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And so we proudly celebrate our 45th year serving the business community of southern Saratoga County. In its humble beginnings, this organization was like most, simply a place for business owners and townspeople to get together, network and socialize. Today, chambers have become a big nationwide industry, and most are run more like corporations. But the underlying principles remain – to serve local independent businesspeople and help build opportunity.

The Chamber of Southern Saratoga County maintains an information center at Exit 9 off Maxwell Drive (behind the Shoppers' World Plaza). C'mon and stop in sometime! We are also proud to partner with the Exit 9 Rest Area on the Northway, and numerous other establishments to distribute local information.

Mon-Fri 8:00 am - 7:00 pm

Sincerely,

Pete Bardunias, President/CEO

The Chamber of Southern Saratoga County

& Barduni





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Local Craftsman Creates One-Of-A-Kind Pieces from Reclaimed Wood

By MONICA G. FINCH Contributing Writer

"Most things can be given new life if someone takes the time to see its potential."

Rod Bower (from his Web site)

Possibly the three most common reactions for anyone viewing an unsightly debris pile are: 1. That needs to go to the dump. 2. I'll cull this for any recyclables I can sell. 3. I can create something useful and beautiful from this stuff. The third reaction is that of Rod Bower – a visionary artisan of vintage detritus. For him, items salvaged from a farmer's dump hold nothing but creative potential. He is also proprietor of the fledgling Saratoga Table Works in Burnt Hills.

After 20 years in and out of the remodeling business and five

years in information technology (IT) sales, he took a leap of faith about 18 months ago and established his company. Bower said he made a good living in IT sales but his heart wasn't in it, especially after being laid off four times since the 2008 bust in the economy. "I woke up hating to go to work," he recalled. In retrospect, those rejections were a blessing in disguise.

His true passion was his lifelong hobby – working with wood. "I'd rather cut a piece of wood any day than sell IT," he said. The Air Force veteran is a gifted and canny artisan who transforms vintage materials such as barn wood, scrap metal, slab wood, and other cast-offs into works of art that are as beautiful as they are practical. "I see the beauty in old seasoned woods and look to give them new life again," he said.

Saratoga Table Works began when one of his creations, a patio table made from reclaimed silo wood, received so many raves from friends and guests that Bower was inspired to quit his job and establish his company. Since then, his question, "Can I do this?" has been resoundingly answered in the affirmative by a long list of customers' orders.

Among his other creations are: benches, tables, cabinets, kitchen islands, bar top slabs, and fireplace mantels. His one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted pieces include elements he has retrieved from the waste stream and given new purpose – this is Bower's trademark. "There is always something reclaimed in every project," he said.

Bower also "rescues" standing hardwood trees from ignoble endings as mere firewood. "I recently learned some techniques from a



Rod Bower, proprietor of Saratoga Table Works, LLC

fellow craftsman on taking standing dead hardwood trees and turning them into beautiful bench seating. Some pieces of wood have beautiful aging in it as well," he said.

Living in a barn

Perhaps his most impressive and ambitious project to date is the complete makeover of a 32 x 130-foot barn into his family's home. Located on the historic homestead of the late Stanley Garrison, DVM, on Goode Street in Burnt Hills, Bower, his wife, Darlene, (Garrison's grand-daughter) and their son, Evan, reside in what was formerly the hay loft in a dairy barn during "Doc" Garrison's time.

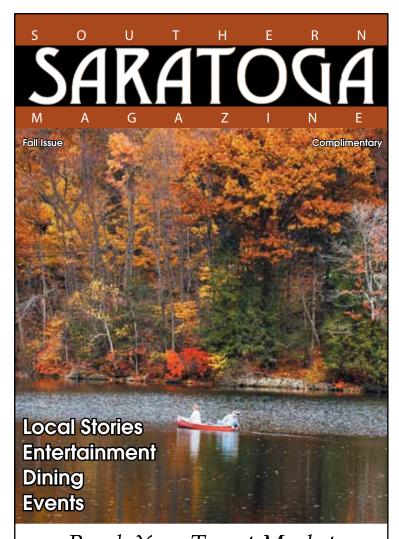
Built in 1900, the barn was previously converted to living quarters. However, his subsequent refinements and up-grades go light years beyond those of the prior owner's efforts. It's been an on-going project for the past six years.

Scale of the work

The family lives in a portion of the barn space. "I have touched every room in this house so I guess you can say I've worked in the entire space," he said. His two workshops are on the barn's ground floor.

Although the living area is cavernous with its soaring arched ceil

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TABLE WORKS continued from page 5

ings and exposed hand-hewn beams, Bower's home is warm and welcoming, interesting and inviting. He replaced the floor, previously covered with dry, curled linoleum squares, with refinished barn wood. The kitchen features gleaming stainless steel appliances and granite countertops that are complimented by antiques and reclaimed-wood cabinetry. There is something beautiful and interesting in every nook and built-in

Their style

Bower and his wife describe their style as "eclectic" – "keeping characteristics of the old and new," they explained. Irreplaceable family heirlooms and antiques abide harmoniously with a flat-screen TV and 21st-century technology. An antique treadle sewing ma-

chine's cast iron base compliments its three-inch thick, round, cherry wood table top. A black and white digital clock shares a restored mantel piece with a nearly century-old tambour clock. A loft in the living area

Photo by Marc Schultz, Gazette Photographer

showcases groupings of antiques and retro collectibles. In the dining area, Bower points to a recently completed vintage shop workbench that he transformed into a buffet unit, which can also be used as a mobile island.

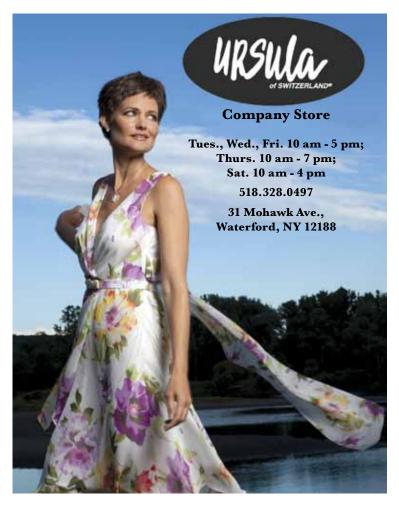
"I repurpose the past by creating unique pieces from vintage materials and giving them new life and enjoyment. Some would call my work art; others say it is a way of going green. I just truly enjoy taking something old, such as barn wood, workbenches, moldings, metal bracing, etc. and putting them together with new materials and seeing the result," said Bower. (from his Web site).

The barn's ground floor is now Bower's workshop and storage area. He had to jackhammer dozens of cow stanchions out of the floor when he began the transformation. Today there are many projects in the works among a cache of materials for future ones.

He's discovered that, "You

have to do what makes you happy." Although when he completes a project and watches it go to the new owner, sometimes it feels like a child leaving home. But Bower quickly returns to his shop, where he begins a new project, and enjoys the "high" he gets from creating beauty and utility from the flotsam and jetsam of life.







An enduring icon of haute couture

stays afloat despite floods, economy,

changing hemlines.

By MONICA G. FINCH Contributing Writer

For as long as many Capital Region women can remember, Ursula of Switzerland has been synonymous with sophistication, European flair, elegance, and classic taste. And among a great many of them, Ursula created the wedding gown of their dreams. Although long gone from downtown Schenectady.

Ursula of Switzerland continues to thrive even during times of economic and meteorological vagaries.

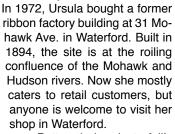
In the 1960s, a young Swiss woman was working on her dream. Ursula Garreau-Rickenbacher, CEO of Ursula of Switzerland, was attending professional school and serving an apprenticeship in fashion design. She explained that in order to create designs, "Students had to learn how to make patterns, how a dress is put together." For the past several years, Ursula has taken a number of summer interns under her wing. "We have a two- or threemonth program. The students are 18 to 20 years old and very mature. I am very pleased with them."

Her start in NYC

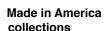
Ursula came to New York City in 1961 to pursue her dream. At first, she worked in an office and saved her money. She invested her modest savings in wool fabric and created her first hat, which sold for \$5. It was such a hit that she bought more fabric and made more hats. At one point, she was creating hats for Henri Bendel and Saks Fifth Avenue among others. It wasn't long before Ursula's creations caught on in tony but finicky Manhattan fashion circles.

By 1968, Ursula and her husband moved from gritty Manhattan to Schenectady where she opened her first retail boutique and her husband began teaching at Niskayuna High School. Her signature design then was the tunic pants suit, which were made in her home along with "five or six little ladies who helped me."

Her unique flair, easy care/easy wear styles, and reasonable prices soon demanded more space. Ursula opened retail shops in Schenectady, Albany, Troy, and Saratoga. Her dream came true beyond her wildest expectations and continues to grow to this day.



Battered by last fall's tropical storms and flooding, the business recently returned to full swing in early spring after closing for repairs. The upper floors contain the design studios and the basement, which was flooded more than four feet of water, houses the wholesale shipping department.



Ursula's Made in America collections with such names as New City Suit, New Metropolitan, Classic, and Timeless, are offered to retailers throughout the USA, Canada, and Puerto Rico. They are noted "internationally for consistency in fit, quality, style, and value" along with distinctive elegance and flair. "People are becoming more aware of American-made goods, so far we have been able to do this," she said.



Multi-award winner

Ursula of Switzerland is a multi-time award winner of the presti-

continued on page 10

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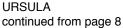
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gious industry award, the Distinguished Excellence in the Bridal Industry award (DEBI Award), which has national cachet. When asked how many times she received the award, she demurely said she doesn't remember.

One of her long-time business techniques is her trunk shows. A retailer will advertise that it is going to host a trunk show featuring the Ursula of Switzerland line. "It is a good get-together. Retailers are good at reading what their customers want," said Ursula, so they buy according to their customers' taste, size, and design preferences.

"Real women. real dresses. real fit"

In 1994, her focus changed to mother-of-the-bride styles for women of all sizes. Her collection is available in more than 5,000 bridal stores, including Mexico, Canada, England and Australia.

"My customers used to be in Schenectady," Ursula reminisced. "They first came for their prom gowns; now they come for their mother-of-the-bride dresses!" Her customers are, indeed, generational. "My customers know how to grow old gracefully," she commented.

Ursula of Switzerland has been in business for 40 years. While other prominent retailers have long disappeared from the scene, Ursula is still dressing women of all ages. Her secret? "You have to have guts and wonderful people working for you," she said. "Some employees have been with me for many years – some have retired. The newest ones joined me 10 years ago. Some of them began in high school," she recalled.

She modestly gives her staff great credit for her success: "You need these people to grow; if not, you are a lost soul. You cannot do it all alone. You have to have people who believe in you."

Succulents for low-maintenance

Now is the time of year to focus on outdoor landscaping projects. While many people gravitate to the flashy and colorful annuals on display at nurseries and home centers, you may want to consider adding some succulents to your home landscape.

Succulent plants can be a boon to a homeowner without the time or resources to maintain plants. Succulents get their name from their primary function, which is drawing up and storing water. Succulents are able to thrive in arid conditions, and there are more than 300 different types, including some exotic species.

Because they store water in their stems, roots and leaves, this reduces the number of times an owner must water them. Succulents can go several days between waterings. Succulents, like cacti, that have few if any leaves, are perhaps best at managing water because they lose little to evaporation through the foliage.

Succulents are particularly good to have in areas prone to arid temperatures or where water restrictions are often in place. They can be environ-

mentally friendly because of their ability to conserve water. Succulents treat water as a precious resource, and their entire makeup is designed to minimize consumption of water.

Because they thrive in sunlight, succulents can be the ideal plants to put in extremely sunny and hot locations. They will not wither and dry out due to extreme heat. For particularly dry areas of landscape or where soil is subpar, consider the placement of different varieties of succulents to create a varied and eye-catching display.

There are many other advantages to planting succulents; some of which include:

- Succulents offer contrasts in shape, texture and colors. With the many varieties, you're bound to find something interesting and different to add to the landscape.
- Whether you have ample acreage in the yard or simply some containers available for planting, succulents will thrive. They grow just as well in containers as they do in the ground.
- Succulents don't tend to require pruning or cutting back of the plant. With this in mind, you can expect them to grow large. Therefore, space the plants adequately to allow for growth.
- Succulents are perennials. So once you plant them, they should last for years and years without the hassle and expense you can expect from planting annuals every year.

When considering a spot for your succulents, choose areas that get plenty of sun. Think about pruning back or removing trees that would create too much shade on the succulents. Space the succulents widely apart – more so than you would with other plants – to allow them to spread. Pebbles or gravel make good mulching material around succulents so that drainage will be adequate. It will also set the succulents apart from other plants by contextualizing them in your garden.

Visit a gardening center or home improvement store to learn more about the myriad types of succulents that can add beauty to most gardens.



Succulents, like jade, are ideal for arid conditions or for gardens where low-maintenance plants are desired.

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By NIGAR HALE Contributing Writer

Simply put, in their own words, "We are two guys, playing guitar, singing with harmonies. Sounding like a full band, we can be an acous-

tic blend for low volumes and small clubs. We can play from parties in your living room, on your back deck, or shows in bars." Their music specialty is the 70's and 80's and includes Eagles, Eric Clapton, Mellankamp and Bob Seger – any music that appeals to the Baby Boomers that would like to hear the "B" side.

E.J. Hopeck plays Guitar, Vocals, Harmonica, and working as a Programmer and an Agent he has been a resident of Ballston Lake since 1978. Unable to relinquish his roots as a former band









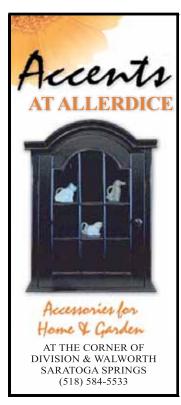
member, he enjoys his role in Rusty Old Guys, just as much as his listeners. Joe Mazz currently performs with Slow Burn, Rusty Old Guys and as a soloist. His specialty is vocals and lead guitar and is well known in music circles.

It is most certainly a good idea to see them for yourself, especially as a like minded baby boomer. The sound of the Rusty Old Guys will be equally attractive for the teenage or college bound children of baby boomers. June marks thirty years playing collectively, and you can see the Rusty Old Guys at The Mill, in Round Lake. For more information or to hear a demo – check out their Facebook page.

EJ and Joe have been playing together for over seven years. The ROG have played in popular bars and taverns in Cohoes, Round Lake. Ballston Lake and Saratoga Springs. They particularly enjoy performing at benefits including the Shell-Strong Foundation and at the annual Breast Cancer Benefit held at the American Legion in Stillwater – the first Saturday in October.

There is a distinct advantage to being a two-man band as the music set-up is small and ideal for private parties - Graduation, Birthdays on the deck or living room. From the acoustic medley to old-school rocking out, there is something for everyone to enjoy.











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The Ugly Rooster Café, nestled in the heart of Mechanicville at 159 North Main Street is a culmination of Chef Owner Ariel Pagan's dream to share his love for cooking and family.

The Ugly Rooster's Breakfast "Eggstravaganza" includes unique entrees like the southern style breakfast sandwich that includes a fried egg, cheddar, bacon, fried green tomato, buttermilk biscuit and country gravy; The Foghorn Leghorn burrito featuring scrambled eggs, shaved steak, American cheese, sautéed onions and peppers accompanied by salsa, sour cream and home fries; or try Nick's Famous French Toast dipped in vanilla, nutmeg batter and layered with a choice of blueberries, strawberries, cinnamon apples or fresh sliced banana & pastry cream.

Chef Ariel Pagan's Lunch Munch menu includes chili, deli sandwiches and "Moos or Clucks" that features the **Mechanicville Special** – a thick burger or grilled breast of chicken with avocado, bacon, tomato and ranch dressing; and **Stillwater Runs Deep** – a burger or grilled chicken breast that includes mushrooms in marsala sauce served with a dollop of sour cream.

William Hohenstein, Certified Executive Chef, joined Chef Ariel Pagan as a business partner in January 2012 to launch their catering business, "Rooster on the Run," which caters everything from a casual breakfast to weddings. BAKED by Ariel is the pastry side of the business specializing in specialty cakes for all occasions.

Chef Ariel is pleased to share his recipe for Guiltless Eggplant, a unique and healthier interpretation of eggplant parmesan.



Guiltless Eggplant

1 medium eggplant (peeled and cut in ½ inch thick circles)

1 teaspoon oregano

1 teaspoon minced fresh basil

Salt and pepper to taste

Granulated garlic

Non-stick garlic flavored cooking spray

Tomato mixture

2 diced tomatoes

1 teaspoon minced garlic

1 tablespoon minced red onion

1 tablespoon olive oil

Salt & Pepper to taste

1 teaspoon red wine vinegar

1 tablespoon fresh basil

Balsamic Vinegar Glaze

Lay eggplant out on a tray and spray with cooking spray. Top with seasonings and grill. Mix tomato mixture and heat over low flame. Layer alternating eggplant and tomato mixture in a stack. Sprinkle fresh parmesan cheese to taste. Drizzle with balsamic vinegar glaze. Serves 2.

They aren't your father's **SUMMER** camps anymore!

By MONICA G. FINCH Contributing Writer



emember summer camp as a kid? Bug juice (eeeww). Putting a frog in the counselor's bunk. Short-sheeting a cabin mate? Exercises at dawn on the still-dewy (frosty?) grass? Well, those days are history. Summer camps have become increasingly sophisticated, specialized, and even fun while being sneakily educational.

For example, the town of Clifton Park Recreation Department offers a wide menu of summer camps that'll appeal to many kids' interests and talents. Among the theme-specific camps are robotics, theater, art, and film-making, along with the more traditional sports-centered programs.

There are literally camps for all ages - from pre-school to adults -

and a number of co-generational camps such as archery.

Myla E. Kramer, whose background is in social work and developmentally challenged adults, has served as the town's Recreation Department director since 2005. She explained how these extraordinary camp programs are created. "We do a lot of community outreach and receive suggestions from residents and individuals who have experience running different programs," she said. For example, a person teaching robotics or Zumba elsewhere will offer to bring it to the town's summer program.

"Our program has a great reputation," Kramer said. "We do a great job marketing and people come to us with their ideas and suggestions.

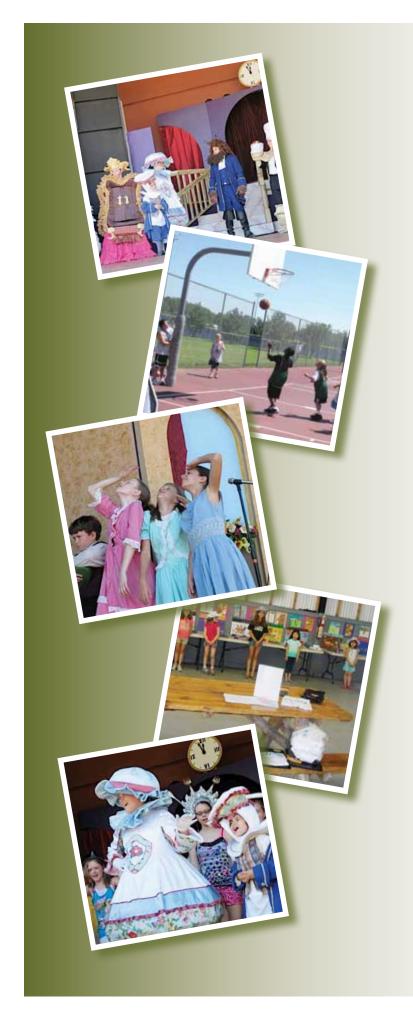


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The number of programs has doubled since I've been here." Some of the programs change or are offered every other year; but the most successful ones are offered annually. And if there is an overflow of registrations for an especially popular program, another session will be created so no one is left out. "We don't want to have a wait list," she said.

The most important aspects of all the programs are: 1 - Safety and 2 - Fun. Kramer said, "We want the kids to try new things, make new friends, and have great summer memories." If they go home dirty and tired, the parents know their kids had fun, she laughed.

Expanding inclusiveness

In the past, kids with allergies, or diabetes, or behavioral "issues" were often marginalized from such mainstream activities. However, in the past few years, there has been a tremendous effort to accommodate every child so they, too, can share the same experiences.

Clifton Park offers a two-week long full-day camp for kids anywhere on the autism spectrum. The program features additional support staff, including personnel with special-needs backgrounds and specific training for kids on the spectrum.

The camp features the same activities and events as the others, including athletics, obstacle courses, craft projects, water activities, and most importantly, opportunities to make friends and interact socially.

Epi-pen program

In addition, the department's Epi-pen program allows kids with allergies and other sensitivities to participate without fear of having an allergic reaction. Trained by the Red Cross and certified by the state Department of Health, staffers are on site to make it possible for kids with allergies to have fun and not worry about allergic reactions.

The programs themselves

- "Make a Splash: Go Wet and Wild with Kidzart" The program offers kids an outlet for their creative juices. It features themes that appeal to kids and activities that get them excited about creating their own artwork and expressing their own ideas.
- "Lego Robotics" This is a new program for kids ages 6 and 7 that introduces them to simple robotics. By using LEGO® WeDo, participants can build and program such fantastic creatures as dancing birds; smart spinner; drumming monkey; hungry alligator; roaring lion; flapping bird and soccer players.
- "Theatre Camp" Is in its second year, this extremely popular program teaches kids not just about acting and singing. They also learn about set design, make-up, and creating costumes. After last year's big hit, "Beauty and the Beast," the kids will tread the boards for "Annie Jr."
- "Stop Motion Animated Movie Making: Make a Lego Brick Film" is a new program for ages 8 to 14. A Brick film is an animated film that uses LEGO® characters and pieces to tell a story. Participants direct their own movies and learn how to use digital cameras and video-editing software. Kids also learn about sound effects, narration, and other filmmaking elements.

Cartwheels - A summer experience with lifelong lessons

Also in Clifton Park is Cartwheels Gymnastics Center, which offers a daily summer camp starting the first week of July. Dana Marion, co-owner and head coach, said "Gymnastics is a unique sport because it allows kids to do different things within one sport."

Cartwheels opened its doors just this past February and the registrations just keep tumbling in. The center offers progressive gymnastic programs for all ages (9 months to age 18) and levels, including: "Par-

ent and Child, Preschool, Boys and Girls Recreational, Tumbling, Competitive, Birthday Parties and special Open Gym occasions." This will be the first summer camp program for the center.

Marion emphasized that the center is "committed to enhance the learning, personal growth, and self-confidence of every child who walks through our doors. These core values are taught through the basic principles of gymnastics and movement."

The summer camp will include a giant foam pit into which kids can launch themselves from a trampoline. There will also be sessions for cheerleaders to prepare their moves for tryouts in the fall. And the boys are not forgotten: they can experience a high-energy program that includes tumbling, parallel bars, and rings.

Another advantage to the center is that all activities take place indoors so weather is never a factor.

Marion emphasized the value of kids developing their self-confidence each time they master a move or event. "Self-confidence is something they can learn here and use for the rest of their lives."



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Antipasto's Vegetarian Friendly Bistro Wine & Beer Bar is a unique Clifton Park gem located in the Price Chopper plaza on the corner of Route 146 and Route 146A



By NIGAR HALE Contributing Writer

On a weekday evening, I and my better half enjoyed a wonderful evening at Antipasto's. We have frequented this vegetarian & vegan friendly bistro for over 15 years. We were thrilled to have Brian, our familiar server, working this evening. He is one of the many layers contributing to how one might describe the personality of this restaurant.

Antipasto's features over 50 wines by the glass and 40 gourmet beers & ales. It is extraordinary to view the wines creating a stir on the international market including wines of Lebanon, Argentina, Spain, Italy and Chili. Wine sample selections are offered in 3 ounces glasses versus larger 6 ounce servings. "Mark" is always happy to share his daily "secret" wine selection. It may cost a bit more than your average glass, but to date, he has never failed to amaze.

The menu includes a special offered on Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays (dine-in only) - pasta marinara with a choice of 1 meatball, 1 veggie meatball or 1 veggie sausage with a glass of house red or white or 12 ounce domestic beer for \$15.95. Every meal is accompanied by a generous helping of warm bread with the house olive oil and spice dip.

Among the most popular and delicious entrees on the menu is The Thomas Jefferson – a delicate stack of marinated eggplant & roasted red pepper, topped with mozzarella and marinara sauce surrounded by onions, squash, broccoli, carrots, chick peas and a special Chef treatment of Italian olives. A tantalizing mélange of flavors married seamlessly with the sauce and the accompaniments, are always memorable.



1028 Route 146 Clifton Park, NY (518) 383-1209



With all the delectable choices on the regular menu, you may be hard pressed to give more than a glance to the specials, but should your eyes or appetite stray, you will be equally satisfied. Having enjoyed so many of their wonderful mainstays, I opted for a red wine and wild mushroom ravioli topped with braised Portobello mushrooms, sautéed spinach, pine nuts and a white wine, oil and garlic sauce. The entrée special was divine. I encountered a pine nut explosion in every bite and the sautéed spinach was the best I had ever tasted. Never underestimate the power of this chef's specials menu.

The significant other ordered the Vegetarian Lasagna special. To satisfy his carnal desire, the dish was supplanted with a single non-vegetarian meatball. With that said, the rich and complex flavor profile of the Lasagna, accompanied by cheese ravioli pasta, it rendered the meatball into something of an outcast. The combination included a selection of veggies, pasta and perfectly seasoned red sauce that awakened the senses. To those fellow omnivores thinking of adding a meat component, there is no need, but if you insist, no loss.

Antipasto's provides a personalized touch and taste appealing to both the steadfast vegan and equally steadfast meat hound. Our children, now reaching college age, have begged us for Antipastos since they were in grade school. When the kids were small, we were able to order "half size" portions for a somewhat lower price. Whatever your mix of friends, family or friendly strangers, Antipastos will bring you back again and again. Until now, it has been our own best kept secret.

Hours: Sunday & Monday 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Tuesday 4:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Wednesday - Saturday 4:30 pm - 10:00 pm By LISA ZIBELLA Bella Rouge Cosmetic & Skincare Boutique

Who doesn't feel better with a little color? The age old question is how are you going to get that glow, make it last and keep yourself and your skin healthy and radiant?

Have you ever noticed that as soon as October rolls around, how those fine lines, especially around the eyes pop up? How about when the month of April arrives and all of a sudden you wake up, look in the mirror and you notice that your skin is not only pale but dull too?

For the vast majority of us, it is helpful to alter your skincare & make up program with every season.

While it is important to keep in mind the individual needs of your skin, a seasonal skin program can look something like this:

Fall:

Exfoliate, hydrate and choose a new foundation color for Fall/Winter.

Winter:

Treat (peels, special serums), hydrate, moisturize and protect.

Spring:

Time for renewal, Peel away that winter skin, use masks & Hydrate

And now for Summer:

Lighten up, Show off that renewed skin & protect it from the suns damaging rays.

With our focus on the fun and sun, this is the perfect time for us to discuss summer skincare and make up fundamentals.

- Along with cleaning your closet in preparation for spring and summer, try working on your cosmetic bag as well.
- Put away those heavy creams and foundations until fall. Most cosmetics if stored properly have a shelf life of about 2 years after being opened.
- Bring your make-up bag in to your favorite cosmetic store or make up counter and ask your trusted Beauty professional to help you take inventory, eliminate, add and create focus for an easier daily application.

For summer, you may want to switch from that creamy cleanser you were using in the winter to a lightweight foam or gel, switch from a day "cream" with a spf 15 to a Day "Lotion" (oil free) and look for something with a spf of 15 or above. Either way this is the perfect time of year to visit with your Beauty professional to help you make those wise beauty decisions.

As for Foundation make-up, become your own foundation mixologist. As your skin gets color, start to blend your fall and summer foundations. The darker you get, the more summer color you will use until you wean yourself away from your winter color all together.



When it comes to protecting your skin from the sun, don't let an SPF number give you a false sense of security. No matter what the SPF, if you are in the sun for prolonged periods of time, always reapply throughout the course of the day. Don't let cloudy days fool you, UV rays are still out and just as dangerous as on sunny days.

A convenient option for those who don't like the feel of a cream spf would be a Mineral powder with a bit of Mineral color partnered with an SPF of 30 or above. This is a convenient option since this mineral product can double as your foundation. Mineral powder sunscreen makes for easy travel and if packaged in a canister with a brush, easy to apply! Not happy without a little color? Try a Spray Tan, cream self tanner or easy to use towelette. Shop around and choose wisely, a new generation of self tanners are easy to use, smell much better than self tanners of past, and produce a much more natural looking color. Moral of the story for summer skin... Alter your program, keep it simple and keep your skin protected. Wishing you beauty and joy this summer season!







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Doing Business

Moving Forward--A Year of New Arrivals and Positive Changes in Ballston Spa

For the past decade, the charming Saratoga County Village of Ballston Spa has been enjoying a downtown resurgence, with its unique shops, bustling eateries and artisan studios. "B. Spa, B. There" has become the catch phrase, with B. Spa euro stickers popping up on cars all over the Capital Region. As word has spread, new businesses have been flocking to become part of the scene and current businesses

are finding the need to expand to meet their customers' needs. In the past year alone, twenty four businesses have either started up or relocated to larger spaces in town. Other long standing businesses have undergone renovations and visual facelifts. The original "Spa" has become vogue once again.

The new enterprises in town are certainly diverse. There are restaurants ranging from the Mexicanthemed Loca Luna Grille to the Italian family style of Three Olives to BBQ to a new breakfast eatery, scheduled to open in April, that specializes in gour-







met waffles. There is an upscale lingerie shop, a doll shop and tearoom, Abigail's Tea and Tiaras, that has become a popular destination for the "American Girl" set, and a place where one can buy hand-dipped chocolates, homemade whoopie pies and edible fruit arrangements all under one roof. There is a new indoor golf center, motorsports store, yoga spa and the whimsically named Sunshine Ballroom dance studio. Ballston Spa's already thriving artisan community has seen the addition of custom jeweler Lagniappe as well as a unique lighting designer, Two If By Sea.











Ballston Spa

By ELLEN MOTTOLA Contributing Writer

Also included are emerging service businesses like Crystal Cuts hair salon and the Ballston Journal Our Towne Media Center, a new downtown location for shipping, copying and other business services..

The attraction to doing business in Ballston Spa can be attributed to several factors. The affordability of storefront leases resonates with many small business owners in these economic times. Indeed, some already established businesses have taken advantage of this by relocating to larger spaces within the village to accommodate an increase in customer demand, including Ballston Spa Boot Camp, Make Me Fabulous and True Elegance Boutique. Other popular businesses have been sprucing up inside and out. Coffee Planet has recently renovated it's cozy coffeehouse motif. O'Brien's Pharmacy and Village Sweet Shoppe both have brand new awnings to freshen up their storefronts. Front Street Deli expanded to include an al fresco eating area to accommodate customers on warm, sunny days.

Another appealing aspect is the awareness that successful, established businesses that have developed a following along with the continually growing arts district, attract customers who will then explore other shops in the village. The 205-year-old "strolling village" has an eminently walk-able downtown which encourages visitors to park the car and walk from

place to place. The original architecture of the village has been carefully restored to maintain the historic and charming ambience and gardens and parks are cultivated, with hanging flowering baskets through the spring and summer, to complete the impression of a welcoming, well-loved community.



The positive environment for doing business in Ballston Spa is, in great part, a result of the successful working collaboration between the Village government and the Ballston Spa Business and Professional Association, a non-profit, all-volunteer, community organization which promotes the importance of a vital business district, community pride and civic service. Particularly emphasized is the importance of supporting locally-owned and operated businesses, which most, if not all, of Ballston Spa businesses are. The BSBPA sponsors many downtown events during the year, designed to draw residents and visitors alike, including a long-running free summer concert series, a highly regarded film festival and one of the bestattended outdoor car shows in the area. Ballston Spa was one of the first communities in the Capital Region to hold "First Fridays". The trendy arts/food/live music event has been taking place here every month since 2004. A farmers' market, which utilizes local small farm producers, takes place year round.

The upcoming spring and summer months will bring an influx of visitors to Saratoga County and Ballston Spa is ready to welcome them once again with its own unique mix of small town warmth and artsy, eclectic vibe. Looking for the perfect location for your business? Ballston Spa truly is a great place to live, visit and do business.



















Artist Spotlight

Jill Daigle Murphy







Born in Fort Kent, Maine in 1968 and raised in upstate New York most of her life, Jill Murphy is a representational artist. She paints in oil and pastel and is also a graphic artist. Jill is primarily a self taught artist who began painting when she was young. She developed her painting style through the years by reading many instructional books, being mostly influenced by Helen Van Wyk's approach to still life paintings. She later developed an interest in Graphic Art taking some classes at Russell Sage. Jill worked at the New York State Bar Association as a Graphic Artist for many years before becoming a full time artist.

"My inspirations come from taking a drive or hiking around our amazing landscapes. I find great inner peace observing our land and nature. I'm also very inspired by how light has an effect on everything, even the most subtle lighting conditions can cause emotions. Every moment in time there is something beautiful to see. We may not always be aware of it because our lives have become so busy. What I want to bring to a viewer is that moment in time where nature has shown its amazing grace and preserve that memory."

Contact info: youpaintgreat@gmail.com.



Wiawaka, history still in the making

The oldest continually run women's retreat in America is making major improvements while remaining true to its more than century long mission.

From its opening in 1903, Wiawaka was a place where women factory workers could go to escape the hard work and filth of the early 20th century textile industry in Troy, NY. "Troy was a bustling industrial city", said Christine Dixon, Charlton resident and executive director for Wiawaka. "Most of the workers were immigrant women, mostly Irish, working very hard under harsh conditions to feed their family."

Founded during the progressive era by Mary Fuller, with the help of other forward thinking women of the time, Miss Fuller wanted to improve the lives of the young women working in the factories by creating a summer camp for the 'girls'. Many holiday houses were founded

during the progressive era and according to Wiawaka historians, Wiawaka is the only one remaining. It has operated continuously under its founding mission since 1903.

Today women of all walks of life patronize Wiawaka and men accompanied by women are welcome in July. Rooms are clean and comfortable with few distractions including no phones or TV's. Lake breezes keep rooms cool instead of air conditioning. "Wiawaka is an opportunity to step back in time and experience simplicity." says Dixon. If you're looking to do more, workshops and classes such as yoga, writing and felting, are provided, mostly by volunteers. Guests can do as much or as 'little' as they want. With 20 lake front acres and 1500 feet of Lake



George frontage, most people just enjoy relaxing, taking a swim or gazing at Lake George from one of many porches.

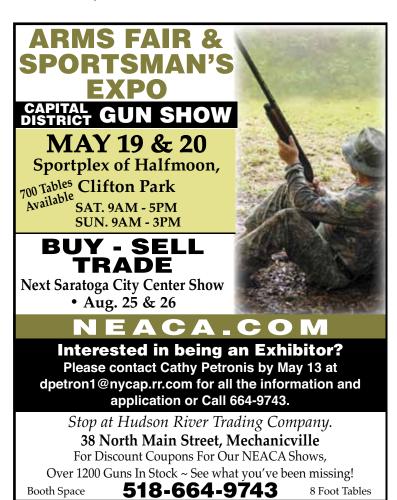
In addition to welcoming all women, Wiawaka host retreats for special groups including women veterans, cancer survivors, caregivers and survivors of domestic violence. These special retreats, and the stay of any woman unable to afford Wiawaka's modest all inclusive rates, are made possible with individual and organizational grant funds. "We believe every woman should have the opportunity to renew herself and experience Wiawaka." says Dixon.

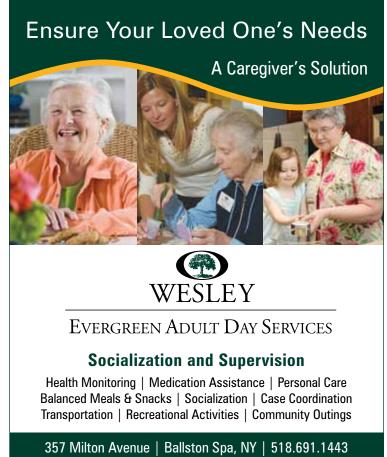
Listed on the national register of historic places as a place where women made history and for its historical architecture, these historic buildings tell their own story.

Wakonda Lodge, built in 1905 by wealthy philanthropists Spencer and Katrina Trask,

was closed in 2002 to allow for restoration and structural repairs. Originally intended as an artist's retreat, Wakonda Lodge boasts Georgia O'Keeffe as a resident artist. Thanks to a matching grant in 2006 the first phase of work to save this historic building was completed in 2009. Another \$300,000 is needed for interior renovations, electrical and plumbing upgrades and refurnishing. Plans include creating a small outdoor amphitheater for small performances and ceremonies.

The large, original hotel built on the property in 1850 burnt to the ground in 1906. But each summer, from mid June to Labor Day, women come to Wiawaka from all around the country to continue being part of its history. For more information, go to www.wiawaka.org.





www.WesleyHealth.com



By STACEY MORRIS Contributing Writer

Some kids have hobbies. But if you're Anna Williams, you have a hobby that passion parlays into a booming business. The 11-year-old student at Glen Cliff Elementary School is the genius behind Pens Ink, which features dozens of artisan hand-crafted pens made of everything from stone to Bethlehem olive wood. The pens are sold online and have been ordered from as far away as Australia. Recently, the 11-year-old inked a deal with three major corporations for company pens. And it all began with a chance viewing of a news segment one evening.

"My dad called me in to show me a story of a 13-year-old boy who made pens and I knew I wanted to do it, but he said no because it's dangerous," she said of the process that includes semi-heavy machinery and goggles.

Anna was 8 at the time and never let go of the desire to hand-

craft pens, so she'd ask her father, Mike, every few months until he finally relented when she reached the age of 10 and he bought her a lathe machine.

"I cut the outside of the pen on the lathe machine and shape it," she explained. "I wear goggles because sometimes the shavings can spray into my eyes."

"Anna didn't want me to help her but I watched as she made her first one," Mike recalled. "It wasn't great, but you could tell she had a knack." Enough of a knack for Mike and his wife Christine to invest about \$4,000 in tools and supplies. "It added up pretty quickly, but she had to have a little bit of inventory to start with."

Anna makes varying styles of pens, from the Swarovski crystal-studded Diva Pen to slimlines to the double-ended teacher pen which writes in both black and red ink. Their substance runs from the ordinary acrylic to exotic woods such as Ancient Kauri Wood and Jack Daniels Oak. "We order the hardware and I put it together. We use no duplicators so every pen is custom-made. No pen I make is like anyone else's exactly," she explained of the process that takes place during free time in her basement. "The lighting is awesome thanks to my dad and neighbor. When I make a wooden pen I take a square block of wood which my dad cuts in half with a table saw and drill saw. He does that part because it's dangerous. Then metal tubes are put in the middle of Pensink

Anna Williams

Local girl making pens!

it. On the lathe is a spindle and you slide the pen blank in, put our mask on and chisle it down with a chisle. At a certain point I can start making the design."

Anna said that though two pens of the same style may look identical, none are ever exactly the same. It was this attention to detail that initially drew interest of family, friends, and neighbors who became her first customers. Word began to spread and she found herself with orders piling up at Christmas time. Soon, she and Mike decided it was time to make things more official, business-wise.

"I'm very proud to say that in December I became a formalized business with a tax ID and a New York State tax certificate. I had to sign all these papers...it was awesome," Anna recalled. "The website has been up for a year and customers started paying online in January. Most are local but I get some from out of state. Recently I had a customer from Australia and she keeps coming back for more. This week I received an e-mail from someone in India wanting one of my teacher pens."

Word has even spread to the corporate world and Anna recently received orders from companies based in Schenectady, Chicago, and Kentucky for company pens for their clients. The Southern Saratoga



County Chamber of Commerce invited her to their March social mixer and asked Anna to display her pens and do lathe demonstrations. And the wheels of creativity continue to turn; She recently added handcrafted wine stoppers, purse hangers, and a ball divot repair tool for golfers. "We had no idea it would turn into this," said Mike. "It started as a simple hobby and snowballed."

Anna said most pens take at least an hour and a half to make, depending on the material and design involved. "Some of the higher end

pens can take up to four hours to design," she said, who added that prices range from \$32 to \$130. "I use high quality ink in the pens," she said. "Most pens on the market use standarized ink cartridges and we use premium. If a customer experiences skipping we give them another ink cartridge.

As much as she loves the creative process, Anna said it can be a challenge fitting the work into her school life as well as other interests. "I spend 8 to 10 hours a week on the pens. On a slow week it'll be a couple days a week, but in December it was absolutely chaotic. It's a challenge fitting the pen-making in with other activi-

ties," she explained. "I skate competitively and came in second at the Empire Games. I've been invited to the America Games in 2013 in Hershey, Pa."

I love my pens but surprisingly, I don't use most of my products," she laughed. "I make them, but I don't have time to use them." But the 11-year-old doesn't seem to mind - she's having too much fun making them. "I love making people happy with my pens. People love that

they're original. Duplicators take all the fun out of it. I love making each one unique."

Mike sees potential for expansion but is taking it a step at a time for now, supervising his budding entrepreneural daughter as she grows with her business. "She's already quite busy with orders and isn't at capacity yet," he said. "As word of mouth keeps getting out, there may come a point where she can't get the stuff out

fast enough. Anna's a very active kid, plays trumpet, violin, and she's teaching herself piano. She's also taking dance for the artistic side of ice skating. Our relationship is intersting at times. I'm her dad but at the same time we're somewhat business partners. I'm able to have very grown up conversations with Anna about her business."

Their relationship may be solid, but it's still not a guarantee for a pen. "My favorite pen Anna makes is made of Red Mallee Burl, an Australian wood," said Mike. "I can't get her to make me one and be able to keep it...she's always fulfilling orders."





For more information on Anna Williams' custom pens, visit www.pensink.com



Weekend MBA Program



By STACEY MORRIS Contributing Writer

There's nothing quite like up-close experience to give the element of learning an indelible impression on a student. So says Donald G. Purdy, Director of the Weekend MBA Program for the University at Albany's School of Business. The general MBA program provides elective tracks in seven disciplines: Finance, Information Technology Management, Marketing, Nanotechnology, New Venture Development, and Tax. "Most people who come to our program are already pretty specialized and they are looking for a broad base of business knowledge to power up their careers," explained Purdy. "Our Weekend MBA Program is record-setting because we have tied or set attendance records in each of the last four years."

The program features a cohort structure, student diversity, and AACSB Accredidation, and meets every other weekend from 2:00-8:30 p.m. on Fridays and 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Saturdays. "The program enables students to learn concepts over the weekend and apply them to their jobs on Monday," he said, adding that the Weekend MBA Program even includes catered meals. But perhaps the crowning jewel of the curriculum is the program's international travel, which is included with tuition.

Purdy said the international study trips have taken place since 2006 and center around a different business theme each year. "This July we're going to India because it's an emerging star in the global economy," he said. "One of the criteria for choosing a location is that it be a hot commodity, business-wise." Locations of past trips abroad include Chile, Bejing, and Munich."

Purdy said the university has found visiting a globally relevant city to be a much more effective a learning tool than classroom lectures. "It allows students to experience international business first hand. We certainly incorporate lectures into the program but this reinforces the classroom work," he explained. "There are important cultural aspects to learning international business. Last year when we visited BMW World in Germany we also visited Dachau, the oldest concentration camp in the world. The students got to experience history, as well as witness the robotics be-

hind the manufacturing process. They also got to hear a presentation from BMW's Director of Corporate Communications...it was the full picture."

Purdy said the students are typically gone a week overseas. This year they will visit three cities in India in 10 days, starting in Chennai, followed by Delhi, and Agra, where they'll visit The Taj Mahal.

"The investment in our program for the incoming 2014 cohort is \$40,800, making us the value leader among executive-level MBA programs in New York State," said Purdy. "The Weekend MBA Program offers two separate scholarship programs to incoming and current students. Both programs are based upon academic merit and financial need. There is also an awards program which operates through regional chambers of commerce, including the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce."

Purdy said that those interested in learning more about the program are encouraged to attend numerous information sessions scheduled throughout the year. "Most of them are held at our Clifton Park Executive Education Center and gives potential students the opportunity of hear a formal presentation on the program and interact with current and former students. To reach the center, take the Northway (I-87) to Exit 9. Head west (left) off the exit and go past the entrance to the Price Chopper Plaza on Route 146. At the next light, take a right onto Maxwell Drive. Go through one stop light and turn right at the next drive.

Purdy said to qualify for the Weekend MBA Program, candidates must have at least three years of fulltime working experience. "Many students are at the executive management level, others aspire to be," he said. "The average age is 38-40, but our age range encompasses 24 through 62." Purdy said the international study program continues to be one of the most appealing elements of the program. "Based on feedback, it's the crown jewel of our program. We're very excited to be going to far a way and important locations. It also facilitates bonding among the cohort members. And they always come away with a better understanding of how international business is conducted."

For more information on the Weekend MBA Program, contact Donald G. Purdy, M.A.,

Director of the Weekend MBA Program for the University at Albany School of Business at (518) 442-4964,

or e-mail dpurdy@albany.edu or visit the Web site http://www.albany.edu/business/weekendMBA_index.shtml



By NIGAR HALE Contributing Writer

A Diverse array of businesses look to the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County as their destination for success. Businesses stemming from a variety of industry segments in the capital region including construction, health care, marketing, hospitality, agriculture, marinas, and fashion are represented. Moreover, their offices are head-quartered in Albany, Ballston Lake, Charlton, Clifton Park, Schenectady, Waterford, and Watervliet. The following is a brief glimpse into some of the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County members, their mission and business focus.



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A small sample of BBL projects include Hilton Garden Inn, Albany Medical Center; SEFCU, Schenectady; Coburg Village, Clifton Park; Bone and Joint Center, Albany; Lia Nissan, Colonie, and the Ellis Medicine Enhanced Urgent Care Center in Clifton Park.

continued on page 31



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Their neurologists, all Board Certified in Neurology, teach at Harvard Medical School and are on the Consulting Staff at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. They are on the Staff at Ellis Hospital in Schenectady, NY. Empire Neurology has active clinical trials in Alzheimer's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, and Migraine Headache.

The Director, Dr. Keith Edwards has been involved with multiple sclerosis and Alzheimer's evaluation, treatment and research for 30 years. He has been involved with Dementia, neuropathic pain and headache evaluation, treatment and research for over 30 years. He participated in many multi-centered treatment trials for new pain and headache medications as well as many new Alzheimer's medications.

Memory Center of Northeastern New York and Multiple Sclerosis Center of Northeastern New York: An Affiliated MS Comprehensive Care Center of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.



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In 1787, in the village of Charlton, NY, Elmer Smith opened "the Old Charlton House" as a stage coach stop. The tavern was on the ground floor and a barn and livery stable was in the place of the present day kitchen. In January, 2009, the Charlton Tavern passed, due to fire. With the love and support of family and friends, the heart of Charlton was refitted and returned to its rightful place of meetings and gatherings for all. Charlton Tavern boasts a unique menu and daily specials offering simple dishes originally conceived and authentically prepared by Chef Paul Persico.

"The Charlton Tavern where there are no strangers...
Only friends who have not yet met."



91 Harvard Road • Watervliet, NY Smsmediainc.com

Sandy Mardigian, President, SMS Media has marketing expertise in media, media buying and has a track record of success delivering results for clients, developing and implementing strategies that involve all types of media. Sandy Mardigian has solid experience designing creative and effective media plans for clients in local, regional, national and global markets, using traditional and new media.

A really smart media plan will drive business success. That has been the mission of SMS Media from the beginning – smart media planning and execution that drives clients' success. Using the right media mix to reach consumers today and tomorrow.

"Clarity that drives results. Focused Strategies that Deliver"



17 Main Street • Ballston Lake <u>carneystavern.net</u>

A Ballston Lake tradition since 1840, Carney's will be celebrating its 30th anniversary in October. Carney's had its' beginnings as a hotel bar more than 150 years ago and has always been a vital part of the Ballston Lake community. With the D&H railroad station and the Schenectady-Saratoga trolley line station across the street, the hotel bar became a natural gathering place for travelers, townspeople and local farmers. In 1901, Vice President Theodore Roosevelt was hunting in the Adirondacks when he was informed of President McKinley's assassination. On his return trip to Washington DC, the future President stopped at the hotel for food and news. Good food and drinks with honest prices were a tradition that Carney's is proud to continue today.





GMGIST MARKETING

5 Southside Drive Clifton Park, NY gistmarketinggroup.com

Saratoga County's top design firm, Gist Marketing specializes in graphic design, marketing services, social media consulting, copywriting, and mobile marketing. Their team of designers works with marketing specialists to deliver graphics with the greatest impact and represent their clients with class and panache. GIST Marketing works closely with the Southern Saratoga Chamber of Commerce to provide graphic design and marketing services to serve the business community of Southern Saratoga County. Gist Marketing provides the chamber with mobile and digital marketing services.



660 Riverview Road Rexford, NY rivervieworchards.com

Riverview Orchards has been an apple farm for almost 100 years. Originally settled by the Dutch, the farm is located on an old Indian trail along the Mohawk River. After the Erie Canal was built, the farm was used as a stopping point for stabling the horses. In 1945, the Barrett family purchased the farm and grew both wholesale and retail apples and other produce for the next 40 years. Today, the farm is run by that same family and Riverview Orchards is an apple farm and country store open year round.



Schenectady Yacht Club 1646 NY Route 146 Rexford, NY Sycontheerie.com

Located in New York's Capital District, the Schenectady Yacht Club maintains a marina on 4 acres along the historic Erie Canal. Its mission is to provide a pleasant setting for boating and safe, secure and well-maintained facilities for dockage and storage. The Schenectady Yacht Club supports river/canal related public events and promotes boat safety. Amenities include a swimming pool and a gorgeous picnic area!









Come to the Fair For Old Fashioned Fun!

Saratoga County may be a melting pot these days for old and new cultures, but there is nothing quite like a good old country Fair to bring back memories of simpler times. One of the oldest fairs in New York State, the Saratoga County Fair originated at a time when family and friends could enjoy the trappings of a simpler life, enjoying the bounty of a prosperous land irrigated by nearby rivers and nourished by fertile soils. Yes, we may reside in the epicenter of Tech Valley now, but even a scientist has to eat, and the Saratoga County Fair reminds us all of why agriculture is still New York's number one industry, even in the Information Age.

The Fair is held from July 17-22 at the Ballston Spa fairgrounds, and features many Agricultural, Home Arts, Fine Arts, Grange, Culinary, 4H, Education, Antiques, Conservation, and Animal Husbandry competitions, displays and demonstrations. The Chamber of Southern Saratoga County will have a large display tent showcasing the contributions of business to our robust economy in this, its 45th anniversary year, and

the Saratoga and North Creek Railway will be featured near the big red caboose.

Enjoy the entertainment at the Grandstand, Grandstand Meadow, Tom Clements Family Pavilion, Coors Light Live Entertainment Pavilion, Kingsbury Park, and Start to Star Talent Pavilion. The Fair offers a large amusement midway, 30 acres of entertainment, talent shows, and exhibits, and over 100 vendors featuring great food and unique crafts and services.

Fair sponsors include the Adirondack Trust Company, Amtrak, Ballston Spa National Bank, the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County, Cole's Collision, Curtis Lumber, DeCrescente Distributing, 1st National Bank of Scotia, the Gazette, JC Sweet & Co., Quandt's Food Service Distributors, Saratoga.com, the Saratogian, Stewarts Shops, the Times Union, Trustco Bank, and Zach's Sports. For more information or to obtain tickets, visit www.saratogacountyfair.org.



Halfmoon Village and Yacht Club Clears Major Hurdle!

On April 4 The Town Board of Halfmoon, NY, in Saratoga County approved a Planned Development District for the Halfmoon Village and Yacht Club, a proposed 244-unit condominium development with a 75 slip marina. This project, the first of its kind in Halfmoon and the largest residential waterfront development in the Capital region, promises to re-energize the waterfront communities and marine industry of the area. "I'm delighted for [property owner] Gail Krause and her team at this news." says Pete Bardunias, President/CEO of the Chamber of

Southern Saratoga County. "Our independent business community came out in force to support this project because we believe it will attract an upscale population who desire waterfront living close to Albany, Clifton Park and Saratoga Springs. No other project will offer this degree of access to nearby industry centers and the state capital."

For more information, please contact the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County at 518-371-7748 or email pete@southernsaratoga.org.



Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Annual Flag Day Parade

The Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake community will be celebrating the red, white and blue at the

9th Annual BH-BL Community Flag Day Parade on Thursday, June 7, 2012

The Route 50 Mile

This year will be the 3rd Annual "Route 50 Mile."

This one mile road race will be run 5 minutes before the parade directly down the parade route. This event is presented by:

Community Human Services and the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Business and Professional Association.

For more information, please contact CHS at (518) 399-4624.



Waterford Canal Fest And Tugboat Roundup Bring Families To The Riverfront

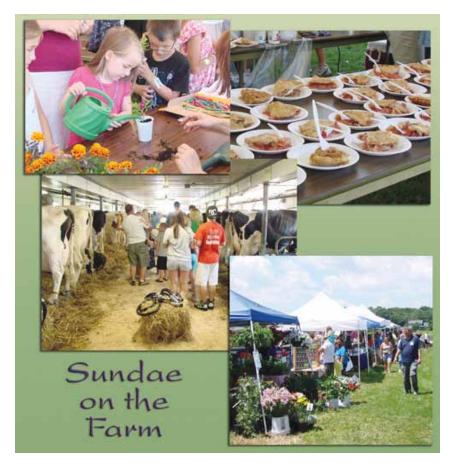
The docks in Waterford will feature two exciting events this spring and summer. Canal Fest starts at 9:30 AM on Saturday May 12 and continues until 6:00PM, featuring opening ceremonies, craft and food vendors, face painting, bouncy slide, live music, dancers and more. It's a great way to welcome Spring along the historic Erie and Champlain canal waterways! Admission is free. The nearby Waterford Harbor Visitors Center offers a host of information on nearby attractions.

In late summer the Tugboat Roundup will once again bring people to the docks to enjoy the sight of a truly American invention – the working tugboat. Real tugs will visit the docks and offer tours and displays designed to demonstrate how these vessels are used daily in the transportation of products and raw materials on the waterways. Some 25,000 attendees will also enjoy music, food, childrens activities, vendors, boat rides, and family fun.

Visit www.tugboatroundup.com for more information.



The Pokingbrook Morris Dancers perform at the Canal Fest at the Waterford Visitor's Center.



Sundae on the Farm Brings Agriculture To Life For Suburban Dwellers

Most Saratogians live in subdivisions, not on farms. They get their meat from a department in Price Chopper or Hannaford, not in the slaughterhouse. Yet, a very basic tenet remains – no farms, no food. And Saratoga County has plenty of farms to take care of local needs.

The 2012 Sundae on the Farm, on Sunday June 17 (Father's Day) from 12 Noon to 4PM at Eildon Tweed Farm in Charlton, promises a day of fun which is only available to most people on special occasions.

This working dairy farm will be open to the public, allowing tours and disseminating information regarding the current state of local food production and how it works. Childrens activities, displays, ice cream and other interesting demonstrations will be provided.

For more information visit www.saratogafarms.com.



Event Schedule

June 2Annual Party in the Park

Town of Charlton

The annual Party in the Park, held in conjunction with the Charlton Historical Society's Founders Weekend, will be held at Elmer Smith Park.

We are asking residents and local businesses to make a donation to defray the costs of the fireworks program and other entertainment. All contributions are appreciated and will be ackowledged in the program and at the event. For donations of \$500 or greater we will gladly display one of your banners or signs at the event. Any size donation will be appreciated. At past Party in the Park events we have had over 2000 participants attend our celebration.

Please send or bring your check to the Town Clerk's office, made out to the Town of Charlton, by May 23 in order to be included in the program. Thank you in advance for your support that makes this a great weekend!

Sandy Verola & Bob Lippiello Chairs of 2012 Party in the Park Committee

July 20 & 21.....Opening 2 Days of the Saratoga Flat Track Season

Saratoga

"So The World May Hear"

Outside the front patio of The Saratoga Casino and Raceway

Come meet and support, upstate New Yorks most beautiful "Sports and Swim Suit Model", Miss Yasmeen Hernandez! Yasmeen will be conducting a meet and greet for the collection of pre-owned hearing aids, and devices, to be donated to the Starkey Hearing Foundation! Yasmeen will also be accepting donations to be used to recondition used hearing devices. All donations are appreciated! Please come and meet Yasmeen, and support "The Future Of Hearing"! Help Yasmeen, "Help The World Hear"! with your support of the Starkey Hearing Foundation! This will be a 2 day collection of hearing aides and devices, so please ask your neighbors to contribute. One in five American teens are now hard of hearing. Please come and help www.starkeyhearingfoundation.org and www.yasmeenliv-ejournal.com on July 20-21, 2012, (Fri.-Sat.) support the "hearing impaired" of American, and the World!

SEMBRICH 2012 SUMMER SEASON

Exploring a World of Music 4800 Lakeshore Drive, Bolton Landing www.thesembrich.org • Tickets: 518-644-2431

June 16 Young Performers Showcase	
June 20 Michael Harney tea-tasting & talk	1:30 pm
June 22, THE RED VIOLIN benefit, with Elizabeth Pitca	•

June 27
July 77:30 pm Julie-Anne Hamula Vocal Concert\$25
July 97:30 pm FILM: "Koyla," Bolton Free LibraryFREE
July 11
July 14
July 16
July 187:30 pm Balkan Dance Party with the Raya Brass Band\$15
July 20 10 am Seagle Colony Children's Opera FREE
July 23
July 25 "The Firebird" with the Puppet People FREE





—— Event Schedule ——

July 00 7:00 pm	July 12 15 10 00
July 287:30 pm "From the Bards of Ireland,"	July 13-15, 19-22 Oliver Summer musical performed by Clifton Park Not So Common
4 singers, flute, piano & narrator\$25	Players.
4 Singers, nute, plano & narrator	July 29The Audiostars
August 11:30 pm	A kinetic four-piece band that delivers know-'em-by-heart clas-
Silver Bay Ensemble\$10	sic songs with an energy and passion that define live music at
	its very best.
August 47:30 pm	August 5 Ten Year Vamp
"Lizzie Borden at 8 o'clock" (new play)\$25	Female-fronted, high energy, modern radio rockPink meets
	Foo Fighters with pints full of personality, chamr and allure!
August 97:30 pm	August 12The Fighting 86's
Bel Canto Institute Singers\$20	Local Celtic Rock band blending original songs and new ar- rangements of crowd favorites!
August 127:30 pm	August 19Doc Scanlon's Rhythm Boys
Concert with Musicians of the Philadelphia Orchestra \$25	All the band members share smooth lead and harmony vocals
	on swinging jazz, raging rock and motivatin' Motown which
August 137:30 pm	culminate in a powerful, punchy big sound.
FILM: "Tango," Bolton Free LibraryFREE	August 26Sunny Side of the Street Band
•	Vocally driven music with a nice bounce. It has instances of
August 151:30 pm	Americana, Blues, Jazz, Gypsy and Folk.
La Cumbiamba eNeYe, Music from South America\$15	
	Sponsored by the Town of Clifton Park
August 22	DEDECORNING ARTS FAMILY SERIES
"Titanic and the Band that Played on"	PERFORMING ARTS FAMILY SERIES
multimedia talk and performance\$20	Wednesday Evenings - Show at 7:00 pm
August 257:30 pm	July 18 Domino the Great
Concert with the Hyperion Spring Quartet\$25	Domino the Great keeps his audiences on the edge of their
gan and hypothem opining administration	seats with his exceptional, one-of-a-kind act, keeping them
August 277:30 pm	suspended in laughter with a comedy-magic show that features
FILM: Monsoon Wedding," Bolton Free Library FREE	mind-boggling magic, slapstick comedy, and masterful pup-
3 , , 	petry.
Sept. 1	July 25 Dr. Marmalaid
Christopher Johnson Piano Recital\$30	Dr. Marmalaid has traveled the world helping animals in dis-
·	tress. She introduces the children to many puppet friends. The
Sept. 14-157:30 pm	children become her assistants giving hugs, words of encour-
"Unsinkable Women:	agement, and even translating for a lost puppy. Her traveling
Stories and Songs from the Titanic," Wood Theater\$26	"Emerge-And-See" Wagon will surprise and delight. August 1 The Zucchini Brothers
	Zany foot-tapping music with "Words of Wisdom"
PERFORMING ARTS AT THE COMMON	August 8 Seth and the Moody Melix
Sunday Evenings Concerts at 7:00 pm	Join the newest local children's band for a fun and exciting
Musicals at 8:00 pm	multicultural musical experience designed not only to entertain,
madicale at dice pin	but to educate children!
June 24 Clifton Park Community Chorus	August 15Let's Get Cookin'
An energetic, fun-loving multigenerational group singing sea-	A fun-filled performance that utilizes drama, music, complex
sonal songs to show tunes, classic to contemporary,	rhythms, and acrobatics. Children, as well as their parents, will
toe-tapping to tender, melodious and memorable.	enjoy watching and participating along with our three chefs who
July 1 Grand Central Station	cook up a fantastic time!
With over 30 years of experience, Grand Central Station	
performs classics, pop and the most current of dance music,	Sponsored by the Town of Clifton Park
featuring vocalist Jenry Bejarano from season six of American	111 1 2016 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
Idol.	All performances at Clifton Common Stage (next to basketball courts
July 8 City Rhythm	and Shenendehowa Adult Community Center.) Rain or shine unless

continued on page 40

otherwise noted. Lawn chairs are welcome and refreshments for

family series are free courtesy of Northstar Church.

hopping all night long.

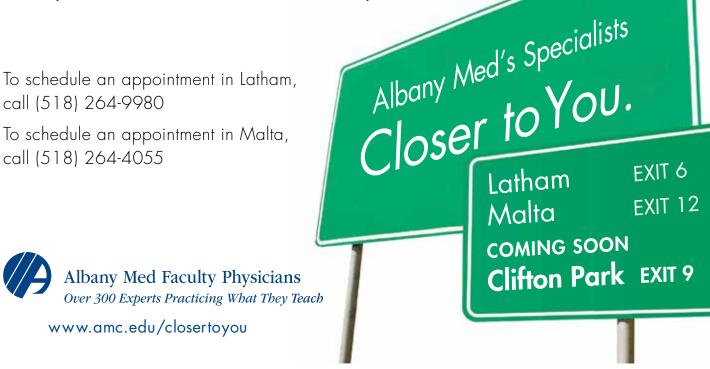
An energetic eight-piece band that will keep the dance floor



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call (518) 264-4055



——Event Schedule ——

continued from page 38

The following are some of the programs to be held at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library
Located at 475 Moe Road, Clifton Park, NY
To register for the following programs
visit the Calendar of Events at www.cphlibrary.org

Thursday, May 3......6:30 pm

Nature Lecture with ADK Mountain Club, Schenectady Nature lecture by Al Hicks-Bats about White Nose Syndrome in North America

Friday, May 4......10:30 am

An Ordinary Soldier of WWII

East Greenbush author James Breig has written a new nonfiction book, "Searching for Sergeant Bailey: Saluting an Ordinary Soldier of World War II." In his talk, Breig will share how a visit to an antique shop led to uncovering the fascinating history of a true "unknown soldier." Highlighting history from rural Virginia to wartime in New Guinea, Breig's talk should be of interest to history buffs, WWII enthusiasts and genealogists alike. He will autograph copies of his book after his talk.

Friday, May 11 10:30 am

Holly Ahern, Associate Professor of Microbiology, SUNY Adirondack - Spring Wildflowers

David Behm will show spring flowers and he will lead a brief wildflower walk following his presentation on the Liberty Trail, the trail that now links the library to Arongen School.

Monday, May 14 2 pm

Best Picture Winner-The Artist

Come see the silent film that won Best Picture at this year's Oscars. Starring Best Actor winner Jean Dujardin and Best Supporting Actress nominee Bérénice Bejo.

Monday, May 14 7 pm

Sage Colleges Office of Admissions - **Ready, Set, College!** Walk through the steps students should take before their senior year in high school. Learn how to make the most of your college tours, prepare for auditions or portfolio reviews, and learn to ask the right questions. For students in grades 10 to 12. Parents welcome.

Tuesday, May 152 pm

Victorian Tea Party

Join us for a Tea Party with "The Victorian Lady" Sue McLane and learn about the history of tea, tea service and the tea ceremony.

Wednesday, May 16......6:30 pm

You're Getting on my Nerves:

Understanding Personality Differences

We all have to live and work with people who are different from us and who sometimes annoy, frustrate, or even anger us. JUDI CLEMENTS, President of Judi Clements Training & Development, in Clifton Park, NY, is a veteran training professional who offers training, coaching and keynotes in the areas of management, communication, wellness, and customer service. In this program, Judi shows you how to understand yourself and others better through a well-researched system based on the principles of the Myers Briggs Personality Type Assessment.

Thursday, May 17......6:30 pm

Weight-Loss Diets: What's the Best One For You?

Learn from Diane Whitten, Nutrition Educator, Cornell University Cooperative Extension what research says about various weight-loss diets and their effectiveness in long-term weight loss. Find out which diet plan Consumer Reports rated #1. See what characteristics people who have been successful at long-term weight loss have in common.

Friday, May 18......10:30 am

Susan Valaitis, ALL - Local Writers and Poets

Come hear local writers and poets who are members of the Academy of Lifelong Learning give readings of their published prose and poetry. Copies of the Academy's journal, "The Apple Tree" will be available for sale.

Friday, June 1...... 10:30 am

Newfoundland Coast to Coast

World travelers John and Barbara Youker return to CPH with a new multimedia program about Newfoundland. From St.Johns, the easternmost point in North America, accompany the Youkers on their journey to the Viking settlement in the north, Gros Morne National Park, and the small fishing communities along Newfoundland's rugged coastline.

Friday, June 1......4:30 pm

Music in the Garden

Join us IN THE READING GARDEN for Friday afternoon refreshments and the music of guitarist Neal Herr. Entertainment will move indoors if inclement weather.

Saturday, June 2......10 am-2 pm

Friends of the Library Plant Swap N' Sale

The Friends will be sponsoring a Plant Swap from 10-12:00 and Plant Sale from 12:00 - 2:00 under the roof of the Library porch. Area gardeners will be able to bring perennial plants that have been thinned from home gardens or extras of annual seedlings to the Library to swap for plants from other gardener.

Monday, June 4...... 2 pm

Best Actor in a Leading Role: MoneyBall

Join us for a viewing of "Moneyball" starring Brad Pitt, winner of the 2012 Best Actor in a leading role. This film is rated PG-13 for strong language.

Thursday, June 146:30 pm

Foreign Film Series: Water

Chuyia, an Indian girl who is married and widowed at eight years old, is sent away to a home where Hindu widows must live in penitence. Her feisty presence affects the other residents, forcing each to confront their faith and society's prejudices. In Hindi. This film is rated PG-13. Light refreshments.

Event Schedule

Music Company Orchestra Program

Friday, July 6...... 10:30 am

When People Wrote Letters

Local author Martha Tuck Rozett talks about her book which is based on family documents and describes her mother and great aunt's travels in nineteenth and the early twentieth centuries. The book also describes her great aunt's extraordinary career during the early years of medical social work, and a love story in which the religious and cultural differences between New England Episcopalians and New York Jews threaten to disrupt a romance in the 1940s. Books will be available for sale after the program.

Friday, July 6......4:30 pm

Music in the Garden

Join us IN THE READING GARDEN for Friday afternoon refreshments and listen to the unique pop sounds of Mark Rabin. Entertainment will move indoors if inclement weather.

Thursday, July 126:30 pm

Foreign Film Series: Triplets of Belleville

When her grandson is kidnapped during the Tour de France, Madame Souza and her beloved pooch Bruno team up with the Belleville Sisters-song-and-dance team from the days of Fred Astaire-to rescue him. Animated. This film is rated PG-13.

The Improv Club

Join us for an afternoon of fun with Clifton Park's own, The Improv Club, returning for their 3rd consecutive summer program!

Monday, July 16......1-6 pm

Red Cross Community Blood Drive

Nearly every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. Boost the regional blood supply by donating here at the Library. Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or register online at RedCrossBlood.org

Best Actor in a Supporting Role: Beginners

Watch Christopher Plummer, 2012 winner of the Best Actor in a supporting role, in "Beginners". This film is rated R for language and sexual content.

Classic Film Fridays	10 am
Even Friday in August for an oldio but goodic classis me	vi o

but goodie classic movie
Meet Me in St. Louis
Romance on the High Seas
Bringing Up Baby
Double Indemnity
His Girl Friday

Thursday, August 96:30 pm

Foreign Film Series: Separate Lies

Anne and James seemingly have the ideal marriage until the arrival of a stranger begins a string of astonishing events that leads to murder and adultery and threatens to unravel their lives forever. In English (British). This film is rated R. Light refreshments.





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HOURS: Monday -Friday: 8-8; Saturday: 8-5:30; Sunday: 9-5

SOUTHERN SCENE SARATOGA SCENE

Photos by Peter Barber, Gazette Photographer

Guests enjoy the Southern
Saratoga Chamber's
45th Anniversary Dinner held
on March 29, 2012
at the Holiday Inn in
Saratoga Springs











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www.KidsBowlFree.com

and register your family. Summer shoe passes available.

Wednesday and **Thursday** 9am - Close **\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$**\$\$ SHOES, GAMES, PIZZA, SODA, **HOT DOGS** ALL AT THE NEW **BURNT HILLS LANES!**

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(value \$204)



application, eyebrow wax, shampoo & a

finished hairstyle. (value \$150)

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