The Ithaca Town Planning Board asked that the originally proposed sketch plans be revised to make the back of the building more attractive to pedestrians.

Among other things, the planning board asked for a redesign of the architecture that would contain a four-sided design with no blank walls, with each view of the building containing some architectural theme that flows to each side, according to a summary of the project history included in a recent memorandum to the planning board members from Christine Balestra, town of Ithaca senior planner.

The proposed plans, developed by Delta Engineers, Architects and Surveyors, include landscaping and electric vehicle charging stations.

The planning board asked that a

The town's original feedback emphasized the importance of foresighted design, Randall said. Even though a combined gas station, convenience store and drive-through restaurant typically serves drivers, the board wanted to see a design at the corner of Pine Tree Road and Ellis Hollow Road that was welcoming to pedestrians, as well.

"We know that it's challenging to have a building like that in a parking lot while also being respectful of the town's wishes to have an anchored corner there," Randall said.

"It really comes down to the disposition of the building," she added.

Public meetings were held in 2018 in an effort to engage the community in the reenvisioning of the area. Randall said that the town has not seen progress related to the project in recent years, but she added that the planning board is mindful of how new projects could affect the development of the area down the line.

Randall, who reviewed the plans when they were recently submitted to the town, said that she believes positive changes were made.

"The design team listened and has reimaged the project," she said.

"I have to say," she added, "I think the [Mirabito/Burger King] applicants did a good job based on directives from the planning board."



Japan.
Alonzo, Lansing



Sicily.
Nancy, Ithaca

Newfield library to hold presentation on brain health

Stephanie D'Amico, program manager at the Central New York chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, consistently provides vital education and awareness regarding brain health.



By Kevin L. Smith

"As many as 40% of dementia cases may be attributable to modifiable risk factors, such as high blood pressure and lack of physical activity," D'Amico said. "Research shows that adopting healthy behaviors, like getting exercise and good-quality sleep, may reduce the risk of cognitive decline."

D'Amico will speak on this topic and more during her presentation at Newfield Public Library on Feb. 24. The presentation, "Healthy Living for your Brain and Body," begins at 6 p.m.

"We read an article about a presentation [D'Amico] did in Candor and reached out to her. She responded immediately that she would love to come to Newfield," said Allison DeSario, the library's program coordinator. "[D'Amico and the Alzheimer's Association] are very passionate and generous about their cause and sharing their knowledge and resources.

The Feb. 24 presentation is the second of a three-part series at the library. People can attend the program in person or virtually.

"The first presentation that we hosted in January was full of useful information. Stephanie is such a heartfelt educator," DeSario said. "I am anticipating that this one, since it is focused on healthy lifestyles, will include research-backed suggestions that people can start implementing in their lives or encouraging loved ones to implement. I am personally excited for the conversations surrounding diet, and to find out more about the newest research in this area."

The Alzheimer's Association received funding from the New York State Department of Health in order to conduct the presentations.

"A portion of those funds help support the delivery of these education programs, along with other programs such as our care consultations, support groups, social engagement activities and outreach events," D'Amico said.

DeSario said that her presentation will be interactive, including videos from experts.

"Stephanie is very open to answering questions and having discussions, as well as sharing personal experiences," DeSario said.

D'Amico said attendees can expect to learn about researching diet and

nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement.

"We will highlight how lifestyle choices may help keep your brain and body healthy as you age and how to incorporate these recommendations into building a plan for aging," D'Amico added.

Registration for the Feb. 24 presentation is encouraged. To register, call 607-564-3594.

D'Amico encourages everyone "to take charge of their brain health."

"The first presentation that we hosted in January was full of useful information. Stephanie is such a heartfelt educator."

ALLISON DESARIO

Program Coordinator
Newfield Public Library

"This [topic] is relevant to everyone, no matter their age or stage of life," D'Amico said. "This is a chance to gather information on risk reduction and the benefits of early detection and diagnosis. You are not alone. Nearly seven million Americans are living with Alzheimer's, and more than 11 million friends and family help provide care for them. In New York, more than 420,000 individuals age 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's disease. This is an opportunity to connect with others who understand."

The third and final presentation of the series will be on March 31 at 3 p.m. The presentation will be called "Building Foundations of Caregivers."

"This program explores the role of a caregiver and changes they may experience, building a support team and managing caregiver stress," D'Amico said. "Caring for someone living with dementia brings a unique set of challenges and rewards. With the right help and support, you can empower yourself to provide quality care while managing your own well-being."

For more information on the Alzheimer's Association's education programs, go to alz.org/CRF.

Newfield Notes appears every week in Tompkins Weekly. Send story ideas to editorial@vizellamedia.com.

In brief:

Town board to meet on Feb. 27

The Newfield Town Board will meet on Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. at the town hall on 166 Main St. The public is invited to attend in person or on Zoom.

Yoga for beginners held every Saturday

A yoga for beginners class will be held on Saturdays at Newfield Public

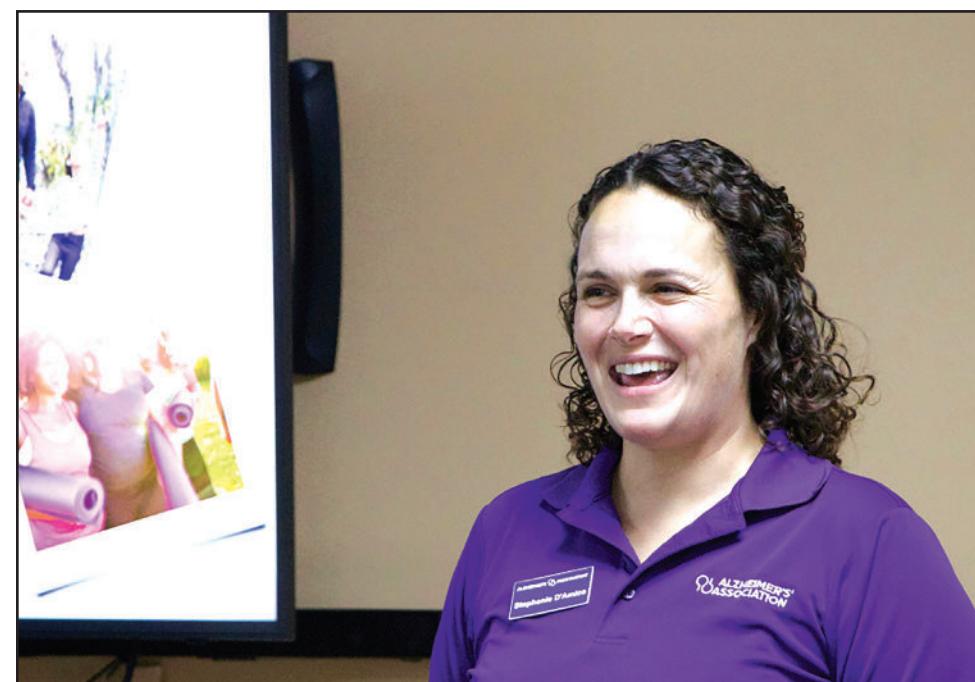


Photo provided

Stephanie D'Amico, program manager at the Central New York chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, will speak on brain health during a presentation at Newfield Public Library on Feb. 24.

Library from 10 to 11 a.m.

Phyllis KuanYin Chi, a yoga teacher certified through Yoga Farm in Lansing, will lead the class. The instructor has additional training in trauma-informed yoga.

The class is on the second floor of the library. It is suitable for people new to yoga or those with mobility issues. There is also an opportunity to deepen poses for those with more experience.

The class is for ages 18 and older. Participants must have their own yoga mat or blanket. The class is free, but there is a suggested donation of \$10.

'Mind Over Body' program on Feb. 29

The Newfield Public Library will host its "Mind Over Body" program on Feb. 29.

The program, led by instructor Mitch Raymond, will take place on the second floor of the library at 6 p.m. The presentation from Raymond breaks down how to "improve the strength, flexibility, stability, balance and skill" of participants' bodies through practices that "enhance neuromuscular connection and physiologic well being," according to a description.

The library recommends bringing a yoga mat to the program, and participants will work with the library's chairs and table to assist with stability. The program will have a suggested donation of \$10.

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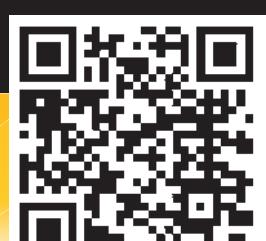
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TOMPKINS WEEKLY

Trumansburg Global Humanism students to attend UN conference

A group of students from Charles O. Dickerson High School in Trumansburg are set to leave their mark at the United Nations International School-United Nations (UNIS-UN) student-led conference.



By Eddie Velazquez
The 17 high school students attending the conference, which runs from March 17-20 at the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in New York, are part of the Global Humanism class and club. This year's conference will focus on artificial intelligence and its effects on the world.

"This will be our fourth year going to this particular conference," said Jane George, the teacher who helms the class and the club. "This conference we enjoy the most, because it's an amazing learning opportunity for students. Most of the other students at the conference come from all over the world, so it's a really amazing opportunity for our students to interact with people from other countries."

The conference, as well as George's class, is designed around the UN's 17 sustainable development goals:

- No poverty
- Zero hunger
- Good health and well-being
- Quality education
- Gender equality
- Clean water and sanitation
- Affordable and clean energy
- Decent work and economic growth
- Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- Reduced inequalities
- Sustainable cities and communities
- Responsible consumption and production
- Climate action
- Life below water
- Life on land
- Peace, justice and strong institutions
- Partnerships for the goals

"The class and the club serves a lot of purposes for students, and it's an amazing opportunity for them also to practice their presentation skills, and develop professional rhetoric," George said.

The class and club focus on sustainability and human equity.

"We discuss a lot about current events and what's happening in the world. Once we get the topic for the conference we start honing in on that," George said. "So we've been focusing on AI and the use of AI to better the world. We've also looked at the downsides: How could AI potentially become an issue? How is it helpful? What benefits does it have?"

The club and class also provide an opportunity for students to travel and broaden their horizons, George said.

"Most of the other students at the conference come from all over the world, so it's a really amazing opportunity for our students to interact with people from other countries."

JANE GEORGE
Global Humanism teacher and club leader, Charles O. Dickerson High School

"It is also an opportunity for them to get to travel and see what that feels like. When you go to the United Nations, it really feels like you're kind of entering a very different New York City," George said. "They actually get to sit in the General Assembly Hall, where the diplomats sit, and make pretty big decisions for the world. So it's really an amazing opportunity for them to sit in those seats and see what that feels like to be in that space and in that room."

The students also fundraised the costs for the trip, George noted.

"The students also do a lot of critical writing and they get into a lot of guided discussions," she added. "Then we also do community projects whenever we can. We try to get out in the community and work with local businesses."

Grace Olney, a Charles O. Dickerson High School senior who will be attending her second UNIS-UN conference this year, said that she is excited for the trip.

"The best part of the trip for me [last year] was the opportunity to get to know international students and expe-



Photo provided

Jane George's Global Humanism class at the 2024 UNGA conference. Seventeen students will attend the 2025 conference in March. Back row: Owen Williams, Arlo Peake, Quintin Moon, Jackson Riggins-George. Front row: Leo Schechter, Greta Garrison, Mary Cassidy, Lindsey Lily, Ruby Wright, Grace Olney, Hope Augustine, Jane George

rience the environment of the United Nations General Assembly Hall," Olney said. "Global Humanism has been a very inspirational club for me and has sparked my passion of combating social injustices. I'd like to thank Mrs. George for all the hard work she's put forth."

Hope Augustine, a high school senior who will also be attending her second conference this year, said the debates on AI are part of the excitement.

"Last year I had an amazing time, and with the help of Ms. George the trip was even better than I could've imagined," Augustine said. "This club has helped me discover my interest in public policy, and I can't wait to be in the General Assembly Hall again."

Ulysses Connection appears every week in Tompkins Weekly. Send story ideas to editorial@vizellamedia.com. Contact Eddie Velazquez at edvel37@gmail.com or on X (formerly Twitter): @ezvelazquez.

In brief:
The Tompkins County Department

of Assessment mailed renewal applications to property owners who are currently receiving exemptions on Dec. 13, 2024. The mailing included the following applications:

- Low-Income Senior Exemption
- Low-Income Disability Exemption
- Clergy Exemption
- Partial Exemption for Wholly Exempt Properties
- Housing Trust Exemption
- Volunteer Firefighter/Ambulance Worker Exemption
- Living Quarters for Parent/Grandparent
- Agricultural Land Exemption

These applications are due on March 1, except for the Agricultural Land Exemption which is due on April 1, 2025.

Tompkins County has increased its limits for the low-income senior and disability exemption for the 2025 Assessment Roll. The limit is now \$44,900 for a 5% exemption and \$36,500 for a 50% exemption.

For more information, the Assessment Department can be reached at 607-274-5517.

HISTORY OF TOMPKINS COUNTY



This image of Fall Creek covered in ice was taken in the winter of 1951 by Ithaca photographer Curt Foerster. Ithaca Falls can be seen in the distance on the left side of the image.

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BAND

Continued from pg 1

Powers, Kaitlyn Rude (who also plays tenor saxophone), Laurie Schutt, Toriana Toro and Mildred Warner.

"Mark is an excellent band director," Warner said. "He has wonderful rapport with the kids and adults alike. And for us older adults, it is really fun to work with a multigenerational group. The kids have such enthusiasm, and so do we. And we sound good, which is also fun. It brings together community, across generations. I enjoy being able to be part of the school again. Playing an instrument is a social act, and you need a group. I love community band!"

Lauren Belcher, Aoife Cummings, Coco Jiang, Ashley Knights, Karen Phillips, Kristin Prugh, Noble Snyder and Esther Songput play flute. Snyder and Songput also play piccolo.

"Deciding to join the band was an easy decision for me," Prugh said. "As a Groton alumna, I was excited to be able to play in an ensemble in the school where I learned to love performing music, and another exciting part has been to play with such a wide age range of musicians. From the elementary school student who sits beside me, to the teenagers in front of me, to those who were playing long before me, I have had a blast!"

On French horn is Hollis Finver. Rachael Hutchinson and Stephanie Neno are on horn, and Nattalie Lombardi is on oboe. Cync Brantley, Jack Ingram, Jeff Murfin, Josie Ross and Amy Schram play percussion. Kaed Gentile, Sandra Gregorich, Natalie Johnson, Jim Lowe, Willow Orr, Phil Rumsey and Shana Snyder are on trombone. On trumpet are Pat Aubine, Katelyn Boese, Kiana Herr, Zach Johnson, Tilly Le-

lanc, Marc Moody, Violet Prugh, Dick Slocum and Rick Urda. Colin Warmbrodt plays tuba.

Shana Snyder said that she has been participating for two years after her son, Noble, suggested that she join him, and that it had been 30 years since she "last picked up a trombone. Needless to say, the pieces are very challenging for me," Shana said, "but I've improved a lot with the help of some new friends of all ages. Community band is made up of a very eclectic, welcoming group of people who all share the same love of music."

"Music is a lifetime endeavor and a good outlet for all."

MARK BAXENDELL

conductor, Groton Community Band

The GCB usually plays whenever the GCS bands have their concerts. The GCB played at the Groton High School graduation ceremony last year and hope they will again.

"We get many compliments after playing from the community and the students," Jackie said. "Anyone can join us. They can contact me at jackiebaxendell@yahoo.com or visit our Facebook page: Groton Community Band."

Groton on the Inside appears every week in Tompkins Weekly. Submit story ideas to editorial@vizellamedia.com or text or call Linda at 607-227-4922.

In brief:

Community meal and game night
Do you have cabin fever, the winter blahs, or are just plain bored? Groton Assembly of God, 701 S. Main St., invites you to come out for a free meal and game night, Saturday, March 1 from 4 to

home of Clark's Food Mart, which was owned by the grandfather of Eric Clark, Lane's husband.

As far as Lane knows, the exterior of the building has not received upgrades in quite some time.

"We're excited for the transformation to take place," she said. "I'm hoping it will benefit the coffee shop."

Lane hopes that this particular project will "bring new life" to Main Street.

"It's a big step forward for Main Street in general," Lane said. "That area is in the most need of some investment and revitalization. I'm hoping we can cultivate that and be the first building to maybe show potential. It's super rewarding to start being the ones to give that feeling of investing in the buildings, improve and hopefully continue to see new businesses open up."

Lane praised the village for sponsoring the grant application.

"Mayor [Mike] Murphy is supportive of all our efforts, especially with our office as we make these improvements," Lane said.

The start of construction has yet to be determined, but Lane said that the project must be completed by November 2026.

Lane noted that her coffee shop's hours of operation will not be affected during construction.

"We want it to be a welcomed improvement and not a hindrance to



Photo by Linda Competillo

Members of the Groton Community Band at its recent rehearsal.

Front (left): Amy Schram, Jeff Murfin, Cync Brantley.

Second row: Trystan Powers, Alison Belcher, Mildred Warner, Esther Songput, Coco Jiang, Aoife Cummings, Lauren Belcher, Kristin Prugh, Ashley Knights.

Third row: Mark Baxendell (conductor), Pat Aubine, Zach Johnson, Rachael Hutchinson, Kiana Herr, Katelyn Boese, Rick Urda, Jayden Jiang, Shana Snyder, Sandra Gregorich.

Back row: Jackie Baxendell, Colin Warmbrodt, Scott Baxendell, Jim Lowe.

Not present for photo: Hollis Finver, Kaed Gentile, Jack Ingram, Natalie Johnson, Darin LeBlanc, Tilly LeBlanc, Nattalie Lombardi, Stanley Mendoza, Marc Moody, Stephanie Neno, Willow Orr, Terry Perkins, Karen Phillips, Violet Prugh, Josie Ross, Kaitlyn Rude, Phil Rumsey, Laurie Schutt, Dick Slocum, Noble Snyder, Colleen Thomas, Toriana Toro.

8 p.m. All are welcome!

'Seussical the Musical'

Save the dates for Groton High School Drama Club's production of "Seussical the Musical" March 20, 21 and 22 at 7 p.m. nightly. Want to secure your tickets ahead of time? Contact Kelly Bishop at kbishop@grotoncs.org or call 607-898-5803 between 3 and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

Crafts at The Good Neighbor

Drop in to The Good Neighbor Grocery, 209 Peru Rd., from 4 to 6 p.m. on

Tuesdays for Crafty Hours. Enjoy experimenting with free craft materials and \$1 off all coffee bar drinks! All ages welcome! Do you have craft materials that take up space in your house? Donate them by emailing renee@thegoodneighborgrocery.com.

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The art of audition

Ever wonder what it takes to become a member of a professional orchestra? The Cayuga Chamber Orchestra (CCO), founded in 1976 and known as "Ithaca's Orchestra," accepts new members by screened audition. CCO's musicians are members of the American Federation of Musicians (AFM) and follow rules for auditions that are standard to the industry. In AFM orchestras, musicians typically compete behind a screen and are evaluated by a panel of musicians from the orchestra and the music director.

People auditioning for orchestras have usually been playing their instrument since elementary school or even earlier, often joining a local youth symphony program before going on to major in music in college. Their entrance to a collegiate musical program can serve as a seminal audition experience itself, as acceptance to conservatories like Curtis, Eastman or Juilliard, or excellent music schools within universities (like Indiana University) is highly competitive. It is during the college years that many musicians begin to learn **the art of the orchestral audition**. They audition for places in collegiate orchestras and summer music festivals and, in some cases, they start to audition for professional orchestras.

So how competitive are these auditions? CCO Executive Director Sarah Chandler relates, "After I completed my music degrees, I started breaking in my newly minted credit card to take orchestra auditions all over the country, from the Shreveport Philharmonic to the LA Chamber Orchestra. This is all done at the musician's expense, so the cost adds up quickly. And, I could get to an audition and be facing anywhere from 30 to 60 other competitors."

Reflections from a few CCO audition winners over the past



Photo provided

Pictured left to right: Sage Silé, Asher Wulfman, Grace Ho and Peter Dudek

two seasons:

"I would describe auditioning as kind of like a bracket-style match-up. But instead of 1v1, we're all simultaneously competing against each other, in anywhere from two to five rounds ... Let's say there are 20 candidates in the first round. After the first round there will probably be anywhere from five to 10 people in the semi-finals. The process repeats again, and now it's an even trickier decision. All of these people are probably really great players, so even just the smallest mistake or one beautiful phrase may be what sets them apart from making the cut to the next round. The final round most likely will probably not have more than three to four people in it. These are the people you can really hear sitting next to you in the section. They sound great, they have wonderful musical ideas, good rhythm, the whole package. At this point, it's time to pick a winner and, possibly, a runner-up, in the case that the winner decides not to accept the position."

--Sage Silé (winner of the Second Horn position, will join the CCO next season)

"An audition is unlike any other job interview, because you know precisely what they are going to ask. You know exactly how high the bar is and what you need to do to clear it. It's not

a question of qualification, but one of execution under pressure. You not only have to prepare, you must massively over-prepare so that even with the adrenaline pumping, you still deliver something close to your best playing"

--Asher Wulfman (CCO Violin Section Winner)

"Auditions are crazy. It's often the case that we all have good days and bad days, but on the day you're called to play in the particular time slot, you are expected to be at your very best. There's a lot of people playing the exact same thing as you; it's important to stand out in a positive way."

--Peter Dudek (Section Viola Winner)

Do you have any routines for preparing for an audition that are specific to the process?

"My routines before an audition are generally practicing, listening to recordings, getting good sleep and eating well. In terms of practicing, I don't spend too much time on the audition repertoire at the beginning, maybe 15 to 30 minutes a day, but each day I focus on a specific excerpt or a problematic passage. When it gets to a few days before the audition date, I would start playing through the entire repertoire without stopping, then see which one(s) still

needs more work."

--Grace Ho (Section Cello Winner)

"Playing through the list randomly throughout the day with cold hands, and practicing with recordings to get the feel and style of the orchestra. Practice feeling nervous so you get comfortable with the uncomfortable."

--Peter Dudek

"When I'm preparing for an audition, I play mock auditions for my friends and colleagues as much as possible the last three weeks before the audition. I want to be able to walk in there feeling calm, cool, collected, and not at all surprised by anything the committee might throw my way. I also have a database of every excerpt I have ever practiced complete with score study analysis, and tempo markings/musical ideas from at least five recordings. All of this has been essential to my success as a musician."

--Sage Silé

All of our CCO musicians are audition winners!

When you go:

FLIGHT OF FANCY
Saturday, Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Ford Hall, Ithaca College
<https://www.ccoithaca.org/flightoffancy>

Health alert: COVID-19 vaccine recommendations ages 65+, immune compromised

Tompkins County Whole Health (TCWH) is reminding the community of the importance of staying up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations.

Seasonal trends indicate that cases of COVID-19 tend to spike in early spring, as well as early fall. Adults ages 65 and older, as well as those who are moderately to severely immune compromised, are eligible to receive a **second dose** of the updated COVID-19 vaccine **six months** after their first dose. The updated vaccine was released in September 2024. Immune compromised individuals should consult their healthcare

provider to determine the best dose schedule for their specific needs. Recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) are available online.

Learn more about current disease activity on the TCWH Respiratory Illnesses webpage, Respiratory Illnesses. Please note that the data is subject to change weekly as the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) adds additional reports to their datasets.

COVID-19 can cause mild to severe illness, with symptoms commonly including fever or feeling feverish/

having chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, new loss of taste or smell, muscle or body aches, headaches, fatigue (tiredness), nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Symptoms usually begin 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. COVID viruses are highly contagious, spread mainly by tiny droplets from coughing, sneezing, or talking. Repeated Covid infections increase your risk of developing "Long Term COVID", with long-lasting symptoms such as severe fatigue and brain fog, respiratory symptoms like difficulty breath-

ing or shortness of breath, muscle and joint pains, and other symptoms.

Vaccination is the best protection against COVID-19. It is proven to cut down on hospitalizations and death from COVID-19. Vaccination can prevent you from getting sick and spreading COVID-19 to others and reduce your risk of developing "Long Term Covid". The updated COVID-19 vaccine is available at local pharmacies and healthcare providers.

The COVID-19 vaccine is also available at TCWH's on-site immuniza-

See **HEALTH ALERT** on pg 19

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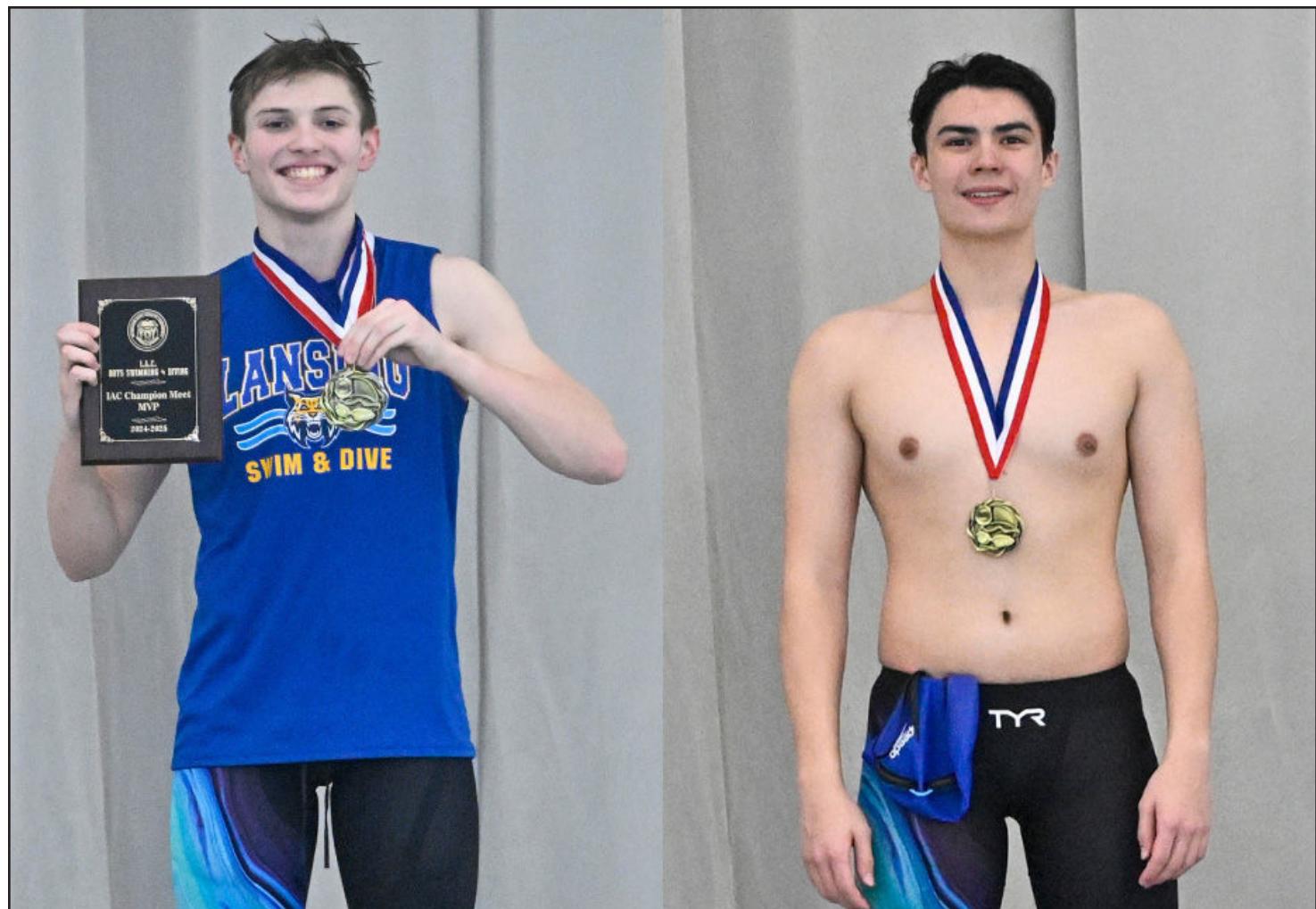
KEY HIGH SCHOOL MATCHUPS: 2/19 Boys Basketball: Newfield vs. Moravia (IAC Small School Championship @ TC3) • 2/20 Boys Basketball: Dryden vs. Elmira-Notre Dame (IAC Large School Championship @ TC3) • 2/23 Indoor Track & Field: State Qualifiers @ Cornell

Lansing boys swimming excels at IACs, preps for sectionals

The postseason is underway for all winter sports. For boys swimming and diving, that began on February 8 with the IAC Championships in Watkins Glen. While the hosts took top spot, Lansing had an incredibly impressive outing.

By Ryan Gineo
ESPN ITHACA The Bobcats finished in second place, and the star of the meet was undoubtedly Connor Lajza. The senior was named the IAC MVP for winning the 50-yard freestyle and the 100-yard butterfly, the latter of which was where he left his mark. Lajza reset his school record in the event and broke the Watkins Glen pool and IAC meet record with a blistering time of 49.82 seconds. Lajza recounted his historic performance in Schuyler County.

"It's not just powering through it. It's about finding the balance in everything and where you can pull ahead and where you can just maintain."



NICHOLAS HWANG
Swimmer, Lansing Boys Swimming

"It feels amazing," Lajza said. "I definitely didn't think I was gonna break 50 [seconds] that day, but my teammates helped pump me up and helped me get there... The guys were pumping me up beforehand, and in my mind, I was just telling myself, 'I'm just gonna do this today,' and then I went and did it."

This astonishing feat comes as no

surprise to the Bobcat faithful. Last season, Lajza won multiple IAC and sectional titles, held the school record in the 100 fly and qualified for states in that event. Lajza knew that in order to make it back to states and find even more postseason success, he had to keep improving his craft.

"I've been working a lot on get-

ting my underwaters consistently more," Lajza said. "Not breathing every stroke is definitely the big point that I've tried to work on to cut some time down."

Lajza wasn't the only senior who excelled for the Bobcats at IACs. Nicholas Hwang also dazzled with a pair of event wins in the 200-yard individual medley and the 100-yard

breaststroke. The former is where Hwang was able to showcase his outstanding versatility, as the event involves all four swimming styles (butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle). While it's certainly a physically-taxing task, Hwang emphasized the importance of the

See SWIMMING on pg 10

Newfield's Moravec twins savor senior season at St. John Fisher

By Ryan Genio
ESPN ITHACA

It's already uncommon enough to have a set of twins play on the same high school basketball team. It's even more rare for them to continue playing together in college. That's what makes the bond Kelly and Katie Moravec share so unparalleled.

Hailing from Newfield, the Moravec twins have enjoyed an illustrious career together at St. John Fisher women's basketball team. In their first three seasons, they helped guide the Cardinals to Empire 8 titles each year. Now in their final year joining forces, they've had little time to reflect on their time in Rochester as

they've been busy aiming for a four-peat.

"It's gonna be really weird kind of realizing that we're gonna be done with basketball," Katie said. "I'm looking forward to a future ahead of us, but I don't know if I really realized it yet."

"Getting towards the end of the season, I've started to reflect on this season so far and also just my four years and kind of realized, 'Wow, it has been really special,'" Kelly said. "I'm really happy for the unique experience that I've been able to have with my sister being a part of it. I've created great memories, and it's gone by very fast, honestly, so it's kind of crazy to think about."

Katie and Kelly have different roles on the Cardinals but are equally significant to the team's extraordinary amount of success. Katie is a starter and one of their go-to scorers, averaging the second-most points per game on the team. She's also written herself into the record books at St. John Fisher, becoming the 25th player in program history to surpass 1,000 career points. That achievement allowed for even more time for reflection on the legacy she'll leave behind come the end of the season.

"It means a lot to me because it kind of shows that my hard work has paid off, and I want to be able to do it with the people that have been in my life and supported me," Katie said. "I

think it just allows me to reflect in on the importance of setting goals for yourself and being able to know that you can accomplish anything that you put your mind to, especially in women's basketball, and then on top of it, just knowing that I have that support system throughout high school and college has been really awesome, and I wouldn't be able to do it without them."

Kelly—who also scored 1,000 points at Newfield—is the Cardinals' sixth player and has consistently provided a spark off the bench throughout her entire collegiate career. While it took some adjusting after starting at New-

See BASKETBALL on pg 10

BASKETBALL

Continued from pg 9

field, she's fully embraced that role at St. John Fisher.

"At the end of the day, I'm here for my team's success," Kelly said. "I'm here for my personal success as well, but if I go into every game with a mindset of, 'What can I do to help my team win? What can I do when I'm on the court to help them get to that point?' I think that's helped me a lot. My coach says to me all the time [that] she loves the defensive intensity that I bring when I come from the bench onto the court, so I think it's purposeful with her decision to do that."

When Kelly and Katie are on the court together, it's a sight to behold. While it comes as zero surprise to those who watched them at Newfield, their synchronicity is at another level when competing against so many high-caliber opponents in college.

"Both Katie and I have naturally a lot of defensive intensity and [are] pretty aggressive as players, so I think having both of us on the court is kind of like a double threat here, and it's been really unique and special to be able to play with her. I think the other teams realize that when we're both on the court, it's gonna be an issue... We definitely have this unique connection on the court. We're always looking for each other. We're always

knowing where each other is. We talk to each other all the time throughout the game, giving each other tips or supporting each other. We really lean on each other and have trust in one another, and that's really a special thing to have during basketball."

"Getting towards the end of the season, I've started to reflect on this season so far and also just my four years and kind of realized, 'Wow, it has been really special."

KELLY MORAVEC

Player, St. John Fisher women's basketball team

The Empire 8 tournament tips off on February 22. The Moravec twins are not only looking to go out with a bang and win a conference title every year they've been in Rochester, a deep run in the NCAA Tournament could be on the cards if Katie, Kelly and the rest of the Cardinals are on their A-game.

"I think our defense and defensive intensity will lead to our offense," Katie said. "I think our offense has always been pretty strong. Sometimes teams play us in zone, so I think also [it's] being able to be confident both running the offense when teams are playing in man and in zone, and then staying composed, as well."



SWIMMING

Continued from pg 9

mental side of competing in the event.

"It takes a lot from the mind," Hwang said. "It's not just powering through it. It's about finding the balance in everything and where you can pull ahead and where you can just maintain. It's really about finding what your body says for each part of it and getting through all of it, and of course practicing everything as well over and over again."

Hwang is also coming off a strong junior season where he won four IAC and three sectional titles. The focus for this year has been on his endurance, something that is paramount to a swimmer's success.

"Practicing every day over and over again is obviously going to build your endurance, and it'll help you maintain your speed," Hwang said. "Physically, as well as mental endurance, you can find yourself pushing a whole lot more. Just having the team there with you and having those people at practice every day also being there with you during the event, it really gets your mind and body going to push through."

As Hwang alluded to, teamwork has also been crucial to the Bobcats' triumph, and that was on full display at IACs. They set personal bests in all 21 individual events they competed in and 19 out of 24 personal bests in the relay events.

"We picked a great spot to sit so we could be near the pool and all the teammates could encourage,"

Hwang said. "While I was swimming, I could actually hear that. It might have been the loudest I've ever heard while I was swimming, but I could hear all that encouragement with me, and that really helped me get through."

Lajza credited the team's strong bond to the coaching staff, namely longtime head coach Diane Hicks-Hughes and assistant coach Dan Lajza.

"It's been a strong point that they really press on us," Lajza said. "They make sure every single meet that we're all up and cheering for whoever's swimming. If someone's sitting down just kind of on their own, Coach will say, 'Hey, get up and come cheer!'"

The postseason rolls on to the sectionals, with preliminaries beginning on February 19 and the

championship taking place on February 22 back at Watkins Glen. If Lansing's performance at IACs is any indication, the rest of this post-season is sure to be a phenomenal one.

"It's gonna take the right mindset and a whole lot of support from the team and a lot of belief," Hwang said. "I think if they believe I can, then I can believe I can, and that's a lot of the battle right there. It's not just, 'Oh, we've done a championship already. The season's practically over.' You can't give up there. You have to keep pushing through it."

"[The big key is] continuing to hype each other up, work hard in practice and just keeping a positive attitude," Lajza said.

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WEDNESDAY 2/19

Lifelong Antiques Roadshow

Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 1:00pm-4:00pm Do you have antiques, coins, jewelry, or furniture you want to evaluate or sell? Come chat with our trustworthy experts, including Antique Quest, Clear Path Finders, & Ithaca Coins & Jewelry. Some buyers will offer cash on the spot! \$5.00-\$5 entry fee. Kindly register in advance. Library Place Community Room 105 W Court St. Ithaca, NY

THURSDAY 2/20



Midday Music in Lincoln: Jonathan Biss

February 20 @ 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Free
Midday Music in Lincoln: A conversation with Jonathan Biss and Professors Ronald Hoy and Kak Bjerken on performance and mental health. Lincoln Hall 256 Feeney Wy Ithaca, 14853

FRIDAY 2/21



Movie Night: Wicked

February 21 @ 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Free
Come to Newfield Public Library for a free movie and popcorn! Wicked, the untold story of the witches of Oz, stars Emmy, Grammy and Tony winning powerhouse Cynthia Erivo (Harriet, Broadway's The Color Purple) as Elphaba, a young woman, misunderstood because of her unusual green skin, who has yet to discover her true power, and Grammy-winning, multi-platinum recording artist and global superstar Ariana Grande as Glinda, a popular young woman, gilded by privilege and ambition, who has yet to discover her true heart.. Rated PG Newfield Public Library 198 Main St Newfield, NY, 14867 Phone (607) 564-3594

Cornell Concert Series: Jonathan Biss, pianist

February 21 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
CCS: Jonathan Biss, piano. Praised as "a superb pianist and also an eloquent and insightful music writer" (The Boston Globe) with "impeccable taste and a formidable technique" (The New Yorker), Biss has appeared internationally as a soloist with the Los Angeles and New York Philharmonics, the Boston, Chicago, and San Francisco Symphonies, and the Cleveland and Philadelphia Orchestras, as well as the London Philharmonic, the Royal Concertgebouw, the Philharmonia, and Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, among many other ensembles. Biss is a teacher, musical thinker, and performer

whose repertoire ranges from the core canon to contemporary commissions. At Cornell, he will be performing works by Franz Schubert and Tyson Gholston Davis. Bailey Hall 230 Garden Ave Ithaca, 14850

SATURDAY 2/22



Intro to Mushroom Cultivation

February 22 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Free
Join Emma and Zack of Maidenhair Mushrooms, in Danby NY, for a return program at the Newfield Public Library! This time, we will learn the basics of culinary mushroom growing- from shiitakes on logs, to low-tech growing with waste products and common household items! All materials will be provided! If you want, bring cardboard, zipper plastic bags, and/or disposable plastic takeout containers. Newfield Public Library 198 Main St Newfield, NY, 14867 (607) 564-3594 <https://newfieldpubliclibrary.org/>



Ithaca Musician/Composer Johnny Russo performance

February 22 @ 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm \$3
On Saturday February 22nd...1PM @ Tompkins C P Library, Ithaca Musician/Composer Johnny Russo (assisted by guitarist Douglas Robinson & Bassist London McDaniels) will deliver a review performance of original songs inspired by this very special community that supported him and his musicians for near 1/2 century. Aurora Street Blues, Cayuga Street Blues, Mystery of Taughannock Falls, CU He B G Bees, EZRA Cornell Blues, more.

Newfield Lions Pork Dinner

February 22 @ 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm \$10
The Newfield Lions Club Pork Dinner includes pork loin, gravy, mashed potatoes, veggies, rolls, beverages, and dessert. Price: Adults: \$10.00, Senior Citizens: \$9.00. Newfield Fire Hall 77 Main Street Newfield, 14867



Flight of Fancy

February 22 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Revel in the connection between birdsong and music with the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra. From a "peckish" Haydn Symphony to the moving Jocelyn Morlock's Solace, from Vaughan Williams' The Lark Ascending, featuring the CCO's very own Christina Bouey, to the recorded sounds of the Arctic Circle in Einojuhani

Rautavaara's Concerto for Birds and Orchestra, take a musical journey in celebration of birds. Free Pre-concert Chat at 6:30 pm. Ford Hall, Ithaca College 953 Danby Road Ithaca, 14850

South Asian 'Color of Spring' Festival Brings Joy and Brightness to Ithaca on February 22

Ithaca, NY-Vasant Rangotsav, a combination of two popular South Asian festivals celebrating the joys of Spring, takes place at the Foundation of Light in Ithaca, NY, on Saturday, February 22, 2025, from 11:00 am to 4:30 pm. SARASHI, the South Asia Religion, Art, Science, and Humanism Institution, and the Foundation of Light are co-hosting this cultural celebration. A collage of images of various religious events

SUNDAY 2/23

Isabelle Demers, guest organist

February 23 @ 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Free
Isabelle Demers, guest organist. "The Virtuoso Organist", with works by Laurin, Franck, Thalben-Ball, and transcriptions by Demers of Stravinsky, Elgar, and Brahms. Sage Chapel 147 Ho Plaza Ithaca, 14853

Indivisible Ithaca Kick-off Event

February 23 @ 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Free
Join Indivisible Tompkins to work towards a more just government and uphold the values that are the cornerstone of our democracy. This gathering is an opportunity for participants to connect with like-minded individuals, be informed and inspired by community leaders, and strategize for action. The agenda includes:
- Introduction to the Indivisible movement, its core principles and strategies, - Impacts of the Trump administration's actions, - Strategies for effective organizing, protest and advocacy, - Opportunities to get involved and take action
First Unitarian Society of Ithaca 307 North Aurora Street Ithaca, 14850

Become an AmeriCorps Seniors Respite Volunteer

February 25 @ 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Free
Join us for lunch at three training sessions to become an AmeriCorps Seniors Respite Provider and help caregivers in your community!

Slaterville Respite is opening March 18, Tuesdays from 10 AM to 2 PM

This free weekly program offers family caregivers a safe space and engaging activities for their loved ones, giving them for themselves. Requirements:

- Age Requirement: Must be 55 years or older.
- Commitment: Flexible volunteer hours; ability to commit to regular interactions with seniors and caregivers is preferred.
- Skills & Qualities: Compassion, patience, good communication skills, and a desire to make a positive impact in the lives of older adults and caregivers.

- Training: Completion of the National Respite Care Provider Training as well as ongoing mandatory training throughout the year.
- Benefits of Volunteering with AmeriCorps Seniors:

- Gain personal fulfillment by making a meaningful difference in your community.
- Connect with other passionate volunteers and build a sense of community.
- Receive training and support from NYSCRC to enhance your skills.
- Earn a stipend for training, mileage and volunteering time!

Join Us in Making a Difference:
If you're ready to bring comfort, companionship, and support to the lives of seniors and caregivers, we would love to hear from you. Together, we can help older adults age with dignity and ensure caregivers receive the relief they deserve.

FUTURE DATES:



A Newfield Public Library Fundraiser

Thursday, February 27

at

GOLDEN BAYOU

401 Elmira Road in Ithaca (by KFC)

Arrive by 6:00 pm  Trivia at 6:30 pm

Teams of 4-6 adults will compete for great prizes!
Sign up at the library or newfieldpubliclibrary.com
\$15 per person entry fee benefits the library!

Food and beverages available for an additional cost
Check out their great menu at goldenbayou.com!

NEWFIELD

PUBLIC LIBRARY

Midday Music for Organ: Guests Anne Laver and William Knuth (violin)

February 26 @ 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Free
Midday Music for Organ: Guests Anne Laver and William Knuth (violin). "Strings and Pipes." Includes the world premiere of Natalie Draper's Interlaced for organ and violin, plus music by Handel, J. S. Bach and Chris DeBlasio. Sage Chapel 147 Ho Plaza Ithaca, 14853 <https://events.cornell.edu/event/midday-music-for-organ-guests-anne-laver-and-william-knuth-violin>

TUESDAY 2/25



To submit your own event visit:
[tompkinsweekly.com/
event-submission/](http://tompkinsweekly.com/event-submission/)

Activities

Break Time

HOROSCOPE

Week of
February 16 to 22, 2025



ARIES

It's important to weigh the pros and cons before making a decision. You may also come across tricky questions without clear answers. This could leave you feeling a bit confused.



TAURUS

Get ready to tackle a bunch of important tasks this week, both at work and in your personal life. Once you check off everything on your to-do list, you'll feel deep satisfaction knowing you've taken care of all the responsibilities you've been putting off.



GEMINI

Big household projects are on the horizon. Your love life could be recharged and take a turn after a deep conversation. A new addition to the family could be on the way!



CANCER

Get ready for an action-packed week! You'll have to put in extra hours at work or handle demanding family responsibilities before you can kick back and relax.



LEO

Whether you're renovating or decorating your home, you'll manage to negotiate advantageous rates that will increase the value of your home. When it comes to your career, don't hesitate to advocate for the raise you deserve.



VIRGO

Unexpected expenses may arise this week. If you need to take out a loan, don't worry. You'll be able to negotiate terms that will benefit you.



LIBRA

This week isn't going to be the peaceful one you were expecting. Instead, it'll be filled with exciting activities and adventures. You'll have a blast!



SCORPIO

Exciting changes are happening in both your professional and personal life. It's important to find ways to unwind and de-stress so you can fully embrace all the amazing opportunities coming your way.



SAGITTARIUS

You'll expand your social circle, both in person and online. You'll find like-minded people to join you at art workshops, yoga sessions or other exciting wellness activities.



CAPRICORN

Your boss will offer you an attractive promotion. Despite being pressed for time, you'll eagerly embrace exciting new projects, whether they're related to work or your personal life.



AQUARIUS

It's time to plan a trip or getaway! You'll be eager to organize a get-together and celebrate with friends. Get ready to explore a new spiritual journey and invest in your personal growth.



PISCES

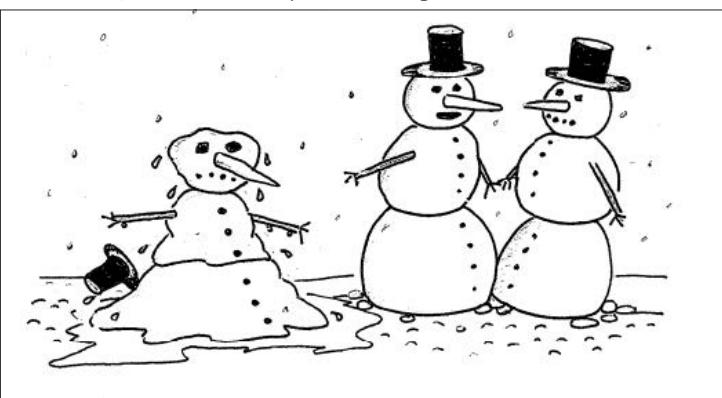
An unexpected event might shake up your peace. Lean on those close to you for support. They'll help you rediscover the joys of life. Learning to open up and trust more could bring positive changes to your life.

The luckiest signs this week:
CAPRICORN, AQUARIUS AND PISCES

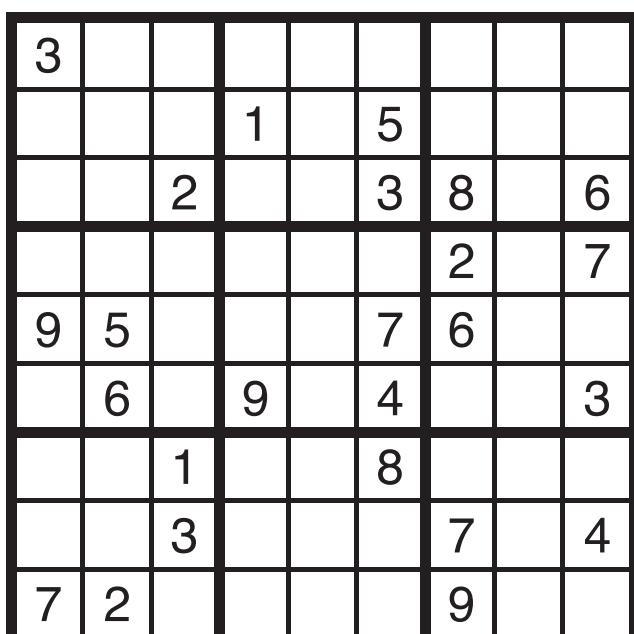


COMICS

By Jack Young

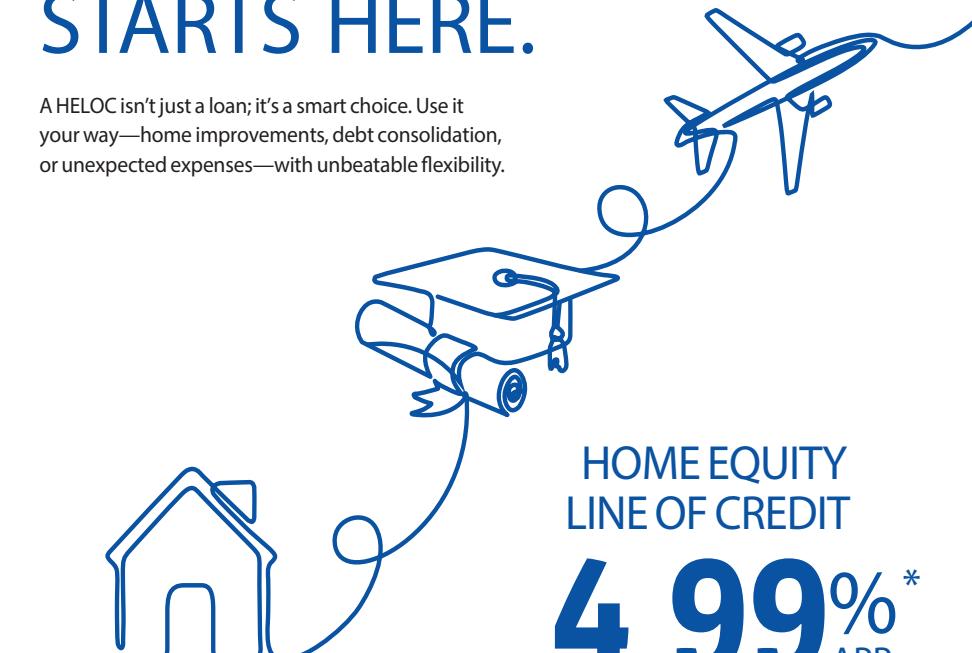


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*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Minimum line of \$10,000 required. The APR will be 4.99% for the first 12 months from the closing date of the line. After 12 months, the APR will adjust to the highest Prime Rate published in the Wall Street Journal on the last business day of the prior month. Assuming no change in the current Prime Rate as of January 22, 2025, the APR after 12 months would be 7.50%. The lifetime cap for the line of credit is guaranteed not to exceed 16.00% APR, with a floor of 4.00% APR. You will be required to reimburse the Bank certain fees paid to third parties if the line is terminated within three years of the opening date. These can be as low as \$1,068.29 for a \$10,000 credit line or as high as \$2,968.29 for a \$200,000 credit line. Collateral mortgage required to be filed. Promotional period ends April 30, 2025. Consult your tax adviser for more information regarding the potential deductibility of interest and fees.  Equal Housing Lender • Member FDIC



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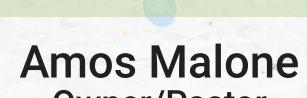
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COLLEGES

Continued from pg 1

ca, put their heads together, and challenge themselves to solve some of the world's most perplexing and pressing issues — all within just a few days.

Cornell University's upcoming Digital Agriculture Hackathon, to take place at the university's Schurman Hall Feb. 28 to March 2, will draw participants from all over the globe, some from as far away as Spain and Switzerland, for an intensive experience that is hard to find anywhere else.

The event's premise starts with an acknowledgement that agriculture demands a radical transformation on a global scale and asks students to use their skills and knowledge in the areas of biology, ecology, engineering, business, computer and information science and the social sciences to create communication networks that "enable timely response and informed decision-making at the level of the farm, community, nation and world," the website for the event states.

Including students from other countries enriches the experience, said Ami Stuart, hackathons director at Cornell.

"It definitely broadens the perspective of the participants," said Stuart, who became the university's first hackathons director 10 years ago. "We say that having a diverse team greatly improves the novelty and idea of what you come up with. Everyone has such

a different lived experience."

Over the years, the meaning of the term "hackathon" has evolved from all-night coding marathons to something much different.

"In the past, they tended to be all coders and developers drinking Red Bull and staying up all night; it was hardcore coding," Stuart said. "We just took the idea of that and made it a little more healthy and inclusive."

Other hackathons occurring in early 2025 included one on animal health in late January/early February, one on artificial intelligence that took place earlier this month, and an upcoming health hackathon from March 7 to 9, hosted by Next Jump in New York City.

The ideas that come out of the hackathons are not purely hypothetical; many go on to become full-fledged startups. An example of a successful company that began during Cornell hackathons is ProducePay, which provides access to capital, global trading networks and supply chain visibility for the produce industry.

Other Cornell standouts:

Leading the way in 'soft robot' design

A modular worm robot built by the Organic Robotics Lab and a jellyfish that was a collaboration with the Archer Group, both in Cornell Engineering, demonstrate the benefits of "embodied energy," an approach that incorporates power sources into the body of a machine to reduce its weight and cost. Read more about it — and view videos and photos of the cutting-edge designs — in the Cornell Chronicle story: shorturl.at/ueM7X.

Spreadsheets lead to real-time wildfire relief

Johan Michalove, Cornell doctoral student in the field of information science, developed an interactive map at fireaid.info that has become an online hub for thousands of people in

the greater Los Angeles area who are in need of provisions or looking to donate supplies. Read the article at shorturl.at/SV3y8.

TC3's farm grows raw ingredients for culinary teaching and community building

In Dryden, a working farm serves as the hands-in-the-dirt classroom for the Sustainable Farming and Food Systems program at Tompkins Cortland Community College (TC3), providing the ideal opportunity for students to experience food production at a human-scaled, local level.

In the summer, the farm's greenhouses overflow with a variety of young plants, including tomatoes, eggplants, basil and more, available for purchase at one of the multiple plant sales TC3 hosts throughout the growing season.

"By integrating with the Culinary Arts and Hotel and Restaurant Management programs, we provide students with a diversified, hands-on experience unlike any other," the farm's website states.

Todd McLane, better known as Farmer Todd, is the director of the TC3 Farm. McLane is a graduate of the University at Albany, and his passion for having a positive impact on his community led him to pursue a career in agriculture. His desire to educate and inspire folks about local food led him to TC3. He is also an adjunct associate professor, teaching various courses in the sustainable farming and food systems program.

Before his work at Tompkins Cortland, McLane was the farm manager at West Haven Farm in Ithaca, one of the oldest certified organic vegetable operations in the area.

The food grown at the TC3 Farm becomes the fresh ingredients used by students in the kitchens of TC3's culinary programs, where students learn not only knife skills but sustainability

in the farming and restaurant industries.

The farm also has a Community Supported Agriculture program, which community members can join to receive fresh produce grown at the farm. Making the CSA affordable to everyone is an important goal of the college, and the TC3 Farm offers shares on a sliding scale. Student share prices are at the low end of each sliding scale, with a limited number of scholarships available to eligible students.

CSA pickups take place in the barn at the TC3 Farm located at 100 Cortland Rd. in Dryden. For more information, visit tompkinscortland.edu/tc3farm/csa.

Other TC3 standouts:

Providing free opportunities for veterans in cutting-edge science programs

TC3 is partnering with Penn State and Cornell University to bring veterans and their dependents a free opportunity to earn a certificate in microelectronics and nanomanufacturing. The program is open to six students in the first cohort, with some expenses eligible for reimbursement. Classes are live streamed with one to two days of hands-on lab activities at the Cornell Nanoscale Facility.

CollegeNow thriving

CollegeNow — TC3's robust concurrent enrollment program — continues to grow. This year, the college expects around 125 high school seniors from across the region will have taken enough dual-credit courses while in high school that they will be able to graduate with a degree from TC3 at the same time they graduate from high school. "This program has been around a long time," said Peter Vorhees, TC3 public information officer, "but the number of high schoolers earning credits and saving tons of money on college is amazing."

The project would cost the village \$15,500.

Some of the benefits listed in the company's proposal include:

- Deliver a code that is always accessible to the public and is up to date.
- Help keep the village's code enforceable.
- Improve transparency with constituents.
- Save village staff time and resources by empowering constituents to find code information independently.

In brief:

Local musician Amy Puryear will offer SingSong classes for children at the Lansing Community Library in March. Puryear will lead these sessions at 10:30 on March 4, 11, 18 and 25.

SingSong is a delightful interactive musical experience for children and their parents or caregivers. Join us for a joyous gathering where we'll sing, move, learn rhythms, clap, stomp, dance and have a great time together. Our repertoire includes songs from various cultures, both familiar and new, and we'll even explore singing in different languages like English and Spanish while also learning some American Sign Language (ASL).

Interested parties can register at: <http://lansinglibrary.org/2025/02/12/singsong-music-classes-with-ammy-puryear-2/>.



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CODE

Continued from pg 4

tions before they come to the clerk," Metcalf said.

Planning Board Chair Michael Baker asked what would happen if the village passed new local laws or amended existing ones.

"The village staff has to send a hard copy of a new local law or an amendment to the state. By the time the start certifies it, then you send it to me,"

Metcalf said. "The legislation can be sent in electronically; it comes in to our supplementation team. Within 48 hours, the legislation is under a tab on eCode360 called New Laws. Our editors will take a quick peek at it to see what chapter it affects, then they put a little notation."

Metcalf said that the village can have a contractual schedule with General Code that allows for monthly, quarterly or yearly updates. Planning Board members said the code is typically updated about seven to 10 times a year.



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Washington's solemn warning

In 1796, George Washington announced he would not seek re-election to a third term as the nation's first president. The nation had won a revolutionary war, established a confederation of states and then a U.S. Constitution crafted by representatives of the existing states and ratified under its provisions. As the first president, he established norms for public service, put down an insurrection against federal taxes and officials in Western PA, and guided the US to a stable footing among the world's nations. George Washington and every president since has sworn the same oath of office, as stated in the U.S. Constitution and ratified by the several states.

As he retired, Washington issued a solemn warning against particular dangers to the young country and its form of government: regional divisions, the "baneful effect of the Spirit of Party," and foreign influence. Of party influence, he wrote: "The alternate domination of one faction over another, sharpened by the spirit of revenge natural to party dissension, which in different ages & countries has perpetrated the most horrid enormities, is itself a frightful despotism. But this leads at length to a more formal and permanent despotism. The disorders & miseries, which result, gradually incline the minds of men to seek security & repose in the absolute

power of an individual: and sooner or later the chief of some prevailing faction more able or more fortunate than his competitors, turns this disposition to the purposes of his own elevation, on the ruins of Public Liberty."

He also reminded public officials to "confine themselves within their respective Constitutional spheres, avoiding in the exercise of the Powers of one department to encroach upon another. The spirit of encroachment tends to consolidate the powers of all the departments in one, and thus to create, whatever the form of government, a real despotism."

Presidents' Day began as a celebration of Washington's birth. National

holidays required Congress pass a law signed by the president; they are potent reminders of what we hold in common and who we are as a nation.

Washington's Farewell Address has been so important a reminder of the precious value of and importance of safe-guarding our self-made form of government that it has been read annually in the Senate since 1896. On the anniversary of his birthday (February 22, 1732) it is good to read and remember Washington's warnings on our behalf. <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/05-20-02-0440-0002>

-Vivien Rose
Trumansburg

On Trump and the Inflation Reduction Act

An article published in Tompkins Weekly on Jan. 29 -- "Determining the Local Impact of Trump's executive orders" -- considered their devastating effect on Immigration, gender, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). But it failed to mention another important vulnerability -- their effect on Earth, and on the job creation for an economy that could better support it.

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), passed in 2022, is seen as the largest investment in combating climate change in US history, with provisions to incentivize clean energy production, infrastructure development,

and carbon emission reduction. Now its clean energy credits and unspent funds are in danger of being repurposed to further decreasing taxes for corporations and the wealthy. Trump has already suspended all Inflation Reduction Act funding disbursements in an executive order Jan. 20.

The IRA includes \$8.8 billion in rebates for home energy efficiency and electrification projects and is projected to save American households up to \$1 billion annually. Without the tax credits to incentivize renewable energy development, monthly residential bills are expected to instead

increase sharply, especially in NY. New York and Texas are the states that see the largest decline in clean energy investment, losing \$4.4 billion/year and \$3.3 billion/year on average through 2040, respectively.

According to the Brookings Institute, the climate provisions of the IRA will reduce emissions up to an additional 11% below 2005 levels as compared to the business-as-usual scenario. This leads to a total expected emissions reduction of 35% to 40% below 2005 levels.

It's time to reach out to elected officials. Urge them to work with their Republican colleagues. The current

party vote margin is very slim, and Republican-held districts have received about four times more IRA funding than blue districts. This past fall, 18 House Republicans wrote to Speaker Mike Johnson, warning him against fully gutting IRA incentives if their party works to repeal the law since it could upend energy projects already under construction in their own districts. Though their silence would seem to deny it, Republicans are not a monolith, and some who voted against the IRA are changing their minds.

-Elizabeth Keokosky

Legislator Travis Brooks announces bid for re-election

Legislator, community advocate, and trusted neighbor Travis Brooks has officially announced his campaign for a second term representing Tompkins County Legislature,

1st District.

"My community has allowed and trusted me to bring their collective voices into the room. For that alone, it has been an honor," said Brooks.

For over 25 years, Brooks has been a pillar of the community, dedicated to advocating for fairness, opportunity, and collaborative solutions. "I must champion the needs of my neighbors and make them my priority. I value family, hard work, dedication, fair opportunities, pulling each other up, advocacy, and the right to pursue your dreams," he added.

As the Deputy Director of the Greater Ithaca Activities Center



Photo provided

Tompkins County Legislator Travis Brooks has announced his bid for reelection.

Obituaries

Celebrating Lives, Honoring Memories

RECENT DEATH NOTICES

Name:	Age:	Town, State:	Death Date:	Arrangements:
Janice J. VanAllen	94	Groton, NY	Feb-15	Lansing Funeral Home
Paula Butler	-	Ithaca, NY	Feb-14	Zirbel Funeral Home
Joyce E. Pickard	97	Dryden, NY	Feb-12	Perkins Funeral Home
Rodney E. Lewis	57	Berkshire, NY	Feb-11	Perkins Funeral Home
David DeMello	62	Ithaca, NY	Feb-11	CNY Cremation Service
Deborah Slater	70	-	Feb-11	CNY Cremation Service
Harry Craig Miller	75	Ithaca, NY	Feb-10	Bangs Funeral Home
James Allen	88	Montour Falls, NY	Feb-10	Bangs Funeral Home
Marian Lang Blanchard	98	Ithaca, NY	Feb-10	Bangs Funeral Home
George "Gus" Isaac	101	Myers, NY	Feb-10	Lansing Funeral Home
Carrie Adams	38	-	Feb-9	CNY Cremation Service
Elaine Mays	68	-	Feb-8	Zirbel Funeral Home
Timothy Votra	65	Dryden, NY	Feb-4	CNY Cremation Service
Thomas Dandrea Jr.	54	Ithaca, NY	Feb-3	CNY Cremation Service

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Touching (military) base(s)

Editor's note: The opinions expressed in this column are those of author Carolina Cositore Sitrin and are not representative of the thoughts or opinions of Tompkins Weekly.



By Carolina Cositore Sitrin

The United States has about 500 military bases within our borders. These provide a place for service members and their families to live and work and

are ready to defend the country from attack; they also contribute economically to the communities where they are located. That's the good news.

What is not good is that all bases, foreign and domestic, are huge polluters and have become environmental disaster areas. Military bases contribute overwhelmingly to climate change due to their high consumption of fossil fuels, primarily through the operation of aircraft, naval vessels and land vehicles, making them one of the largest institutional emitters of greenhouse gases globally. This high fuel usage through reliance on jet fuel, diesel, and other fossil fuels for transportation and equipment, their vast infrastructure, including power plants and naval vessels using bunker fuel, all contribute to great air, water and land pollution and degradation.

Since World War II, the earth has been blanketed in military bases.

Foreign bases can be used as staging areas for logistical, communications and intelligence support. They enable a country to project power, for example to

conduct expeditionary warfare, and they significantly encourage the proliferation of weapons. Such bases alternately reassure, lull and annoy allies – even when present with that government's permission -- often becoming mini-colonizing stations with locals as second class citizens and resident military immune to prosecution for crimes. Foreign bases also both deter and provoke potential enemies; they are not calming agents. Rather than make any of us safer, they are magnets for terrorist actions.

In short, foreign bases are part of the expensive war machine used for political influence and regional stabilization from the perspective of the occupying power, to contain and deter opponents and most of all, to be ready to wage war.

The US does not have any foreign base on its territory, but has around 800 military bases in other countries, a number that could be much higher depending on whether you count the bases in Iraq and because the Pentagon is not completely forthcoming. These foreign bases house some 160,000 active-duty personnel, not including deployed combat troops, at a cost to US taxpayers of around 100 billion dollars a year.

Our 800-odd bases are more overseas military bases than any other country in the world. In fact, they are much more than all the rest of the world's foreign bases together! The UK's 145 and France's 14 bases are mostly located in their former colonies. The Russian Federation has 20 military bases abroad, but except for Syria, they are in former Soviet bloc countries. Turkey also has a substantial

number of bases in foreign countries and more in Iraq than any other. Much smaller numbers of overseas military bases are operated by China, Iran, India, Italy, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates. The US military is often cited as the biggest offender of carbon emissions impacting the world environment.

We have so many bases partly because we became a global peacekeeper after World War II, expanded them during the Cold War, and multiplied them again on an unprecedented scale for the War on Terrorism. Even though Japan, Germany and Korea are now stable democracies and American allies and the Cold War is over, thousands of troops and much of our military infrastructure remain in these countries; not always with the will of the local population. (Residents of Okinawa, Japan routinely protest our bases and Cuba has demanded removal of our illegal base from Guantanamo for 66 years.)

To review. Some purposes of military bases, such as domestic defense, is good, and some, like provoking and annoying other nations and the enormous cost, are not so good. One aspect that is bad for all is the enormous effect military bases have on our climate.

What can be done: As with most things, there is a range of possibilities.

Places to start would be transitioning to renewable energy sources like solar and wind power at military bases, which could significantly reduce emissions. Investing in more fuel-efficient vehicles and aircraft can decrease fuel consump-

tion.

The Green Party has urged our government to phase out all bases not specifically functioning under a U.N. resolution to keep peace and to bring home our troops stationed abroad, except for the military assigned to protect a U.S. embassy. Many of these bases are small and can be closed immediately. We advocate further reductions in U.S. foreign military bases at a rate of closure of 1/4 to 1/5 of their numbers every year.

World Without War advocates for the dismantling of all foreign and domestic military bases around the world. It sees closing bases as a necessary step to shift the global security paradigm toward a demilitarized approach that centers on common security – no one is safe until all are safe.

We all can become better informed about effects and options. Consider finding and joining a local action on the Global Day of Action to Close Bases on **February 23, 2025** at military bases the world over.

In upstate New York, you could join Vets for Peace, Jewish Voices for Peace, Pax Christi, Code Pink, World Without War, as well as many other antiwar organizations, at Hancock 174th Attack Wing, 6001 E. Malloy Road in Syracuse, New York. In addition to the demonstration, there will be an ecumenical prayer meeting at the main entrance at 1 PM.

Carolina Cositore Sitrin is a retired editor, teacher and social worker now living in Dryden. She is a lifelong and non-retired activist.

RE-ELECTION

Continued from pg 15

(GIAC), Brooks has led programs centered on education, community development, and sustainability.

His ability to analyze complex challenges, bring stakeholders together, and drive solutions has been a hallmark of his leadership.

With new district lines incorporating a larger portion of West Hill, Brooks is eager to engage with new

constituents. "I have lived on 5th Street and raised six children in Ithaca. I know this city and county, and I love that the tent is changing. New voices, new ideas, new conversations but most importantly...new hopes to support."

For more information about Travis Brooks' campaign, upcoming events, and ways to get involved, please contact Campaign manager Aryeal Jackson aryeal.jackson@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS JHAKEEM HALTOM



"IT'S NOT ABOUT ALWAYS ENJOYING IT OR COMING TO WORK WITH THIS FEELING OF LIKE, 'THIS IS MY LIFE PURPOSE,'" HALTOM SAID. "IT'S A PROFESSIONAL SKILL THAT I'VE LEARNED THROUGH EXPERIENCE AND BEING ON THE FRONT LINES OF TEENAGE MENTAL HEALTH."

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Articles of Organization for TRIPHAMMER PARTNERS LLC ("LLC") were filed with the Secretary of New York ("SSNY") on January 2, 2025. Office Location: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to the LLC, 202 East State Street, Suite 403, Ithaca, New York 14850. Purpose: To engage in any lawful activity. 1/15, 01/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

GMR Auto Sales, LLC -- Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York on 01/10/2025. Office location: Cortland County. Secretary of State of New York designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. Secretary of State of New York shall mail process to 230 Port Watson Street, Cortland, New York 13045 which is the principal office of the limited liability company. The limited liability company was formed for any lawful business purpose. 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

McNeil Fabrication, LLC -- Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York on 01/13/2025.

Office location: Cortland County. Secretary of State of New York designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. Secretary of State of New York shall mail process to PO Box 213, Homer, New York 13077 which is the principal office of the limited liability company. The limited liability company was formed for any lawful business purpose. 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Dragons Can Be Defeated Therapy and Consulting, LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/14/2025. Office: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 108 N. Cayuga Street, 4th Floor, Suite 1, Ithaca, NY 14850. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 02/19, 02/26, 03/05/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Heya LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/09/2024. Office: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 416 East State Street, Ithaca, NY 14850. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Sam Boyles LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/22/2025. Office: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 401 Linn St., Ithaca, NY 14850. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

BHEDA LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/28/2024. Office: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Chrissy Smith @ 4470 Country Meadow Dr., High Ridge, MO 63049. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Mini City Garage LLC filed Art. of Org. with the SSNY on 12/16/2024. Office: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to PO Box 1, McLean, NY 13102. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Vintage Dreams, LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/17/2024. Office: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Anthony Muro @ 9680 Kingtown Rd., Trumansburg, NY 14886. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5/2025.

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REIDAVID LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/20/2025. Office: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 3142 Cascadilla Hall, 115 Cascadilla Place, Ithaca, NY 14853. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12/2025.

Potter Ridge, LLC filed Art. of Org. with the SSNY on 01/17/2025. Office: Cortland County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 4080 Piety Ridge Road, Marathon, NY 13803. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5/2025

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Stand Guard Over Truth, LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/28/2024. Office: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Incorp Services, Inc., One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave. STE 805-A, Albany, NY 12210-2822.

Purpose is to engage in any and all business activities permitted under NYS laws. 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

To Wonder at Beauty, LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/03/2024. Office: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Chrissy Smith @ 4470 Country Meadow Dr., High Ridge, MO 63049. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

EST1981, LLC Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on December 24, 2024. Office Location: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: 208 Cypress Court, Apt. 4, Ithaca, NY 14850. Purpose: to engage in any and all business for which LLCs may be formed under the New York LLC law. 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

CONNECTED STITCHES YARN & FIBER SHOP LLC Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of

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TompkinsWeekly.com

Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/23/2025. Office: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Christina Cushman, 81 E Main St, Dryden, NY 13053. Purpose: to engage in any and all business for which LLCs may be formed under the New York LLC law. 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/2025.

New York (SSNY) on October 25, 2023. Office Location: Tompkins County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: I AM LIFE LIFTED LLC Auth. filed with SSNY on 12-04-2024. Office location Tompkins. LLC formed in NJ on 11-12-2024. SSNY desg. as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY mail process to 206A Dryden Road, PMB#113, ITHACA, NY,14850. Arts. of Org. filed with NJ Dept of Treasury, Div of Revenue and Enterprise Services. POBox 252, Trenton, NJ 08625-0252. Any lawful purpose. 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/2025.

TOMPKINS COUNTY FOREIGN LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

I AM LIFE LIFTED LLC Auth. filed with SSNY on 12-04-2024. Office location Tompkins. LLC formed in NJ on 11-12-2024. SSNY desg. as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY mail process to 206A Dryden Road, PMB#113, ITHACA, NY,14850. Arts. of Org. filed with NJ Dept of Treasury, Div of Revenue and Enterprise Services. POBox 252, Trenton, NJ 08625-0252. Any lawful purpose. 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

FLX Real Estate Management Group, LLC filed Articles of Organization with NYS on 2/6/2025. Its principal office is in Tompkins County, NY. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served and a copy of any process will be mailed to the LLC, 15 Thornwood Drive, PO Box 4860, Ithaca, NY 14852-4860. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19/2025.

NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

ERASE PAPER HOBO

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Solutions to Puzzles on Page 12

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NOTICE of FORMATION of a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
2-3-4 STORE, LLC. Art. of

Real Estate Transactions

CAROLINE

- Janet Howe bought from Richard A. & Christine E. Scriber at 20 Bald Hill Rd, Caroline, NY 14817 on 01/17/25 for \$376,000.

DANBY

- Patrick & Jennifer Cummings bought from Jason Brennan at 181 Yapple Rd, Danby, NY 14850 on 01/17/25 for \$650,000.
- Mara Neimanis bought from Richard & Nancy Lazarus at 393 S Danby Rd, Danby, NY 13053 on 01/17/25 for \$185,000.
- Vincent Preikstas bought from Jonathan Crawford at 615 E

Miller Rd, Danby, NY 13053 on 01/23/25 for \$162,000.
- Jennifer Thompson & Daniel Schmalzel bought from Richard A. & Joan C. Curtiss on Durfee Hill Rd, Danby, NY 13053 on 01/17/25 for \$584,000.

- Stephen & Suzanne Willcox bought from David M. Hudson & Elaine I. Papageorge at 1068 Comfort Rd Ext, Danby, NY 13053 on 01/21/25 for \$176,501.

DRYDEN

- Ellen M. Lust bought from Pietro & Pamela Michelucci at 21

Lone Oak Rd, Dryden, NY 14850 on 01/21/25 for \$429,000.

- Jesse Norton bought from Pinnacle Building & Remodeling LLC in Dryden, NY 13053 on 01/22/25 for \$40,000.

- William F. & Shawna H. Schell bought from the George H. Clark Sr. Estate & Richard J. Clark in Dryden, NY 13053 on 01/23/25 for \$315,000.

- Lisa C. Stone bought from Magdalene Laba at 1947 Slaterville Rd, Dryden, NY 13053 on 01/22/25 for \$237,500.

ENFIELD

- Ashley Allcorn & Donna S.

Hillman bought from Roy L. & Carol H. Barriere at 331 Enfield Main Rd, Enfield, NY 14850 on 01/17/25 for \$375,000.

- John Rancich bought from Ann S. Rider in Enfield, NY 13073 on 01/22/25 for \$24,000.

GROTON

- Mark W. & Suzanne T. Manzari bought from Gerald W. Willis Jr. in Groton, NY 13073 on 01/23/25 for \$325,000.

- Ofelia A. Nunez bought from Steven & Tammie Kimmich at 306 Elm St, Groton, NY 13073 on 01/17/25 for \$150,000.

- Mark Westwig & Morgan Miele

bought from Shaun M. Gendrue at 309 S St W, Groton, NY 13073 on 01/17/25 for \$197,000.

ITHACA

- Robert & Mary Cantelmo bought from Mark Jauquet & Michelle Sanders-Jauquet at 215 W Spencer St, Ithaca, NY 14850 on 01/22/25 for \$429,000.

- Charles Muirhead & Jade Wu bought from Minglin Ma & Fang Zhou at 117 Concord Pl, Ithaca, NY 14850 on 01/23/25 for \$539,000.

LANSING

- 8 Hillcrest Ithaca LLC bought from Airport Storage LLC at 8 Hillcrest Rd, Lansing, NY 13068 on 01/23/25 for \$740,000.

- Carl A. & Jason A. Brennan bought from Michael L. & Susan E. Goldberg in Lansing, NY 13068 on 01/17/25 for \$610,000.

- Alexandra Funk bought from the William T. Ford Estate & Georgia F. Hotchkiss at 151 Woodsedge Dr, Lansing, NY 13068 on 01/22/25 for \$310,000.

Classifieds

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

Blue Light, Inc. is seeking a Business Development Specialist to drive the growth of various brands of the company. Req. Bachelor's in marketing, business, or related. Worksite: Ithaca, NY. Salary: \$44,907/yr. Send resume: 530 W. State Street, Ithaca, NY 14850.

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- ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-855-399-2719

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For a limited time, waiving ALL</p

Keeping campus warm: steam to hot water conversion

By Linda Copman

Visitors to Cornell's Ithaca campus seldom think about the vast underground infrastructure that supplies electricity, potable water, chilled water, and heating to university buildings. Buried beneath their feet are miles and miles of underground piping, and other critical infrastructure that keep the lights on, computers humming, water running, staff and students warm—even when the temperature outside is frigid.

Cornell's campus is currently heated with steam generated by the university's Central Energy Plant. This steam (about 450 degrees F) is distributed at high pressure through about 12 miles of pipe to the far-flung buildings on campus.

Cornell is working to swap out the steam heat on campus for a system run entirely on hot water. There are many wins associated with this conversion, including:

- **Hot water increases efficiency:** As super-hot steam travels through the campus pipe system, there's about a 20% loss of efficiency. By replacing the steam with hot water, this inefficiency will be reduced to about 5%.
- **Hot water reduces campus emissions:** The conversion from steam to hot water is a key step in Cornell's Climate Action Plan. Eliminating steam production results in a significant overall emissions reduction for campus because fossil-fuel free energy can be used to generate the lower temperature hot water.
- **Hot water saves money (a lot of money):** The overhead and maintenance cost for distributing steam heat to campus buildings is currently about \$1M per year. The projected distribution cost for hot water heating is \$270k per year. This represents a 73% reduction in costs associated

with heating campus.

- **Hot water creates a closed loop system:** The new hot water system Cornell is building is a closed loop—meaning that the same water circulates through the system again and again, with only minimal maintenance and chemical treatment.
- **Hot water renews campus infrastructure:** Parts of the campus steam system are more than 100 years old. Replacing them with new hot water pipes that are better insulated will further reduce thermal losses and increase the overall efficiency of the system.
- **Hot water improves safety for workers:** There are inherent worker safety improvements by converting to hot water. Steam at high pressures and temperatures poses a risk for the staff working directly on the system—a risk that will be reduced with the switch to hot water.
- **Hot water enables fossil-free heat sources:** A hot water distribution system enables fossil fuel-free sources of heat, including Earth Source Heat—a renewable heat source that Cornell is pursuing. Earth Source Heat generates hot water, not steam, and requires a hot water distribution system like the one Cornell is building.

The campus-wide steam to hot water conversion is a critical component of Cornell's plan to reach its 2035 carbon neutral goal. The conversion is currently about 20% complete (i.e., about one-fifth of Cornell's campus is now using hot water rather than steam heat).

The utilities thermal distribution team has already completed several hot water districts, including: the new residential buildings on North Campus, the North Campus High Rises/Low Rises, the newer West Campus dorm facilities,



Photo provided

New hot water pipes under the sidewalk leading to the Veterinary Medical Center and East Campus Research Facility loading dock area. The new pipes are installed beneath an existing steam line.

buildings along Sciences Drive, portions of East Campus, the new Atkinson Hall facility, Cornell Health, Friedman Wrestling Center, the new CIS facility, the Veterinary Medical Center, and East Campus Research Facility.

The team reports that the new hot wa-

ter lines are operating smoothly—with reduced risk and higher efficiency.

For an extended version of this article, published in the Cornell Chronicle, please visit news.cornell.edu/stories/2025/02/keeping-campus-warm-steam-hot-water-conversion.

HEALTH ALERT

Continued from pg 8

tion clinics for those who are eligible. Eligibility for adults includes those ages 19+ who are uninsured or whose insurance does not cover the costs of the vaccine. Visit our website to learn more or call our office to schedule an appointment: 607-274-6604.

TCWH offers in-home vaccination

services for those who are homebound. TCWH offers in-home Covid and flu vaccinations to Tompkins County residents who are considered homebound. This means that you require the use of a walker or wheelchair to leave your home, your health condition may worsen if you leave your home, it is difficult for you to leave your home, and you usually do not leave your home. Please call 607-274-6604 to register for this

service.

TCWH's Director of Community Health Services Rachel Buckwalter stated, "COVID-19 can cause severe symptoms in older adults and those who are immunocompromised. Vaccination can reduce severity of symptoms. It is strongly recommended to maintain your protection by staying up to date on vaccination doses. Please get your next COVID-19 vaccine dose as soon as

you are eligible to do so."

Tompkins County Whole Health: envisioning a future where every person in Tompkins County can achieve wellness. Find us online at: <https://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/health> and follow us on Facebook at Facebook.com/TompkinsWholeHealth. Sign up to receive Whole Health updates or other county announcements via email or text.

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