

LOCAL

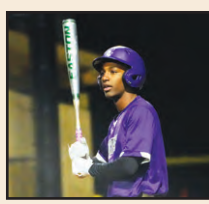
Signs explaining the "Giant History" of the Cardiff Giant hoax will be displayed at the C4Arts.



Page 3

SPORTS

Cortland won the second game of a twinbill Monday against Syracuse to snap a three-game losing skid.



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# Cortland Standard

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TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023

CORTLAND, N.Y.

## Cortland school budget plan exceeds tax cap

By LILY BYRNE  
Staff Reporter

lbyrne@cortlandstandard.com

Cortland — it's the only school district in the greater Cortland area whose school budget would break a state-set property tax cap and require a supermajority to approve.

And it's also the only small-cities district in the area, with a state funding dispute going back 15 years.

"One of the challenges of a small-city school district is the revenue stream often doesn't match what the expense stream is going to be," said Superintendent Robert Edwards of the Cortland Enlarged City School District on Monday. "Many small-city school districts

### Cortland school budget proposal

	2022-23	2023-24	Change
Total spending	\$51,565,151	\$54,508,998	5.7%
Property tax levy	\$18,388,459	\$20,125,236	9.4%

get in the same type of area and the state considers us fully funded, so there is no more money coming to us. The local share is the place to gain money, which is challenging, because that's the tax part of the share."

The district's \$54.5 million budget proposal for 2023-24 is up 5.7% from this year's plan, but the property tax levy is up 9.4% to \$20.1 million. That exceeds the state-set property tax cap,

1.9%, and requires a 60% supermajority from district voters on May 16 to pass.

The district plans five public meetings Thursday and May 8 to explain the budget, in addition to a May 9 public hearing.

"Like many other districts, we are seeing an increase in costs across the board," said Kristopher Williamson, the district's business administrator. "Infla-

tion is at 8%, which is a huge factor."

However, unlike the other districts in the greater Cortland area, the Cortland district is a small-cities district. In 2008, eight similar districts sued the state, which had frozen foundation aid for several years beyond what the district said was fair.

Ten years later, in 2018, Cortland still received \$1.5 million less in state aid than the earlier formulas said it deserved. A state Supreme Court judge ultimately ruled in favor of the state, and the small-cities district are considered fully funded.

That leaves the Cortland district using \$685,000 from assorted reserve funds to reduce the property tax levy. It also

plans to use \$673,000 in unspent money from the existing budget to reduce the property tax levy, up from \$400,000 in the current budget and \$308,000 the year before that.

In January, the board started with a gap of \$4.2 million between anticipated revenue and expected expense, Williamson said.

"Our board really worked on this from January onwards," Edwards said. "We have been grateful for our board and their input, and we've been grinding this year on a challenging budget season and challenging budget projections based on our revenue and expenses for next year."

See CAP, page 6

## Water Works waterlogged



Kevin Conlon/city editor

The picnic area of the Cortland Water Works was flooded Monday afternoon. Several days of rain overflowed the nearby pond within the fence.

## Insurance programs require reapplication for 1st time in 3 years

By MARGARET MELLOTT  
Staff Reporter

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For the first time in three years, New York residents will need to reapply for certain public insurance coverage as the continuous enrollment condition comes to an end alongside the COVID-19 public health emergency May 11.

People enrolled in Medicaid, Child Health Plus and Essential Plan will need to update their eligibility information as part of the renewal process over the next 12 months, reports the state Department of Health.

Renewal deadlines differ depending on coverage end dates — the first deadline is June 30 and the last is May 31, 2024. The state Department of Health and insurance companies are working on awareness campaigns to help residents through the process.

As a result of having continuous coverage for three years, residents haven't needed to update phone numbers or addresses — something Scott Averill, Fidelis Care senior vice president, said people should do as soon as possible.

"They won't get the mail or they won't get the information if it's undeliverable or if they have a wrong phone number," Averill said. "That's probably the number one thing — make sure your contact information is up to date so you

### Looking for help?

- State resources are available at [tinyurl.com/ty3a5ut2](https://tinyurl.com/ty3a5ut2).
- Members of Fidelis Care can contact 866-435-9521 for help from a representative, or go online at [fideliscare.org/renew](https://fideliscare.org/renew).

will get the proper notification."

Fidelis Care, which serves 2.5 million people in the state, has an outreach plan that features social media posts, provider education and community events. Averill said setting aside 30 minutes to talk with a representative to reapply can be helpful.

"They (enrollees) can always contact us and we can assist them," Averill said. "For a lot of people, this is so confusing. We find that it's much help and they really appreciate having somebody that can walk them through it."

The state Department of Health has a three-phase plan in its communication tool kit to keep New Yorkers covered as the changes come:

- Prepare and educate enrollees for the renewal process and emphasize the importance of opting in for text message notifications so enrollees will know when it's time to renew their coverage.
- Encourage enrollees to update their

See INSURANCE, page 6

## US to lift final remaining federal COVID vax mandates next week

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Biden administration will end most of the last remaining federal COVID-19 vaccine requirements next week when the national public health emergency for the coronavirus ends, the White House said Monday.

Vaccine requirements for federal workers and federal contractors, as well as foreign air travelers to the U.S., will end May 11. The government is also beginning the process of lifting shot requirements for Head Start educators, healthcare workers, and noncitizens at U.S. land borders.

The requirements are among the last vestiges of some of the more coercive measures taken by the federal government to promote vaccination as the deadly virus raged, and their end marks the latest display of how President Joe Biden's administration is moving to treat COVID-19 as a routine, endemic illness.

"While I believe that these vaccine mandates had a tremendous beneficial impact, we are now at a point where we think that it makes a lot of sense to pull these requirements down," White House COVID-19 coordinator Dr. Ashish Jha told The Associated Press on Monday.

Deeply polarizing at the time and the subject of numerous legal chal-

lenges — many of which were successful — the vaccination requirements were imposed by Biden in successive waves in late 2022 as the nation's vaccination rate plateaued even amid the emergence of new, more transmissible variants of COVID-19.

More than 100 million people at one time were covered by Biden's sweeping mandates, which he announced on Sept. 9, 2021, as the delta variant of the virus was sickening more people than at any time up to that point in the pandemic. Biden had ruled out such requirements before taking office that January, but came to embrace them to change the behavior of what he viewed to be a stubborn slice of the public that refused to be inoculated, saying they jeopardized the lives of others and the nation's economic recovery.

"We've been patient. But our patience is wearing thin, and your refusal has cost all of us," Biden said at the time. The unvaccinated minority "can cause a lot of damage, and they are."

Federal courts and Congress have

already rolled back Biden's vaccine requirements for large employers and military servicemembers.

Mandates remain for many employees of the National Institutes of Health, Indian Health Service and Department of Veterans Affairs — which implemented their own requirements for healthcare staff and others independent of the White House — will remain while those agencies review their own requirements, the administration said.

Over 1.13 million people in the U.S. have died of COVID-19 since the pandemic began more than three years ago, including 1,052 people in the week ending April 26, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That was the lowest weekly death toll from the virus since March 2020.

"COVID continues to be a problem," Jha said. "But our healthcare system or public health resources are far more able to respond to the threat that COVID poses to our country and do so in a way that does not cause problems with access to care for Americans."

He added, "Some of these emergency powers are just not necessary in the same way anymore."

More than 270 million people in the U.S., or just over 81% of the population, have received at least one dose of

See MANDATES, page 6

## NY lawmakers begin debating budget 1 month after due date

ALBANY (AP) — New York lawmakers began voting Monday on a \$229 billion state budget due a month ago that would raise the minimum wage, crack down on illicit pot shops and ban gas stoves and furnaces in new buildings.

Negotiations among Gov. Kathy Hochul and her fellow Democrats in control of the Legislature dragged on past the April 1 budget deadline, largely because of disagreements over changes to the bail law and other policy proposals included in the spending plan.

Floor debates on some budget bills began Monday. State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said she expected voting to be wrapped up today for a budget she said contains "significant wins" for New Yorkers.

"I would have liked to have done this sooner. I think we would all agree to that," Cousins told reporters before voting began. "This has been a very policy-laden budget and a lot of the policies had to be parsed through."

Hochul was able to push through a change to the bail law that will eliminate the standard that requires judges to prescribe the "least restrictive" means to ensure defendants return to court.

Hochul said judges needed the extra discretion. Some liberal lawmakers argued that it would undercut the sweeping bail reforms approved in 2019 and result in more people with low incomes and people of color in pretrial detention.

Here are some other policy provisions that will be included in the budget, according to state officials.

- The minimum wage would be raised to \$17 in New York City and some of its suburbs and \$16 in the rest of the state by 2026. That's up from \$15 in the city and \$14.20 upstate.
- Most new construction would be required to have zero-emissions under a mandate to be phased in starting in 2026, with buildings under seven

See BUDGET, page 6

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### WEATHER

Rain  
Tomorrow's Weather:  
Snow showers possible. High near 46.  
More on page 2



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### MAKING IT RIGHT

The Cortland Standard will print corrections and clarifications of news articles. If you find mistakes or omissions, call the managing editor at 607-756-5665, ext. 166 or email [news@cortlandstandard.com](mailto:news@cortlandstandard.com).



## Weather

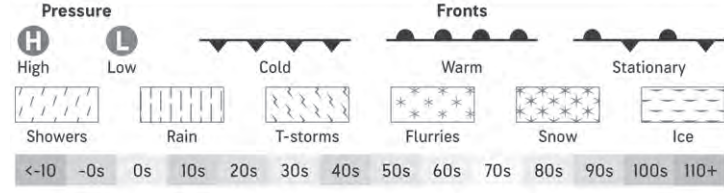
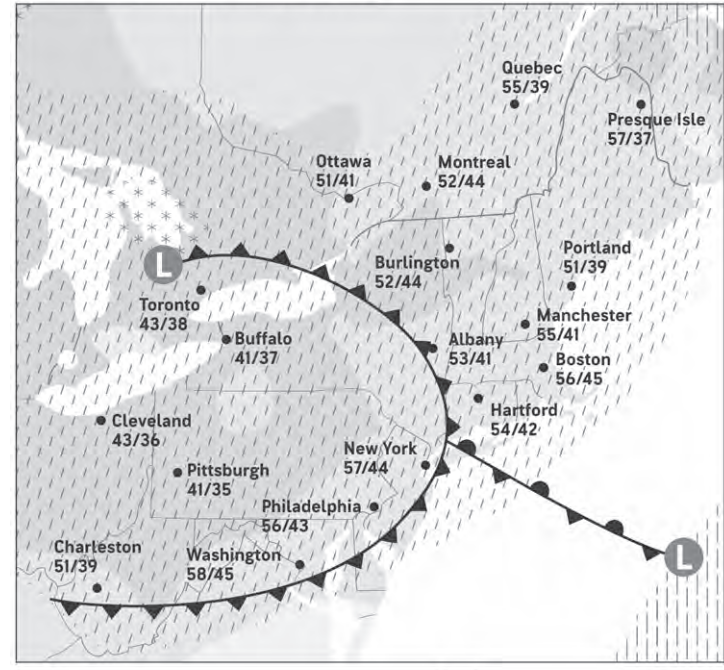
### Local

**Rest of today:** Rain and snow showers likely before 10 a.m., then rain showers. Some thunder is also possible. High near 47. South wind around 8 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%. Little or no snow accumulation expected. Rain showers before 3 a.m., then rain likely, possibly mixed with snow showers. Some thunder is also possible. Low around 35. Southwest wind around 6 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%.

### Skies Today

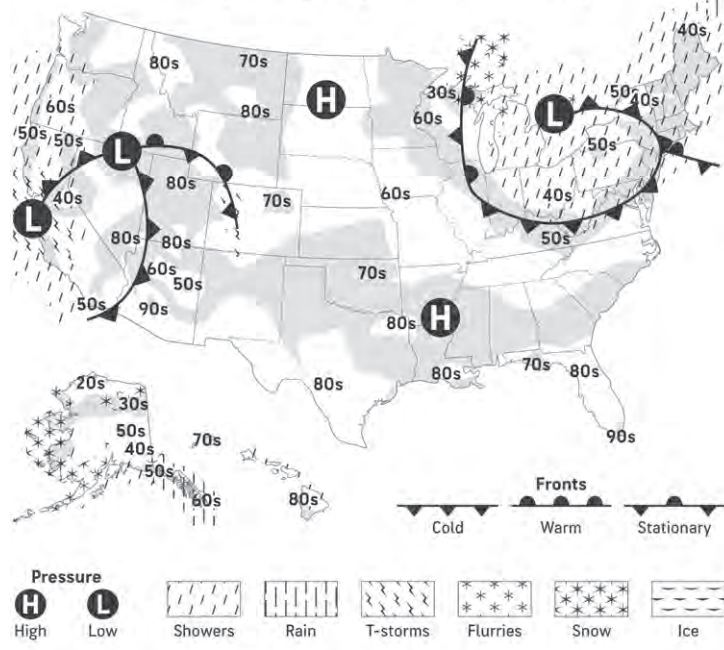
**Tuesday, May 2, 2023**  
 Sunset today 8:05 p.m.  
 Sunrise tomorrow 5:58 a.m.  
 Normal high temperature 61  
 Normal low temperature 39  
 Average temperature 50  
 Full moon May 5

Forecast for Tuesday, May 2, 2023



Forecast for Tuesday, May 2, 2023

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.



**NATIONAL SUMMARY:** Weather more typical of March than May will continue from the Midwest to the Northeast today with chilly air, showers, thunderstorms and even pockets of snow. Much cooler air with rain and mountain snow will settle into California and the Pacific Coast states. In between, warm air will build over the Rockies and Plains with sunshine.

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## Lottery Winners

ALBANY (AP) — Here are the winning numbers selected Monday in the New York State Lottery:

**Numbers:** Midday: 2-5-1, Evening: 0-6-4; **WinFour:** Midday: 5-0-7-0, Evening: 6-7-8-3; **Pick 10:** 1-2-9-11-15-19-21-24-25-26-35-36-37-41-42-48-49-65-68-71; **Take Five:** Midday: 5-6-36-37-38, Evening: 8-18-20-25-26; **Cash4Life:** 37-41-42-46-48, Cash Ball: 1; **Powerball:** 3-38-55-61-66, Power Ball: 1, Power Play: 3

## Making It Right

The Cortland Standard will print corrections and clarifications of news articles in this space. If you find mistakes or omissions, call the managing editor at 607-756-5665 x 166.

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# Trial opens in deadly '18 limo crash

By MAYSOON KHAN and MICHAEL HILL

Associated Press

SCHOHARIE — Nearly five years after a stretch limousine packed with birthday revelers careened down a hill and off a road in rural upstate New York, killing 20 people, the operator of the company that rented out the vehicle is going on trial.

Nauman Hussain, who ran Prestige Limousine, is charged with criminally negligent homicide and second-degree manslaughter in connection with the Oct. 6, 2018, crash — one of the deadliest U.S. road wrecks of the past two decades — in Schoharie, a village west of Albany.

Jury selection began Monday in Schoharie County Court for a trial expected to last at least four weeks.

Seventeen people using the limo for a birthday celebration were killed, along with the driver and two bystanders outside a country store where the vehicle crashed.

The victims' relatives have been on an emotional roller-coaster ever since. After pandemic-related delays in the criminal case, they were exasperated by a 2021 announcement of a plea deal that would have spared Hussain prison time. A surprise twist came last fall when a judge rejected the deal, setting up the trial this week a few miles down the road from the accident site.

"All we can do is move on and hope that we can get justice," said Tom King, the father of four sisters killed in the crash. "It's not going to be closure for families that lost their kids. I mean, we lost four daughters and three



Tom Heffernan Sr. via AP, File

An ambulance is shown at the scene of the Oct. 6, 2018, fatal crash in Schoharie. Nearly five years after a stretch limousine careened down a hill killing 20 people, the operator of the company that rented out the vehicle is going on trial.

sons-in-law in one shot. There's no way we'll ever make that up, no matter how many trials they have."

Victim Axel Steenburg had hired the 2001 Ford Excursion limousine for an outing to celebrate the 30th birthday of his wife, Amy, who was King's daughter.

The group was headed to a brewery outside Cooperstown, New York. The passengers ranged in age from 24 to 34 and included Axel Steenburg's brother, Amy Steenburg's three sisters and two of their husbands and close friends.

The National Transportation Safety Board found evidence of brake failure occurring on a long downhill stretch of road on the way to the brewery. The vehicle is believed to have reached speeds of more than

100 mph when it blew through a stop sign at a T-intersection and hit a parked SUV and several trees before coming to rest in a streambed.

Prosecutors say Hussain failed to properly maintain the limo and is to blame for the deaths. Schoharie County District Attorney Susan Mallery did not return a call seeking comment.

The National Transportation Safety Board found Prestige showed an "egregious disregard for safety" and took pains to avoid more stringent inspection rules intended to ensure the stretch vehicle had the braking capacity and other requirements for carrying a load heavier than it was initially built for.

The vehicle had been ordered out of service by state transportation officials a month before the crash after an inspection that

was part of an investigation of Prestige for operating without proper certification. Prosecutors have argued Hussain removed an out-of-service sticker from the limo's windshield.

But the criminal case is complicated. The NTSB also said ineffective state oversight allowed Prestige to circumvent safety regulations and inspection requirements.

There also were issues with the shop Hussain used for repair work. State investigators say a Mavis Discount Tire store falsified billing invoices to make it appear there was brake work done on the limo that was not performed.

Hussain's lawyers contend he tried to maintain the limousine and relied on what he was told by state officials and the repair shop.

"Every day we talk about Nauman, the real perpetrators escape blame. We're going to trial not just to defend an innocent man but to spur real accountability for those who could have prevented this tragedy," Lee Kindlon, an attorney for Hussain, said in an email.

In an email, a Mavis spokesperson expressed sympathy for the victims and their families, called its billing policies "honest, fair and sound," and said the company "bears no legal responsibility for this tragedy."

The plea deal announced in 2021 called for Hussain to plead guilty only to the criminally negligent homicide counts. Under the deal, he was to be placed on probation for five years and perform 1,000 hours of community service, but serve no jail time.

# Low-income New Yorkers win right to a root canal

By JAKE OFFENHARTZ

Associated Press

NEW YORK — For millions of low-income New Yorkers, access to routine dental care has long hinged on whether or not they still have eight crucial teeth.

A mouth with just four pairs of matching back teeth is considered "adequate for functional purposes," according to the state's rules for Medicaid recipients. And those considered functional, no matter how many other teeth they're missing, aren't covered for root canals and crowns, two of the field's most common procedures.

Under a new legal settlement reached on Monday, the New York Department of Health must lift some of its most restrictive rules for Medicaid recipients, including the long-standing "eight points of contact" policy.

The change will expand dental coverage for an estimated 5 million people, dramatically improving oral health for low-income patients across the state, according to Belkys Garcia, an attorney with the Legal Aid Society, which brought the class-action suit in federal court.

"Before this, the Medicaid program was really just a tooth-pulling program," Garcia said.

Medicaid programs vary across states and dental care is not a federally mandated benefit. A handful of states, including Alabama and Delaware, provide no dental coverage to adult Medicaid recipients, while roughly a dozen others offer care only in emergencies. But states that

do provide the optional benefit are required to cover all medically necessary care. The lawsuit argued that New York had imposed "rigid restrictions on crucial services," leading to the denial of coverage for medically necessary care.

Among the plaintiffs was Matthew Adinolfi, a former New York City taxi driver who had all but three of his teeth pulled after contracting a mouth infection in 2010. He soon discovered that his dentures slipped, preventing him from eating.

He was told that he needed a dental implant, which isn't covered by the state. Instead, he opted to eat without dentures, wearing down his gums and the remaining bone in his mouth. He'll now require a more complicated surgery, involving a possible bone graft, in order to secure the dentures.

The settlement eliminates the ban on covering dental implants. Replacement dentures likewise will be deemed medically necessary. The new rules will take effect 90 days after a court approves the settlement agreement. The Department of Health is committed to providing "comprehensive health coverage" to all state Medicaid recipients, spokesperson Cort Ruddy said in a statement. "This settlement recognizes the importance of oral health and affirms the state's commitment to those individuals."

The health department didn't immediately respond when asked how much the expanded care would cost.

## Obituaries

### Michael W. Conklin

Michael W. Conklin, 69, of Groton passed away on April 27, 2023 at the VA Medical Center, Syracuse.

Born September 10, 1953 in Cortland, he was a son of the late Francis and Pauline (Metcalfe) Conklin.

Mike retired after 25 years with Tompkins County as a maintenance worker in the Department of Facilities. He resided in Groton for many years, and was a veteran of the US Marine Corps. He was an avid golfer at Stonehedges Golf Course and enjoyed weekly card games with his best friend, Brian Haner. He loved his family and enjoyed putting in the garden. He was also an avid fan of the NY Yankees and NY Giants.

He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Monica (Cardonia) Conklin; sisters: Paula (Conklin) Brown (Mike King) and Charlotte (Conklin) Strauf; brother, Paul Conklin (Jane); in-laws, Pamela (Cardonia) & Mark Nicholson and Candy (Cardonia) & Sal Janke; seven nieces; and many great-nieces and great-nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his brother, John Conklin.

A "Celebration of Life" will be held at 1:00 PM on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at the Shurtleff Funeral Home, 103 Lincoln Avenue, Groton. Family and friends will gather afterwards at the Carrington-Fuller Post 800, American Legion.

### Neil Trent Wilson

Neil Trent Wilson, of Homer died January 27, 2023. He was born August 17, 1937 in Homer. "Trent" served in the US Army.

He is survived by his three children, Alma (Joey) Graham, Roseann Wilson and Dwayne (Theresa) Wilson, six grandchildren, Joshua (Emily) Miller, Alicia Miller pre-deceased, Trevor (Kalyn) Wilson, Brendan Wilson, Victoria Wilson and Jaclyn Wilson. Three great-grandchildren, Noah, Jacob and Cole, a brother Greg (Nancy) LeRoy and a sister-in-law, Sylvia Wilson along with many nieces and nephews.

He worked for Grand Union for many years. Dad was a familiar site in the spring and summer as he rode around town on his tractor. He did Western Square Dancing, always had a garden that added meals around the pool. He was active in the Homer Elk's Club and always active in church.

He is at peace in God's hands. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023, 11:00 at the Homer Avenue Methodist Church in Cortland. Interment was in Glenwood Cemetery, Homer.

Zirbel Funeral Home, 11 Williams St., Groton has care of arrangements.

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## Death Notices

MAUZY — Helen A. Mauzy, 86, of Homer, died April 30, 2023. Arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by the Donald L. Barber Funeral Home.

If it's happening in YOUR community it's in the Cortland Standard.

## Help us prepare for Memorial Day: Join our 8th annual Cemetery Sweep-out Day!



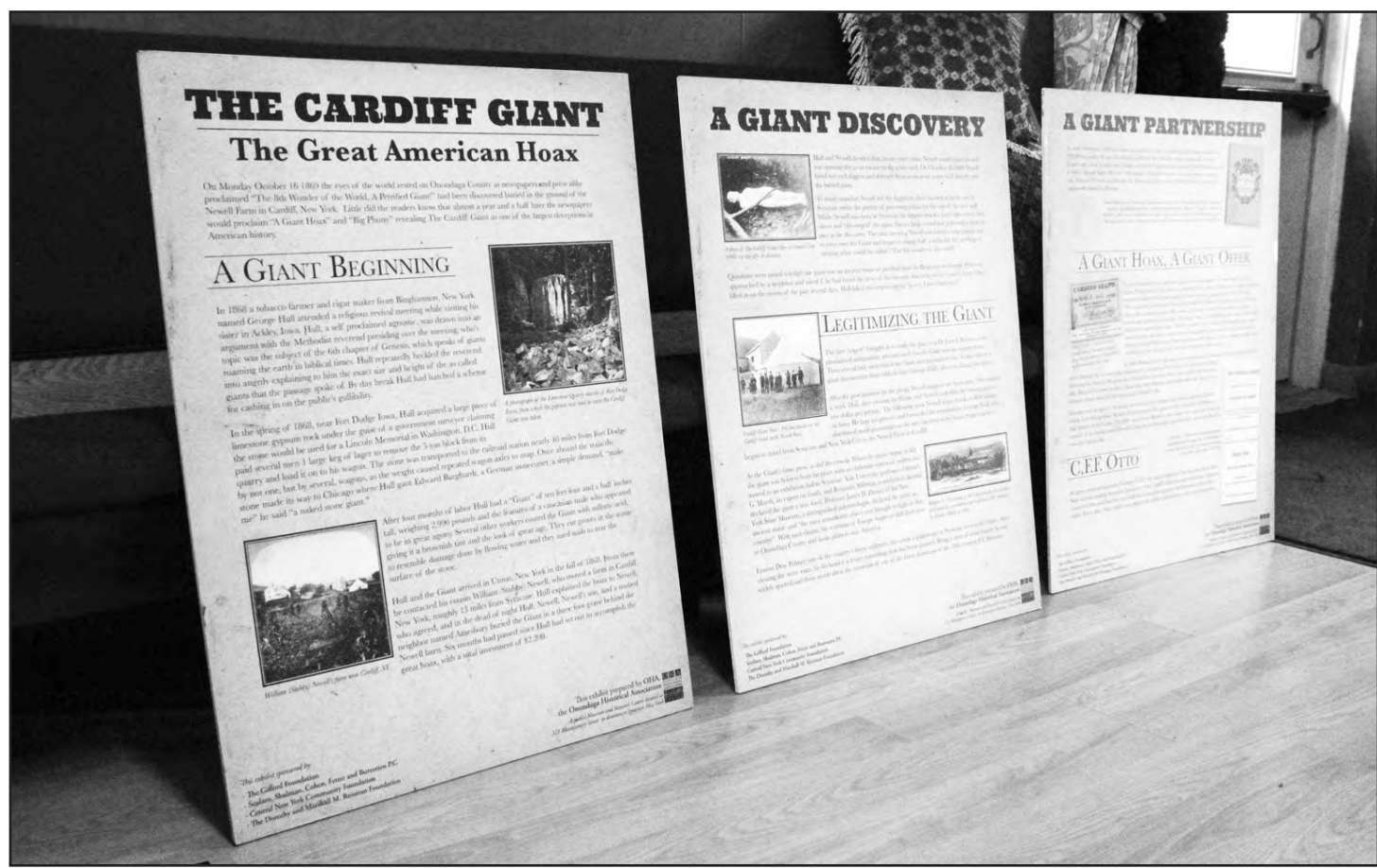
Groups welcome & donations appreciated

Please help us ready the Cortland Rural Cemetery for Memorial Day and our 2023 season, by participating in our 8th annual Cemetery Sweep-out Day!

- **When:** Saturday, May 6 — 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (rain or shine)
- **Where:** CRC, 110 Tompkins Street
- **What:** All are welcome and invited to help clean up the grounds and tackle other tasks. Refreshments served.

Learn more at [Cortland-rural-cemetery.com](http://Cortland-rural-cemetery.com)





Nowshin Chowdhury/living and leisure editor

The three signs that were approved to be displayed with the Homer Giant at Center for the Arts of Homer.

'A unique and unusual story'

Signage approved sharing history of Cardiff Giant

By LILY BYRNE
Staff Reporter

lbyrne@cortlandstandard.com

The signs are real. The display is a replica. The object it's a replica of is a hoax.

A series of three signs explaining the "Giant History" of the Cardiff Giant hoax will be displayed by the Homer Center for the Arts, alongside the Homer Giant at the facility.

"We're excited to share the history of the Cardiff Giant," said Ty Marshal, executive director of Center for the Arts of Homer.

The signs are museum placards for the 10-foot-tall Homer Giant, which found a home at Center for the Arts of Homer's lawn facing Cayuga Street in November. Marshal applied earlier this year for sign approval; it was granted last week by the Homer Zoning Board of Appeals.

The Homer Giant, a recreation of the 1869 Cardiff Giant, helps tell the story of one of the greatest hoaxes in U.S. history. It is also included in the newly launched Cortland Curiosity Trail by Cortland County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

"Considering that the giant is on the Cortland Curiosity Trail, we believe this will help tell his story for many more years to come and enhance visitor experiences," Marshal said.

The original Cardiff Giant is at the Farmers Museum in Cooperstown.

"I looked at the Cardiff Giant as this region's own Loch Ness Monster and so it's

a unique and unusual story," Marshal said in November. "It's a story that I still think should be taught to school children because there's so much depth to it and so much philosophy and discussion that can be involved in the Cardiff Giant."

The Cardiff Giant was built in 1868 by tobacco farmer and cigar maker George Hull of Binghamton, according to the exhibit notes from Onondaga Historical Association. He had acquired a 5-ton limestone gypsum rock in Iowa and transported it to Chicago.

There, German stonemason Edward Burghardt sculpted the 10-foot, 4 1/2-inch, 2,990-pound giant. Hull then worked with his cousin William Newell to hide the sculpture in his farm under a 3-foot grave. They plotted to have workers dig for a well in the same spot and discover the giant.

Hull's intention was to cash in on people's gullibility. The hoax cost him \$2,200 at the time.

On Oct. 16, 1869, the giant was discovered at the Newell Farm in Cardiff. The "petrified giant" was said to be from Biblical times and became known as the eighth wonder of the world. It wasn't until much later that it became known as "A giant hoax."

After the discovery, experts and religious leaders visited and confirmed the giant was real. The giant grew popular and drew crowds from as far as Europe. After national sculptor Erastus Dow Palmer declared it a fraud, it drew the attention of showman

P.T. Barnum.

By late November, more people grew suspicious and the workers involved in building and transporting the giant admitted the hoax.

Within two months, the giant made more than \$20,000 in profit. Entrepreneur David Hannum of Homer and Amos Wescott offered to buy it for \$37,500 in December.

Barnum offered to buy a share of the giant and was refused, so he built his own. Eventually, the original Cardiff Giant and Barnum's version were both in New York City on display. It was declared that both were fake but there was still an interest enough to take the giants on tour.

"I think people of our time believe a lot of hoaxy things, too," Marshal said in November. "I never want to allude that the people of 1869 were somehow less smart or less philosophical or less scientific than we are today. What it does show though is how easily people can kind of be tricked into believing something."

Cortland County celebrated its sesquicentennial in 1958, and every town or village had or participated in a parade, said Homer Historian Martin Sweeney.

Two teenage girls, Pat Norris and Nancy Harris, created a replica of the Cardiff Giant.

"Homer's David Hannum purchased the Cardiff Giant after a court battle with Barnum over who had the real giant," Sweeney said. "Homer feels like it has a connection to the giant."

Coronavirus briefs

Cortland County: 1 new case

Cortland County reported one new case of COVID-19 over the weekend, the number of confirmed cases since the pandemic began rising to 13,686, the state Health Department reports.

Tompkins and Cayuga counties reported eight new cases Saturday, Sunday and Monday, the state reported. The three counties have seen 61,651 cases since the pandemic began in March 2020. The number of people who have died from the virus remains 426.

One new COVID patient was admitted Friday to Guthrie Cortland Medical Center, the state reported Monday. That was the first admission since April 17. The hospital had five COVID patients. The state reports 321,047 tests have been administered. The state has reported 137 deaths.

Tompkins County saw six new cases Saturday, Sunday and Monday, the state Health Department reported. The number of confirmed cases rose to 27,141. The state reports 3,081,973 tests have been administered and 103 people have died.

Cayuga County saw two new cases Saturday, Sunday and Monday, the state Health Department reported. Confirmed cases rose to 20,824. The state reports 420,569 tests have been administered, and 186 people have died.

Around the towns

Voters to decide on redistricting

Cortland County voters will decide in November whether to accept a new map redistricting the Cortland County Legislature, reducing it to 15 legislators from 17, the county announced Monday.

"This was a bipartisan, unanimous decision made by all legislators present for the vote. It was the intention and goal of the legislature for this to go to the public for final vote," legislature Chairman Kevin Fitch (R-Homer, Scott, Preble) said in a release. "Throughout the redistricting process, the Commission and Citizen's Advisory Committee heard a wide range of recommendations, and ultimately the legislature approved the compromise of 15 legislative districts. Staying at 17 districts did not align with the redistricting requirements and the wish of local municipalities to not be split up."

This referendum will be on the Nov. 7 ballot. Should the referendum pass, the change will go into effect January 1, 2028. There is no change to the legislative representation for the upcoming election.

The local law and map of the redistricting changes can be found at www.cortland-co.org/1054/Cortland-County-Redistricting.

Webb plans Cortland office hours

State Sen. Lea Webb (D-Binghamton) will have office hours 3 to 6 p.m. Wednesday at the Cortland Free Library, the senator's office announced Monday.

Webb's constituent team will be available to help with a variety of issues, including unemployment problems, health insurance, social programs and the Home Energy Assistance Program.

Police/fire

Liquor Authority worker charged

An employee of the state Liquor Authority has been charged with warning Stone Lounge employees of an impending raid last October, where law enforcers found dozens of underage patrons at the Main Street bar, Cortland police said Monday.

Brian J. McLean, 46, of 3 Anne Drive, Schenectady, was charged Wednesday with second-degree obstructing governmental administration, a misdemeanor. Police said McLean, while employed with the state Liquor Authority, called and warned an employee of the underage drinking operation scheduled for 10 p.m. Oct. 19.

The State Liquor Authority, working with Cortland police and the state Department of Motor Vehicles, found that 77 of 90 patrons at the bar on Oct. 19 were underage. Fuller's Tavern of Cortland Inc., owner of the bar at 128 Main St., immediately had its liquor license suspended following the visit, and the 77 minors inside were each cited for possession of a fake ID or for using someone else's ID.

McLean was arraigned in Cortland City Court and released without bail pending an appearance May 17 in City Court.

It's springtime: Beware of slow-moving farm vehicles

By JACK FOX
Contributing Writer

Cortland County has always been influenced by our long-standing agricultural roots. As spring field work and planting begins we will see much more activity on farms, in the fields and on the road.

With the weather beginning to improve, traffic will increase. As this happens, motorists will often find themselves encountering the slow-moving and often over-sized farm equipment. Use caution when driving behind any farm equipment.

Like preparing for the first snow of winter, all motorists need to prepare to adjust their

driving and pay attention for farm machinery and anticipate delays.

Operators of farm machinery may experience a difficulty in being able to see vehicles that drive up behind them, especially when pulling large secondary tillage disks, manure spreaders, drag-lining equipment and large planters.

The National Center for Rural Road Safety and the Texas Farm Bureau estimate that 15,000 collisions involving farm vehicles occur on U.S. roads each year.

And although only 19% of Americans live in rural areas, 45% of fatal crashes occur on roads that are considered rural.

Throughout the growing season, we can expect to cross paths with agricultural equipment on the roads.

Farmers travel to and from their fields throughout the spring, summer and fall as they plant, manage and harvest their crops. After a long winter of careful driving, we can all use a reminder that even though nice weather is here, the need for careful and cautious driving continues.

For motorists, that means remembering that agricultural equipment is often wider and longer than most cars and trucks, and could take up more than one

lane. The visibility around large agricultural implements may be limited for both the driver and nearby motorists.

Passing should be done only when legal and with extra precaution.

Most farm equipment travels at a slower speed. Farm vehicles, which include tractors, self-propelled equipment, and horse-drawn vehicles, often travel at less than 25 mph.

By law, farm vehicles, if displaying a slow-moving vehicle triangle, are prohibited from traveling more than 25 mph. Motorists need to be aware of their closing rate when coming

upon equipment on the roads, especially on rural roads that may feature blind curves, dips and hills.

Motorists should also pay attention for hidden driveways, which can be hard to see from around a curve. Not paying attention after seeing a warning sign for a hidden driveway can lead to a collision.

Spring also means construction season.

Contracting companies will be back in full helping to build and restore our community's buildings and structures. Highway departments will also be on the roads and bridges making repairs.

Rural roads, highways, bridges and even sidewalks will see an increased vehicle pressure. The same amount of caution and courtesy should be exercised with construction crews as with farmers on the road.

Increased truck traffic, construction vehicles, construction sites and activities require extra caution from motorists. By staying alert and patient on Cortland County's rural roads, you can help to keep farmers, fellow motorists and yourself safe.

Jack Fox is a conservation assistant with the Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Tomorrow's news today: Why we tell you stuff before it actually happens

The discussion highlighted two important, and sometimes contradictory, roles of good journalism.

The colleague asked why I chased so many stories about things that had yet to be decided. Wasn't it our role to report what has actually happened, rather than what may — or may not — happen?

Gosh no, I said. (I may not have been so polite.) Our role is to give information to people so they can make a decision. What's the point of telling people about something they already missed?

Really, though, a good news report does both. We expect you'll want to know about the great molasses flood yesterday. (That actually happened once: On Jan. 15, 1919, a tank filled with

EDITOR'S NOTES

How a daily newspaper works every day.

By TODD R. McADAM

2.3 million gallons of molasses burst, sending a 35 mph wave of molasses through the streets of Boston. The wave killed 21 people and injured 150.)

We also expect you want to know about stuff that's coming up, so you can do something about it. Maybe it's an upcoming

parade, like the Dairy Parade on June 6. You might want to go, or you might want to know the route so you can avoid it.

Or maybe there's an upcoming election. It might help to know a little something about the candidates. It's probably more useful to know that a significant storm is coming, rather than hearing about yesterday's weather, or whether that new blockbuster playing at the cinema is worth the time and money.

How you use the information isn't our concern; that you have information to use is.

In particular, I think it's important to tell you what your public officials are doing before they've actually voted to do it. You may, for example, appreciate the effort a number

of municipalities — Homer, Cortlandville, Dryden and Cortland County, for example — are making to give volunteer firefighters a property tax exemption. Knowing they're about to make a decision, you could let them know you support it.

However, any time a municipality creates a property tax exemption — for emergency workers, veterans or senior citizens, for example — that means other taxpayers pay a bit more. So maybe you don't like the idea. You can let them know that, too.

Our working theory is that you elect people to do what you want, so we like to make sure you know what they have in mind, so you can properly supervise your public servants.

To that end, we've made a greater effort to tell you about what's coming up at public meetings. Reporter Margaret Mellott, in particular, has created a little industry for herself reporting on the major topics of discussion that Cortland County legislators face.

You'll generally find those stories on the community page on the Monday, or perhaps Tuesday, before the meetings. We told you, for example, about the efforts to give firefighters a property tax exemption. On Monday, she had a story telling us about a number of events this month, National Mental Health Month.

Living and Leisure Editor Nowshin Chowdhury is more likely to tell you about the exhib-

it or show that's coming rather than the show you missed. She did a large piece recently on an upcoming burlesque show May 12 and 13 at Cortland Repertory Theatre. Much of the cast are your friends and neighbors — I thought their comments on what burlesque means to them were as interesting as the information about the upcoming show.

What you do with all this information is up to you. We're not advocates, or opponents. We're informers. And if what you missed was important enough, we'll tell you about it the next day, too.

Todd R. McAdam is managing editor of the Cortland Standard. He can be reached at tmcadam@cortlandstandard.com.



Eric Lutzens/The Denver Post/TNS

Jefferson County Open Space volunteer raptor monitor Teresa Van looks to South Table Mountain while observing a nesting pair of golden eagles and their nesting habits April 13 in Golden, Colorado.

## 'We have drama'

Monitoring eagle couples is labor of love for volunteers

By JOHN MEYER  
The Denver Post  
(TNS)

GOLDEN, Colo. — For more than an hour, monitoring a golden eagle nest high on South Table Mountain from a roadside observation post more than 500 yards away had been uneventful, if not downright tedious, for Jeffco Open Space volunteer Teresa Van.

Peering through a telescope, she could catch occasional glimpses of one eagle, but it was well-camouflaged with its rocky surroundings.

With little happening above and time passing slowly, important questions hung in the air. Was the resident eagle pair incubating eggs in this nest perched 500 feet above in a rocky cliff band at the top of the mesa? Or had an eaglet already hatched, as typically happens in early April? Answering those questions was why Van was at her post, observing a nest she has monitored for six nesting seasons.

"You kind of get invested with the couple," Van said. "After all these years, you're cheering them on."

Suddenly there was activity. In what is known as a "nest exchange," the other occupant of the nest — likely the male — returned from a hunting trip. For a few moments, male and female sat perched on the rim of the nest. Were they feeding an unseen eaglet? Maybe, but it was impossible to be sure.

"An hour and a half later," Van said, her long wait over, "we have drama."

Then the eagle that had been tending the nest, likely the female, took off in majestic flight toward North Table Mountain, carried by wings measuring 6 to 7 feet across. Golden eagles are North America's largest birds of prey, bigger even than bald eagles.

### A BROOD OF VOLUNTEERS

Teams like Jeffco's volunteer raptor monitoring program are stationed across the Front Range during nesting season every spring. Michelle Desrosiers, a senior wildlife ecology specialist for Jeffco Open Space, oversees 35 volunteer monitors. Nests are observed weekly during nesting season. Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks has a similar program, and the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies coordinates volunteer monitors who keep watch on bald eagle nests.

"It's the equivalent of having two full-time employees, working full days devoted only to monitoring raptors during the nesting season," Desrosiers said. "By monitoring these nests, we're making sure that our management actions are not adversely impacting the persistence of natural resources on the landscape."

Jeffco issues a raptor monitoring report annually. Last year the volunteers monitored golden eagle nests in seven locations, five of which produced seven hatchlings. Six of the eaglets "fledged," meaning they matured to a point where they were capable of flying from the nest.

### THE SOAP OPERA

Bald eagles do tend to be the social media darlings of raptor nation, though. In a widely publicized 2020 affair, a female nesting at Standley Lake was attacked and driven away by another female. The interloper took up with the



Raptor Resource Project/TNS

A bald eagle with her eaglets in Colorado.

male of the nest, which at the time was covered 24/7 by an "Eagle Cam" maintained by the city of Westminster.

That couple produced two eggs the following year, but the cottonwood tree holding the nest collapsed and the nest crashed to the ground, killing an eaglet. Last year, two eaglets there died of unknown causes. In April, one eaglet died when wind brought the nest down yet again. Barr Lake State Park also has had tree collapses that killed bald eaglets in recent years, but currently there is an active nest there with two eaglets that hatched recently. Another active nest at Xcel's Fort St. Vrain generating plant currently has two eaglets and is covered by eagle cams.

### AVIAN FLU

According to Reesa Conrey, an avian researcher with Colorado Parks and Wildlife who is conducting a four-year study tracking bald eagles, there are 117 active bald eagle nests across the Front Range. So far this season, 81% either contained eggs or hatchlings. The 19% that "failed" were due to nests being destroyed by events such as tree collapses or deaths by other causes. Conrey says the Front Range bald eagle population appears to be "robust" despite the threat of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), commonly known as bird flu.

"We confirmed HPAI as the cause of death for three wild adult eagles in Colorado during 2022, including one female tagged for CPW's research study," Conrey said. "We think that HPAI was responsible for a 20% drop in nest success that we observed in 2022."

### THEY BASICALLY OWN THE MOUNTAIN

While bald eagles typically nest in trees near bodies of water because their preferred diet is fish, golden eagles nest in rocky cliffs and prey on rabbits, snakes and prairie dogs.

They are very territorial. Desrosiers believes the golden eagle pair nesting at South Table Mountain considers that mesa and nearby North Table Mountain as their territory. There is an unused eagle nest on North Table.

"They basically own South Table Mountain, and North Table, based on the behavior that we've seen," Desrosiers

said. "It's unclear from some of our old data whether these two territories were occupied (by separate eagle pairs) at the same time. It could have been a separate territory (on North Table) at one point, but all signs now point to this being one territory."

Jeffco Open Space imposes partial closures on both mesas and at six other locations during breeding season, ranging from February to July, to prevent nesting raptors from being disturbed. That means some popular trails are off limits for now.

"We try to do wildlife closures where they make sense, and we try to do them so we're not overstepping," said Mary Ann Bonnell, Jeffco Open Space visitor services and natural resources director. "We strive to have that balance between, 'This is a natural resource, we love the natural resource, that's why we're here. We love to see eagles and this is what we need to do to protect them during their most sensitive time of the year.'"

Violators are typically ticketed with violations that come with \$100 fines.

### 'THE CRAZIEST THING WE SAW'

Based on what she saw at South Table last week, Desrosiers believes at least one of the eaglets there has hatched. Typically two eggs are laid.

Van has seen a lot of cool things in the years she's been serving in the raptor monitoring program. She enjoys watching her golden eagles put on aerial displays, doing loop-de-loops and dives. One time while riding a bicycle nearby with her husband, she saw a fight between one of the resident eagles and an intruder that evolved into a death spiral similar to the one that started the Standley Lake soap opera in 2020.

"The craziest thing we saw, one of the eagles had flown down and was sitting on a rock," Van said. "I think this was after the chick had hatched but hadn't fledged yet. It was just sitting on this rock and we watched this deer come in. The deer was really alert, and all of a sudden the deer charged the eagle. The eagle rises up and the deer charges. You would never think to see something like that. We think the deer might have had a fawn, because golden eagles could take a small fawn. You never know what you're going to see here."

## Ask Amy By Amy Dickinson

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## Family wants to avoid in-laws' drinking

DEAR AMY: My husband and I have been married for 19 years.

His brother is an alcoholic, which is a common theme in his family.

He has been unfaithful to his wife on numerous occasions.

At a family event (about six years ago), he made sexual advances toward me.

I told my husband that his brother makes me very uncomfortable and I do not want him around our kids with his level of drinking, but didn't want to cause a huge family rift, as his wife had been put through so much already. We are the more successful/healthy of all the siblings and are perceived as snobby.

We have kept our space for many years. We celebrate holidays without my in-laws, as they believe that we should just ignore these issues.

My husband recently decided to attend a family gathering (solo) and brought his brand-new sports car (which cost six figures).

His brother took the vehicle for a ride (drunk) without his permission. The brothers have not spoken since.

My mother-in-law is aware of these issues and spends every holiday with them and still invites us to their gatherings, despite knowing that we don't want to attend.

We would only reconsider reconciliation if his brother was to receive treatment and be in recovery.

My husband and I have been in therapy for years working through his childhood trauma.

The family issues run deep, and he does feel lucky to have space to grow into his own person and not be enmeshed like his siblings.

My in-laws have an air about them that we are wrong and keeping the family apart, which is very hurtful to us and their granddaughters.

Why can't they realize the importance of having an individual relationship with our family?

— Frustrated in NY

**DEAR FRUSTRATED: Despite your evident and understandable frustration, the tone and content of your question reveals a strong desire to control your in-laws — to get all of them to recognize the impact of your brother-in-law's drinking, to pull them around to accepting your perspective, and even to convince them to have "an individual relationship" with your family.**

**You also seem to resent the fact that they continue to invite and include you in their family events, even though you don't want to attend.**

**You have made your own choices — according to your own family values and preferences.**

They are doing the same.

**You refuse to enable your brother-in-law's drinking, or to even be around him if he might be drinking. That's an understandable choice. The next step in your own path should be to accept the messy reality of this family, without clinging to the notion that you might have the power to change their reality. Stand down. Give yourself a break. In addition to therapy, you and your husband might benefit from Al-anon meetings. (Check Al-anon.org)**

DEAR AMY: My friend (who is one year younger) has a habit of telling me she's "proud" of me for doing big and small things.

I bought a house and she said she was proud of me. I said I was going out of town, and she said she was proud of me.

I heard her once tell another friend that she thought her house was "adorable."

I can't exactly tell if she means to belittle people or if I'm blowing it out of proportion. Thoughts?

— NOT Adorable

**DEAR NOT: My sense is that your friend is unaware that her comments come off as patronizing.**

**"I'm proud of you" may be her stand-in for "I'm happy for you."**

I'm unsure of what is so off-putting about calling someone's house "adorable," and in that instance you seem to be hypersensitive about your friend's word choices.

**Talk to her! Tell her, "I hope you can understand that when you say, 'I'm proud of you,' it feels like you are infantilizing me. I don't think you mean it that way, but I'm letting you know that it bothers me."**

DEAR AMY: I'm responding to "Hurting Grandma," whose granddaughter was struggling with an Eating Disorder (ED).

My youngest daughter also spent some healing time at a special care facility for those with ED.

Nothing about heartache and fear can undermine love and patience and steadfast support. I know how frightening it is. This will take some time, but there's good news, too.

My daughter has recovered, and our family has healed.

— We Are All Better Now

**DEAR WE ARE ALL BETTER: I've received many hopeful responses to this grandmother's sincere concern for her granddaughter's recovery.**

You can email Amy Dickinson at askamy@amydickinson.com

## Notebook

### 'Being Female' art show planned

Artists of any medium or across multi-media who identifies as female can join "Being Female: Art as Empowerment" to create art that acts both as a vision and a vehicle of women's empowerment.

A planning meeting will be 7 p.m. May 10 at the gallery at Center for the Arts of Homer. All female-identifying artists, from writers to musicians, dancers to photographers, painters to performers, felters to folk artists, crafters to culinary magicians, are invited to help plan a collaborative demonstration of the power of art.

Email beingfemalecortland@gmail.com for details.

### 3D printing course is Saturday at library

DRYDEN — Southworth Library will start a 3D printer training course for teens 10 a.m. Saturday.

Engineer and designer Tom Collins will demonstrate how 3D printing is used in the industry and how to make your own design to print on the library's 3D printer. The class will meet on consecutive Saturdays, except May 27, until June 3 to build skills, learn design skills and print your model on the 3D printer. This course is for teens in grades 5 to 12.

Space is limited. Register online or call the library at 607-844-4782 to reserve your spot. This is a skill-building workshop so you will be expected to attend every session.

### Free viewings offered at Syracuse Astronomical Society's observatory

VESPER — The Syracuse Astronomical Society's Darling Hill Observatory offers free public viewing nights on May 12, June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 8 and Oct. 6.

A 9-foot, 16-inch diameter telescope is available. Bring your own flashlight covered by red balloon, scopes, binoculars, lawn chair, bug spray and hiking stick.

Directions: In Preble: Turn left on Preble Road/Otisco Valley Road at the flashing light then go 3.8 miles, turn right on Strong Road, off Otisco Valley Road, go up the mountain three-tenths of a mile; on left. Park in the meadow. For directions or details, contact raymond@daguelaw.com or call 315-422-2052. Groups can reserve a free tour.

## Our Opinion

## New blood keeps community vibrant

Norm Stitzel, a Marine Corps veteran, is known for organizing the Toys for Tots program that distributes gifts to nearly 1,000 children every Christmas. Stitzel has been leading the local Marine Corps League project for 25 years.

But while Stitzel is stepping aside, there is a plan to continue the effort that distributed 4,000 toys to 900 children last year. His work will continue.

He is finally retiring, turning over the keys to his group's warehouse — which reminds us of Santa's workshop — to his niece, Jessica Forbes. Forbes, who has assisted him as a volunteer for 20 years, is taking over the operation that has become somewhat of a year-round undertaking to plan and buy toys.

The families who benefit from Toys for Tots are fortunate that Stitzel had a succession plan and trained his niece for her future role.

Toys for Tots is one of many organizations that benefit the community by organizing popular events and activities. These include June Dairy Month events, church fundraisers like the annual St. Anthony's Festival in Cortland, seasonal activities, concerts and arts shows, to name just some.

It seems that many organizations rely heavily on a few leaders who do the majority of the work and with whom resides the institutional knowledge essential to keeping activities running for years.

But a key to longevity is fostering the next generation of leaders who can maintain momentum.

All of the competing interests for the time of volunteers — including family and work obligations — can make that a daunting task for many. But many of the events and activities that make this area a special place rely on their efforts.

New volunteers help find new approaches to long-time projects and can take over the reins when older organizers move on.

Forbes has the experience to help ensure Toys for Tots continues to bring Christmas joy to hundreds of local children.

"I've been working with him (Stitzel) for the last 18 to 20 years, so I know the warehouse, I know the front end, and I've had interactions with the families that come through each year," she said. "I just have a heart for helping people so it seemed like a really logical place for me to slide into."

She already has some ideas for fundraisers, such as a Toys for Tots 5K run. The first event she'll be in charge of is a Toys for Tots Motorcycle Run on June 4 at the Homer Elks Lodge.

Communities in the greater Cortland area need more people like Forbes. We encourage people to get involved to help local activities and events flourish long into the future, and maybe initiate some new traditions.

## Your Opinion

## Journalism 101

To the Editor:

Dominion Voting System's out-of-court settlement with Fox News brought to mind a quote from Thomas Jefferson. In 1788, when the proposed First Amendment was under discussion, Jefferson said freedom of the press "will not take away the liability of the printers for false facts printed."

Fast forward to our digital age and Dominion. It's easy to overlook that the guarantee of a free press is not absolute. Among the examples of speech that can be restrained — invasion of privacy, child pornography, threats to public safety, threats to national security — there is defamation, which is what Fox was accused of.

Defamation: A false statement, often claimed as fact, that harms someone's reputation in the eyes of the community. Nor is the press protected if they publish someone else's lie when they should have had reasonable doubts about the claim based on the "actual malice" standard, meaning they knew a claim was false or had good reason to believe it could be.

While the settlement was out of court (at a cost of \$787.5 million for Fox), the significance is that it sent a clear signal encouraging a responsible press. It remains to be seen if that will happen. What is so startling is that Fox News' ventriloquized puppets (otherwise known as dummies) spouting Murdoch's political agenda claimed to be journalists.

Tucker Carlson does not appear to have studied a fundamental basic any journalism student is required to know: How the news industry is and is not protected by the First Amendment. Nor have Fox's attorneys, it would seem.

John Hartsock  
Homer

## Good Old Days

May 2, 1973

The Common Council voted last night to revert back to a two-way traffic pattern for Main Street for a 90-day trial period to begin sometime this summer.

The unanimous vote came after a discussion on the merits of one-way versus two-way traffic and vice-versa.

Mayor Morris Noss stated that if the program was to be implemented it should be done in conjunction with the paving program for Main Street.

Mayor Noss stated, "I still think that the one-way pattern is right, however over the past a few months merchants, shoppers and residents feel it is time to take another look at the program."

May 2, 1998

Although summer is a time when people think about traveling, Cortland County has attractions for year-round tourism.

Cortland County Convention and Visitors Bureau Director James Dempsey said recently that not only does Cortland have summer events and attractions, the major ski resorts in the area help bring in tourists in the winter.

"Because we don't see it, we don't think it's there," he said about the tourism industry.

Monday kicks off National Tourism Week and Dempsey said Cortland County employs over 2,000 people in tourism related businesses with an annual payroll of over \$16 million and these tourism related businesses generate over \$40 million in revenue for Cortland County.

May 2, 2013

After 45 years cutting hair, Sherry Spisak is ready to start carving out her own salon that focuses on what she cares about — children.

"I used to be good with kids, but then I became a grandmother and now I'm fantastic," Spisak said.

Her new business at 141 Main St., Guys and Dolls Salon, offers a small, movie-themed children's salon in back of the building, complete with plastic paparazzi cutouts, costumes and toys to make hair-cuts fun.

The salon serves both adults and children.

"My main thing, I don't like kids to be fearful when they get hair-cuts," Spisak said. "It takes the fear out."

And the toys keep the older children entertained while their hair is cut, Spisak said, or while they wait for mom and dad.

"So it works out really well for everyone," she said.



## Biden and the US debt problem

Star  
Parker



Hillary Clinton writes in The New York Times that Republican insistence to link any increase in the nation's debt ceiling to spending control and cuts threatens our national security.

"It's a sad irony that Mr. McCarthy and many of the same congressional Republicans seemingly intent on sabotaging America's global leadership by refusing to pay our debts are also positioning themselves as tougher-than-thou China hawks."

Clinton is right that our enemies, Russia and China, see America today as weak and are using the opportunity to strengthen their influence around the world.

But the reason they see the supposed leader of the free world as weak is not because America refuses to "pay our debts."

Russia and China see our nation as fiscally and morally corrupt, and they are right.

Whether we're speaking about a nation, or an individual, absence of self-discipline is a sign of weakness.

The only words that capture fiscal reality in our country today are "profligate" and "undisciplined."

The Congressional Budget Office projects \$2 trillion deficits over the next decade. It projects national debt, today equal to 100% of our GDP, to

reach a record 118% of GDP in 2033 and, by 2053, almost twice the size of GDP.

Average federal spending, per CBO, over the last 30 years, from 1972 to 2022, was 20.9% of GDP. In 2023, it is projected to reach 23.7% of GDP and by 2033, 25.3%.

Yet, this does not seem to bother President Joe Biden and his fellow Democrats at all.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy and fellow Republicans are putting on the table a plan to at least start getting our fiscal house in order, but Biden has noted he has zero interest in any conversation. He wants unconditional agreement to raise, once again, the nation's debt ceiling.

Why does it even matter that we should get things under control? Many important reasons.

One, the more that fruits of our hard work are diverted to

government rather than productive and creative use in the private marketplace, national productivity suffers. We're already seeing the results of this.

As economist and blogger Scott Grannis has pointed out, the U.S. economy grew annually 3.1% per year from 1950 to 2007. Since then, average growth has been 2.2% per year. Economist Steve Moore at the Committee to Unleash Prosperity estimates that this one percentage point drop in annual GDP growth, due to more and bigger government, has lopped off about \$15,000 in median family income. If we had continued the 3.1% growth, the average American would have some 22% higher income, per Moore.

Second, we've just gone through a period experiencing the ravages of inflation, the direct result of government

spending and pouring increasing amounts of money into the marketplace that are not backed up by productive resources.

Third, higher interest costs. A byproduct of inflationary pressure is increasing interest rates. Higher rates translate into ever-increasing interest costs on our debt burden in the federal budget. The CBO projects that in 10 years, in 2033, interest costs in the federal budget will reach 3.6% of GDP. If defense spending remains around where it is today, interest costs in the federal budget will exceed defense spending.

Which takes us back to Clinton's laughable claim that the Republican push for some fiscal responsibility threatens national security.

Republicans want to reset the federal budget baseline to 2022 and limit increases over the next 10 years to 1% per year. Total savings would be \$4 trillion over 10 years.

This can be described as a dose of prudence. It certainly can't be called draconian.

But prudence is the last thing our irresponsible president wants to hear about. He and his party want a blank check on the earning power of the American people.

But, as Margaret Thatcher once said, sooner or later you run out of other people's money.

## Kamala Harris' tightrope walk

Eugene  
Robinson



It is no accident that Vice President Harris appears more than a dozen times in the video kicking off President Biden's reelection campaign. She played a big role in mobilizing the Democratic Party's base in 2020 — and should be expected to do the same thing again in 2024.

As has been the case with virtually every vice president since the nation's founding, Harris gets a bad rap. The first duty of the job is to avoid upstaging the president, which means surrendering any political autonomy and never being out in front of the West Wing on any issue. Recall the way Mike Pence always stood like a hyperrealist statue, mute and expressionless, while President Donald Trump ranted and raved. Somehow, Pence managed to never even lift an eyebrow.

And when vice presidents are given actual tasks, they tend to be the impossible ones. Biden put Harris in charge of the border — at a time when there was absolutely no possibility of getting Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform that might reduce the flow of would-be migrants. It was a classic no-win situation: She could make a show of raising hopes, which then would be dashed; or she could hunker down and keep expectations low. Either way, she was bound to be criticized for having failed.

At times, being vice president means going along with policies you oppose. Biden, as vice

president, was deeply skeptical of the Pentagon's 2009 request for a "surge" of U.S. forces in Afghanistan. But when President Barack Obama sent 30,000 additional troops, Biden did not publicly complain.

Those are the rules, and vice presidents who break them are blasted for going off-script or being a loose cannon. In 2012, on "Meet the Press," Biden surprised the nation — and his boss — by endorsing same-sex marriage. At the time, the Obama administration position went only so far as to favor civil unions. Biden's declaration, coming just a week before Obama was to launch his reelection campaign, sent the president's advisers into apoplexy. Harris, by contrast, has not spoken out of turn.

She has, however, sometimes lost her way in the wilderness of syntax. The right-wing echo chamber accuses her of speaking in "the word salad." It is true that she often burdens her sentences with more dependent

clauses than they can bear, and verbatim transcripts of her extemporaneous remarks can sometimes be hard to follow. But she also connects powerfully with audiences and communicates her message, even if it might be hard to diagram.

I glance at Harris's public schedule every day, and one thing that stands out is how much time she has spent on foreign policy. It is not uncommon for visiting leaders to stop at the vice president's residence. Her recent trip to Africa was well publicized, but she has also become a regular at gatherings such as the Munich Security Conference — where, in February 2022, she was the last high-ranking U.S. official to meet with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy before Russian tanks rolled into his country. She reportedly implored him to believe the assessment of U.S. intelligence agencies that Russia would indeed invade.

That experience is particularly relevant because of Biden's

age. Republican candidate Nikki Haley has already previewed the GOP line of attack. "I think we can all be very clear and say with a matter of fact that if you vote for Joe Biden, you really are counting on a President Harris," she said Wednesday on Fox News, "because the idea that he would make it until 86 years old is not something that I think is likely."

Fact-check: Biden is in good health, according to his doctors, and I know of no reason why he should not be expected to live through a second term. But one of Harris's important tasks during the campaign will be to demonstrate that she is prepared to assume the awesome responsibilities of commander in chief if necessary.

Her other big task will be to energize voters around the issues on which the Republican Party has boxed itself into fringe positions that are rejected by most Americans. Especially on abortion — and the GOP's ongoing attempt to deny women autonomy over their own bodies — I expect her voice to be a clarion call. And, as in 2020, I expect her to inspire and motivate the Democratic Party's most loyal voters, African American women.

As the first woman and first person of color to serve as vice president, Harris was destined to be held to an impossible standard. Now, as the reelection campaign begins, she gets to show the talent and drive that got her there.

## Letters

The Cortland Standard welcomes letters from readers for publication on this page. All letters submitted must be signed by the writer and include the writer's home address and daytime telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and content. Letters are limited to 300 words in length. Letters endorsing or opposing the election of candidates for public office are limited to 200 words. Thank-you notes will not be accepted.

# CAP

continued from page 1

The district has been cutting costs since 2016, Edwards said. Two buildings — the former Parker and Virgil elementaries — were closed. Parker Elementary was sold, and the district is waiting on the sale of Virgil Elementary.

The district has a lower per-pupil cost than districts within a 30-mile radius, and lower than the state average, Williamson said.

“We want to make sure the community knows that we are mindful of how we spend our dollars, and the per-pupil expense is one of those ways,” Edwards said.

The district’s budget-to-budget increase, 5.71%, is below average compared to all the other schools in the Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES region, he said.

If the budget doesn’t pass, there are two options, Williamson said. One is a revote on June 20, where the board would consider changes that might lower

## Budget meetings

- 10 a.m. Thursday at Cortland Free Library
  - 11:30 a.m. Thursday at Raymond G. Thorpe Municipal Building, Cortlandville.
  - 4 p.m. at Cortland Community Center
  - 6 p.m. at Greek Peak, Virgil
  - 5 p.m. May 8 at Cortland Free Library
- Budget hearing:**
- 6 p.m. May 9 at the junior-senior high school auditorium
- Voting:**
- Noon to 9 p.m. May 16 at the district’s Kaufman Center, Virgil Town Hall and Cortlandville Municipal Garage.

the property tax levy — spending, revenue or other sources of income, such as other reserves. It could still choose to exceed the tax cap, he said. But that would still require a 60% supermajority to adopt.

The other option would be to go into a contingency budget, which would cause a lot of budget restrictions, Williamson said.

If a budget fails a second

time, the board must adopt a contingency budget, reports the New York State School Boards Association. Under state law, a contingency budget requires a flat property tax levy. That puts anything except core educational mission programs on the chopping block.

“We’ve been working hard with this budget to ensure that we’re not shifting any programming for students,” he said. “We have a bunch of courses that we really value. All of the arts and music programs that we love and adore would typically start to become evaluated on a priority list.”

Any community organizations wanting to use the facilities would have to pay to rent the space, if it was even available to them, Edwards said.

“We are so grateful for our community and the support that they give us,” he said. “We believe we have put forward a fair budget in the best of a challenging scenario. We hope this measure will help us set a tone for years to come and help keep us stable.”

# MANDATES

continued from page 1

a COVID-19 vaccine, according to the CDC.

For more than a year, U.S. health officials have been eyeing a long-term response to COVID-19 that is more similar to the approach to influenza, with updated shots yearly targeted at the latest strains of the virus — particularly for the most vulnerable. But fewer than 56 million people in the U.S., or 17% of the population, have received a dose of the updated bivalent boosters that became available in September 2022 and provide better protection against the omicron variants

that remain in circulation.

“We don’t have a national mandate for flu vaccines in the same way, and yet we see pretty good uptake of flu vaccines,” Jha said. “The goal here really is to continue to encourage people to get vaccinated, but I don’t think mandates are going to be necessary for getting Americans vaccinated against COVID in the future.”

While federal mandates are ending, Jha predicted that some employers, especially medical facilities, may decide to maintain their COVID-19 vaccination requirements. He noted that the hospital where he practices has had a flu vaccine requirement

for employees for 20 years.

Jha dismissed concerns that the ending of the international traveler vaccination requirement would increase the risk of a new variant from overseas entering the U.S. Biden has already rolled back virus testing requirements for both American citizens and foreign travelers to the U.S.

Jha said the U.S. was already protected by a traveler genomic surveillance program, which, for instance, tests for different virus strains in aircraft wastewater.

“We think that we are much more able to identify if a new variant shows up in the United States and respond effectively,” he said.

# BUDGET

continued from page 1

stories.

The mandate would mean no gas furnaces or stoves in most new construction.

The mandate is aimed at helping New York meet its greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. It would not affect existing buildings.

State officials would have expanded power to shut down or fine illicit pot shops, which have proliferated in New York City. The unauthorized pot shops compete with state-licensed

dispensaries, and government officials fear they threaten the recently launched adult recreational market.

Though Hochul was able to push through changes in bail law, she was unable to convince lawmakers to include her high-profile plan to spur the creation of 800,000 new homes statewide as a way to ease housing shortages. Suburban lawmakers balked at local zoning mandates in the plan.

Hochul announced a “conceptual agreement” on a budget Thursday, though budget

bill weren’t printed until this weekend. That meant that after weeks of waiting for a budget, rank-and-file lawmakers began voting on bills they barely had time to study.

Bills typically cannot be voted on until three days after they’re introduced. But Hochul, like governors before her, waived that requirement.

“What is the rush at this point? What are we avoiding?” Republican Sen. Thomas O’Mara asked on the floor. “What is the necessity that we can’t wait two more days?”

# INSURANCE

continued from page 1

address and contact information with the state to ensure information is sent to the right places.

Ensure enrollees take the necessary steps to renew their coverage or transition to other coverage if they’re no longer eli-

gible for Medicaid, Child Health Plus or Essential Plan.

For people who no longer qualify, a special enrollment period will open to allow the purchase of another plan, reports MVP Health Care. Enrollees who do not reapply could lose their insurance.

“If you do not renew insurance

for yourself and/or family members by the deadline given, you are at risk of losing your health insurance,” states the state Department of Health. “It is very important that you pay attention to the communications sent from N.Y. State of Health and renew your insurance by the deadline given.”



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# Canadian folk singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot dies at age 84

TORONTO (AP) — Gordon Lightfoot, Canada’s legendary folk singer-songwriter known for “If You Could Read My Mind” and “Sunshine” and for songs that told tales of Canadian identity, died on Monday. He was 84.

Representative Victoria Lord said the musician died at a Toronto hospital. His cause of death was not immediately available.

Considered one of the most renowned voices to emerge from Toronto’s Yorkville folk club scene in the 1960s, Lightfoot went on to record 20 studio albums and pen hundreds of songs, including “Carefree Highway,” “Early Morning Rain” and “The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald.”

In the 1970s, Lightfoot garnered five Grammy nominations, three platinum records and nine gold records for albums and singles. In the more than 60 years since he launched his career, he performed in well over 1,500 concerts and recorded 500 songs.

He toured late into his life.

Just last month he cancelled upcoming U.S. and Canadian shows, citing health issues.

“We have lost one of our greatest singer-songwriters,”

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau tweeted.

“Gordon Lightfoot captured our country’s spirit in his music — and in doing so, he helped shape Canada’s soundscape. May his music continue to inspire future generations, and may his legacy live on forever.”

Once called a “rare talent” by Bob Dylan, dozens of artists have covered his work, including Elvis Presley, Barbara Streisand, Harry Belafonte, Johnny Cash, Anne Murray, Jane’s Addiction and Sarah McLachlan.

Most of his songs are deeply autobiographical with lyrics that probe his own experiences in a frank manner and explore

issues surrounding the Canadian national identity. “Canadian Railroad Trilogy” depicted the construction of the railway.

“I simply write the songs about where I am and where I’m from,” he once said.

Lightfoot’s music had a style all its own. “It’s not country, not folk, not rock,” he said in a 2000 interview. Yet it has strains of all three.

“The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald,” for instance, is a haunting tribute to the 29 men who died in the 1975 sinking of the ship in Lake Superior during a storm.

While Lightfoot’s parents recognized his musical talents early on, he didn’t set out to become a renowned balladeer.

He began singing in his church choir and dreamed of becoming a jazz musician. At age 13, the soprano won a talent contest at the Kiwanis Music Festival, held at Toronto’s Massey Hall.

“I remember the thrill of being in front of the crowd,” Lightfoot said in a 2018 interview.



Lightfoot

# 7 bodies found during search for 2 missing teenagers in rural Oklahoma

HENRYETTA, Okla. (AP) — Authorities discovered the bodies of seven people Monday while searching a rural Oklahoma property for two missing teenagers, state investigators confirmed.

The bodies were found near the town of Henryetta, a town of about 6,000 located about 90 miles east of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation spokesman Gerald Davidson said.

He said the state medical examiner will have to identify the victims, but authorities were no longer searching for the missing teens or a man they may have been with.

“We’ve had our share of troubles and woes, but this one is pretty bad,” Okmulgee County Sheriff Eddy Rice told reporters.

Rice declined to confirm the identities of any of the victims, where the bodies were found or any details about weapons that may have been discovered on the property.

A missing endangered person advisory had been issued earlier Monday for 14-year-old Ivy Webster and 16-year-old Brittany Brewer.

The Oklahoma Highway Patrol canceled the advisory Monday afternoon.

The advisory for Webster

and Brewer had said they were reportedly seen traveling with Jesse McFadden, who was on the state’s sex offender registry. Oklahoma Department of Corrections prison records show McFadden was convicted of first-degree rape in 2003 and released in October 2020.

Court records show McFadden was scheduled to appear in court Monday for the start of a jury trial on charges of soliciting sexual conduct with a minor and possession of child pornography.

Brittany Brewer’s father told KOTV in Tulsa that one of the bodies discovered was his daughter.



A Parent’s Guide to Cortland County Teens



## Preventing Substance Use Among LGBTQ+ Teens

Young people in Cortland County who are LGBTQ+ are more likely than their non-LGBTQ+ peers to use alcohol and other drugs.

- Cortland LGBTQ+ youth (16%) report higher usage of alcohol in the past month compared to youth who identify as straight (13%).
- Cortland LGBTQ+ youth (20%) are more likely to report vaping in the past month than youth who identify as straight (13%).
- Cortland LGBTQ+ youth are nearly twice more likely to report using marijuana in the past month than self-identified straight youth.
- Cortland LGBTQ+ youth are nearly twice more likely to report high risk of having a substance use disorder compared to youth who identify as straight.

Being LGBTQ+ does not cause substance use. Rather, specific differences — mostly consequences of prejudice — weaken adolescents’ support system and increase the pressure for them to use alcohol and other drugs. Understanding these differences is crucial for helping LGBTQ+ teens grow up healthy, happy and substance-free.

## What causes these differences?

- **Bullying and harassment.** Cortland LGBTQ+ teens are more likely to report being bullied at school, outside school and online than teens who identify as straight.
- **Family conflict and rejection.** Parents and caregivers are the most important influence on adolescents’ choices about alcohol and other drug use. Unfortunately, for some LGBTQ+ teens, conflict over sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression can strain these relationships.
- **Childhood abuse.** There’s some evidence that LGBTQ+ children are targeted for physical and sexual abuse at higher rates than other children, and childhood abuse is a risk factor for later substance use.

- **Peer influence.** Teens’ risk of substance use depends in part on whether their friends use drugs and alcohol. For most LGBTQ+ teens, LGBTQ+ friends are a crucial source of support. However, in some cases, this means connecting with peers who are more likely to be using drugs or alcohol. This is particularly likely if teens meet an older crowd through LGBTQ+ groups, or if they visit settings like bars or clubs where substance use is more common.

## What helps all teens?

- **Discussing expectations.** Parents and caregivers should actively discuss substance use with their teens, setting clear expectations that they will not drink or use drugs. Research indicates that consistent disapproval of underage substance use is the most effective parental message for reducing teens’ drinking and drug use.
- **Monitoring.** Teens who report that their parents more consistently monitor their behavior — asking and confirming how and with whom they spend their time — are less likely to drink or use drugs.

## What helps LGBTQ+ Teens?

- **Family support.** For LGBTQ+ teens, family support for their sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression are one of the primary influences on substance use. In fact, teens whose parents or caregivers support their identity are better able to withstand other sources of stress, like harassment at school. LGBTQ+ teens whose families that take affirming actions such as talking openly with a teen about their LGBTQ+ identity, are less likely to have problems with alcohol and other drugs. They also have better self-esteem, health and social support; are less likely to experience depression or suicidal thoughts; and are less likely to attempt suicide.
- **Caring adults.** Teens who have good relationships with their teachers are less likely to use drugs and alcohol. Fewer LGBTQ+ teens than non-LGBTQ+ teens feel supported by the adults at their school, but those who do are no more likely than non-LGBTQ+ peers to use substances.
- **Safe schools.** Because harassment by peers drives substance use, schools where LGBTQ+ students are treated with respect can help close the substance abuse gap.

For more information on how you can help support LGBTQ+ teens, prevent alcohol and other drug use in the LGBTQ+ community, and support alcohol and drug prevention among teens please contact Cortland Prevention Resources (607) 756-8970 or by visiting [www.cortlandprevention.org](http://www.cortlandprevention.org).

Sources:  
1. Human Rights Campaign Foundation. Preventing Substance Abuse Among LGBTQ+ Teens. <https://www.hrc.org/resources/preventing-substance-abuse-among-lgbtq-teens> (2019). School Climate in New York (State Snapshot). New York: GLSEN.  
2. Cortland Area Communities That Care (CACTC). Results and Analysis: The 2021 Cortland County Youth Survey.

Upstream Parent is a project of Cortland Area Communities That Care

## High School Hockey

## Cortland's Cranfield wins 19U hockey national title

By PAUL CIFONELLI  
Sports Editor

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Cortland's Gabby Cranfield was a member of the Cortland/Homer hockey team this winter, a team that went 17-4 and made the Section III Division II semifinals. But that wasn't even the most successful hockey team Cranfield was on this winter.

Cranfield was the only Cortland area girl on the 19U Syracuse Valley Eagles, a team that won the USA Hockey Girls Tier II 19U National Championship on April 3 in Irvine, California. The Eagles beat the East Coast Wizards, based out of Massachusetts, 6-1 to claim the national title. Cranfield had an assist in Syracuse Valley's semifinal win over the Mid Fairfield Stars (CT), two assists each in wins over Little Caesar's (MI) and Premier Prep Golf (MN) and one assist against the Rhode Island Sting.

The Cortland senior was feeling the

heat during the tournament, as it was the biggest stage she had played on.

"It was really surreal, it didn't feel real until about the championship game," Cranfield said. "I was really nervous, all of our girls were nervous, then we came out to play. We played really well. It was a really great experience to be out there."

Cranfield knew her team had the ability to win the national title, especially after winning the state tournament.

"I don't think it really set in until states," Cranfield said. "We played a bunch of good teams, a bunch of Tier I teams, and we played in Tier II states that we declared in August."

The national championship win was the final competitive hockey game of Cranfield's career, as she will be playing women's lacrosse at Clarkson University next year.

"It was great for about 15 to 20 minutes, then it sunk in (that it was my final

game) after we were getting off the ice," Cranfield said. "It was bittersweet. I got to win that, but to know that was the last hockey game was really sad. After that there was a lot of tears."

"An hour later, after we left the locker room, I was like, 'OK, at least I got to go out like that,'" Cranfield added.

The 19U national championship was the culmination of a 14-year hockey career for Cranfield. She grew up in the rink with her father, Tom Cranfield, and hasn't left it since.

"I was a rink rat," Cranfield said. "He coached me from when I was a baby. From three years old I was just in the rink watching him coach. He would carry me around the rink on skates and when I was finally old enough I started right away and have loved it ever since."

The national champion played locally

See TITLE, page 9



Photo courtesy of Tom Cranfield  
Gabby Cranfield handles the puck during the 19U girls hockey national championships in Irving, California in early April.

## High School Baseball



Matt Czeitner/sports reporter

Cortland's Robbie Atkins steps out of the box during an at bat Monday against Syracuse at Gutchess Lumber Sports Complex. Atkins had three hits and three RBI's in the Purple Tigers doubleheader.

## Cortland splits doubleheader with 'Cuse, snaps losing skid

By MATT CZEITNER  
Sports Reporter

mzeitner@cortlandstandard.com

The Cortland baseball team dropped the first game of a doubleheader to Syracuse, but bounced back with a win in the second game to snap its three-game losing streak Monday at Gutchess Lumber Sports Complex.

## SYRACUSE 12, CORTLAND 9

Cortland jumped out to an 8-0 lead through two and a half innings, but Syracuse responded with nine runs in the bottom of the second inning and three more in the bottom of the third to take the lead and held off the Purple Tigers for a 12-9 win in Game 1 of a doubleheader.

Cortland, which was the road team despite playing on its home turf in the first game, quickly jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning. Ethan Johnson hit a two-out triple, followed by Luke Rogoff hitting an RBI single to give the Purple Tigers an early lead.

The second inning is where the runs piled up for both teams. Cortland struck first and struck big. The Purple Tigers put up seven runs on only three hits. Syracuse starting pitcher Reagan Rifanburg could not find the zone as he hit Chris Yang with a pitch to begin the inning, then walked Liam Woodard and Owen Johnson to load the bases. During Robbie Atkins' at bat, Yang scored on a wild pitch then Atkins hit an RBI single to make it 3-0. Following the first out of the inning, Rifanburg walked Caden Albright to again load the bases and during Ethan Johnson's at

bat, Owen Johnson scored on a passed ball, then Ethan reached on an error, scoring Atkins to make it 5-0.

The mishaps continued for Rifanburg as he walked Rogoff and allowed another run on a wild pitch. Danny Jackson then capped off the inning with a two-run single to put Cortland up eight.

Syracuse responded with a nine-run inning of its own on four hits. Cortland starter Cal Albright had struggles on the mound much like Rifanburg did and Syracuse took advantage of it.

It began with a single followed by a walk, back-to-back hit batters and another walk to quickly make it 8-2. Liam Kisselstein then hit an RBI single to make it 8-3. Cal Albright responded with a strikeout for the first out, but then walked the following two batters with each walk scoring a run to cut the Purple Tiger lead to three. The big knock came from Mason Greco on a three-run double the next at bat to tie the game at eight. Cal Albright was pulled from the game, but another run scored on a groundout off of Antonio Terrazas.

Cortland tied the game back up at nine the following half inning on an RBI groundout from Jackson, but that would be the last run the Purple Tigers scored. Syracuse scored three more runs in the bottom of the third and held onto the lead despite the score remaining the same to hand Cortland its third straight loss.

It was a big second inning from both teams and Cortland head coach Ben Albright knew the weather played factor, but the team

didn't respond and went cold the rest of the way.

"We were in the pouring rain, we had to pitch in it and so did they and both teams took advantage of it," Ben Albright said. "We had a bad inning and we kind of let that get away from us and we didn't bounce back."

Ethan Johnson went 2-for-5, Jackson went 1-for-3 with three RBIs, Atkins and Rogoff had a hit and an RBI and Yang, Caden Albright and Tyler Gilbert had a hit.

## CORTLAND 6, SYRACUSE 4

Cortland fell behind 3-0 in the second game, but used a big six-run bottom of the fourth inning to take the lead and outlast Syracuse for a 6-4 win.

Syracuse looked like it had all the momentum early on with a run apiece in the second, third and fourth innings. The third run came after Cortland intentionally walked Jackson Grier with already a runner on and one out. Greco then took advantage of his opportunity and smoked an RBI double to center field. At that point, Syracuse looked in complete control.

Cortland did not back down though, and responded with a huge inning. The Purple Tigers rattled off four hits and got it done on the base paths and with situational hitting.

Rogoff and Jackson opened it up with back-to-back walks, followed by Yang reaching on an error on a sacrifice bunt. Woodard followed with a walk and an RBI to

See SCHOOLS, page 9

## MLB

## Yankees blow late lead to Guardians

By RONALD BLUM  
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Josh Naylor hit a two-run single and Mike Zunino drew a go-ahead, bases-loaded walk in a three-run, ninth-inning rally that lifted the Cleveland Guardians over the reeling New York Yankees 3-2 on Monday night.

After AL MVP Aaron Judge became the latest in a string of Yankees stars on the injured list, Domingo Germán took a one-hitter and a 2-0 lead into the ninth. But New York lost for the sixth time in eight games and dropped to 15-15, the Yankees' first time at .500 since they were 1-1.

Steven Kwan singled with one out, and Yankees manager Aaron Boone was booed when he went to the mound to bring in Clay Holmes.

The reliever bobbled Amed Rosario's dribbler to the third-base side for an error and allowed a single to José Ramírez that loaded the bases.

Naylor, taunted by Yankees fans during last year's Division Series, singled to right for Holmes' second blown save in six chances.

Wandy Peralta relieved and

<b>Guardians</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Yankees</b>	<b>2</b>

MORE BASEBALL, PAGE 8

walked Josh Bell, reloading the bases, then struck out Andrés Giménez. Zunino fouled off a pair of full-count sinkers, then took an inside changeup.

Enyel De Los Santos (2-0) got the final two outs of the eighth in relief of Cal Quantrill, throwing one pitch and picking off a runner. Emmanuel Clase got three straight outs for his 10th save in 12 chances.

Germán allowed just two runners before the ninth, on a one-out single in the first to Rosario and a leadoff walk to Bell in the fifth. The right-hander struck out six and walked one.

New York scored three runs or fewer for the 14th time in 18 games. In addition to Judge, the Yankees' injury-depleted lineup also is missing Giancarlo Stanton, Josh Donaldson and Harrison Bader. Jose Trevino hit his third homer of the season leading off the third, a 425-foot drive into the left-field bleachers on a changeup from Quantrill, who gave up six hits in 7 1/3 innings.

## NHL

## Devils blank Rangers, set to face Hurricanes

By TOM CANAVAN  
AP Sports Writer

NEWARK — Unexpected hero Akira Schmid rebounded from his only bad game and made 31 saves in Game 7 to lead the New Jersey Devils to a 4-0 victory over the New York Rangers on Monday night in an entertaining first-round playoff series.

Michael McLeod and Tomas Tatar scored second-period goals in the series decider and Erik Haula and Jesper Bratt added insurance goals in the third in the game between the long-time Hudson River rivals.

Coming off a franchise best 52-win season, the Devils will open the Eastern Conference semifinals on Wednesday against the Metropolitan Division-winning Hurricanes in Raleigh, North Carolina. Game 2 in the best-of-seven series is on Friday night.

Igor Shesterkin was outstanding in defeat, stopping 20 shots, including Jack Hughes' breakaway late in a scoreless first period.

Schmid who had played in a total of 24 regular season games, was the difference in

<b>Devils</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Rangers</b>	<b>0</b>

MORE HOCKEY PAGE 9

this series, posting two shutouts. After New York had a pair of 5-1 wins in the opening two games in New Jersey against starter Vitek Vanecek, Devils coach Lindy Ruff switched to the 22-year-old Swiss netminder.

Over the next five games, Schmid went 4-1, allowing a total of two goals in his first three games, including a 4-0 shutout in Game 5. He was driven from the net in Game 6 of a 5-2 loss in Madison Square Garden after giving up all five goals, but the Devils went with him in Game 7 and he delivered. Schmid stopped a pair of Mike Zibanejad power-play blasts in the first period and made a great glove save on Vincent Trocheck with the score still 2-0 in the third period.

New Jersey broke things open midway through the second period on plays set up by playoff veteran Ondrej Palat and defenseman John Marino.

# Alvarez' clutch hit sends Mets past Braves for twinbill split

By **JERRY BEACH**  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Francisco Alvarez hit a go-ahead, two-run double in the sixth inning and the New York Mets beat Atlanta 5-3 to split a doubleheader Monday after Braves star Ronald Acuña Jr. exited the nightcap early with a bruised shoulder.

Sean Murphy had a pair of three-run homers in the opener and Acuña launched a 448-foot home run into the rarely reached third deck at Citi Field, powering the Braves to a 9-8 victory after the teams were rained out the previous two days.

The win was just the second in eight games for the Mets, who snapped a six-game losing streak to their NL East rivals.

The Braves won their fifth straight division title last year after sweeping New York on the final weekend of the regular season.

"They're a good team," Mets manager Buck Showalter said. "We know they're going to be there all year."

Daniel Vogelbach hit an RBI double in the nightcap and Starling Marte had a run-scoring single to stake the Mets to a 2-0 lead.

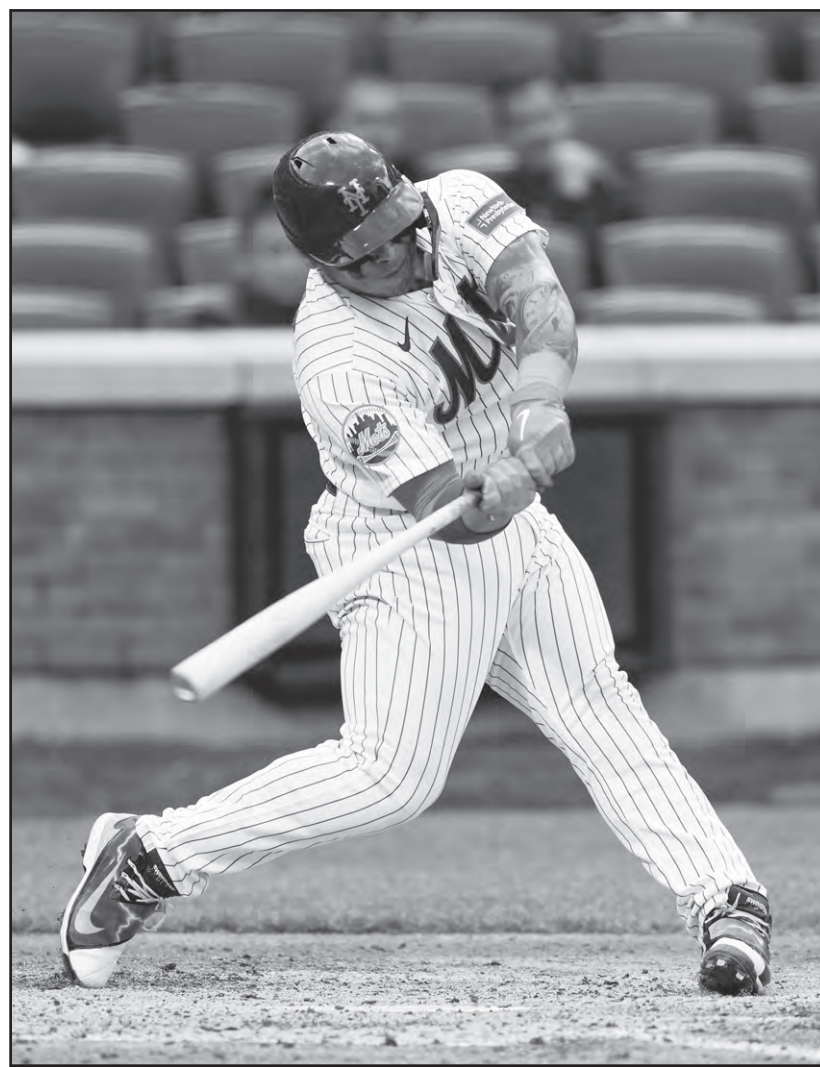
Drew Smith (2-1) tossed 1 1/3 hitless innings in relief of Tylor Megill, who carried a shutout into the sixth before giving up a three-run double to Eddie Rosario.

Vogelbach and Mark Canha drew one-out walks from Charlie Morton (3-3) in the bottom half before Alvarez, who is hitting .212 with 18 strikeouts in his first 52 big league at-bats, doubled to left field off Michael Tonkin.

"It feels really good because I was able to put the team ahead there," Alvarez said through an interpreter. "And it motivates me to keep on trying to do the same and working to do the same."

Jeff McNeil homered leading off the eighth to provide an insurance run for the Mets, who nearly overcame deficits of 6-1 and 9-5 in the opener thanks to a three-run homer by Pete Alonso and solo shots by Brett Baty and pinch-hitter Eduardo Escobar.

David Robertson worked two



The Mets' Francisco Alvarez hits a two-run double Monday during the second game of a doubleheader against the Braves in New York.

scoreless innings in the nightcap for his sixth save — the fourth six-out save of his career.

"You want them to feel good about what they put into today," Showalter said. "You hate to see those guys leave here and not get back something for what they put into today."

## CUBS 5, NATIONALS 1

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dansby Swanson hit a two-run homer and Drew Smyly delivered seven solid innings as the Chicago Cubs bounced back from a rough series at Miami to beat the Washington Nationals 5-1 on Monday night.

Swanson went 3-for-5, includ-

ing a double and his second homer of the season. The 389-foot blast to left-center in the fifth inning made it 4-1 — a welcome advantage for the Cubs, who snapped a three-game skid. All those losses to the Marlins were by one run.

Smyly (3-1) allowed a homer by Lane Thomas in the second inning but cruised from there, throwing just 84 pitches. The left-hander gave up six hits and walked none in his fifth straight start allowing two runs or fewer.

## RED SOX 6, BLUE JAYS 5

BOSTON (AP) — Alex Verdugo belted a leadoff homer in the ninth

inning against Jordan Romano for his third walk-off hit this season, and the Boston Red Sox beat Toronto 6-5 on Monday night to end a nine-game losing streak to the Blue Jays.

Emmanuel Valdez hit his first major league home run, a two-run drive, and Jarren Duran added a solo shot for the Red Sox.

Masataka Yoshida had two hits with an RBI and extended his hitting streak to 11 games for Boston, which had lost its last eight games at Fenway Park against the Blue Jays.

Bo Bichette hit a three-run homer and went 5 for 5 for the Blue Jays, who lost for just the fourth time in 12 games. Bichette was moved into the leadoff spot after George Springer was a late scratch due to illness.

Toronto went 16-3 against the Red Sox last season.

Verdugo also had game-ending hits on Saturday and April 14. This time, he drove a 94 mph fastball from Romano (2-2) into Boston's bullpen in right-center.

Boston shortstop Kiké Hernández made two throwing errors in the eighth when the Blue Jays scored two runs to tie it.

The second came on Vladimir Guerrero Jr.'s grounder that would have been an inning-ending double play but allowed the tying run instead. Josh Winckowski (2-0) pitched two innings of relief.

With the Red Sox trailing 3-2, Duran sent a drive into the center-field seats off José Berríos.

Valdez then sent a 95 mph fastball into the seats following a walk to Triston Casas.

Berríos dropped to one knee in front of the rubber as he watched Valdez's drive sail out.

Coming off seven shutout innings in his previous start, Berríos gave up five runs in 5 1/3 innings.

Boston starter Corey Kluber allowed seven runs in 5 1/3 innings with seven strikeouts and four walks.

Kluber sandwiched walks to Danny Jansen and Kevin Kiermaier around his second strikeout of the second inning before Bichette drove a curveball into the Green Monster seats.

# DH Harper could return to Phillies' lineup today

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Philadelphia Phillies slugger Bryce Harper is expected to return to the lineup today, 160 days after undergoing Tommy John surgery on his right elbow.

The two-time National League MVP indicated on Instagram that an appointment with Dr. Neal ElAttrache on Monday went well and that he was cleared to return.

The Phillies arrived in Los Angeles overnight to begin a three-game series against the Dodgers on Monday. ESPN was the first to report that Harper was cleared.

The timing of the return would complete a stunning recovery for Harper. The Phillies said when Harper had surgery on Nov. 23 that he was expected to return around the All-Star break in mid-July.

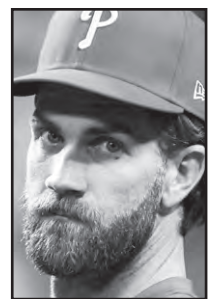
It also comes at a great time for the Phillies, who have won seven of their last nine games. They took two of three from Houston over the weekend in a rematch of last year's World Series. Harper started taking on-field batting practice on April 5. He has been facing live pitching the past couple of weeks, along with doing sliding and baserunning drills.

He was placed on the 10-day injured list at the beginning of the season instead of the 60, which would have not allowed him to return until May 29. Harper is expected to return to the lineup as the Phillies' designated hitter. He has played most of his career in right field but has been recently been taking fielding drills at first base. He threw up to 60 feet during pregame drills on Sunday in Houston.

The 30-year-old Harper first suffered a small ulnar collateral ligament tear in his elbow in April. He had a platelet-rich plasma injection in May and shifted to the DH role. Harper underwent surgery after ElAttrache determined the tear did not heal on its own. Harper hit .286 with 18 homers and 65 RBIs during the regular season as the Phillies made a late-season run to a wild-card spot.

Philadelphia made the World Series for the first time since 2009, losing in six games. Harper batted .349 with six homers and 13 RBIs in 17 postseason games.

He is starting the fifth season of a \$330 million, 13-year contract.



Harper

# MLB left batting average up, game time down 28 minutes

By **RONALD BLUM**  
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Batting average for left-handed hitters was up 13 percentage points through the first full month of the season, an impact of baseball's new rule changes.

The biggest noticeable impact has been when games are ending. Average time of a nine-inning game is 2 hours, 37 minutes, down from 3:05 at the same point last year.

Clubhouse staff and players are getting home while their families are still awake.

"It definitely makes life easier," Cleveland's Shane Bieber, the 2020 AL Cy Young Award winner, said Monday.

Boosted by new rules designed to

speed play and increase action, stolen bases rose 40% to their highest level in nearly a quarter-century and scoring increased by 1.1 runs per game.

Pitch clock violations averaged 0.74, and the New York Mets topped the major leagues with 17 while the Los Angeles Dodgers and Detroit tied for the fewest with four each. Of 313 clock violations, 204 were by pitchers, 91 by batters and four by catchers.

In addition, there were five penalties for batter timeouts, eight for pitcher disengagements and one for violation of the shirt restrictions.

"The data looks really promising so far," Theo Epstein, the former Boston Red Sox and Chicago Cubs executive who consulted on the innovations, said Monday. "The game had been veer-

ing in a direction where the only way to score was hope for a walk and a homer.

And now we're seeing with an increased batting average on balls in play, the increased rate of stolen-base attempts the improved success rate of stolen bases a lot of rallies that start with a single, then you have a stolen base and then you have another single and there's a run. And that's more entertaining."

Limits on infield shifts, a pitch clock and larger bases were implemented in an attempt to counter the impact of the Analytics Era suffocation of offense.

The big league batting average was .248 through 425 games. Lefties hit .247, up from .229 through April last year. Righties are hitting .250, an in-

crease from .234.

Lefty batting average on balls in play went up nine points to .292 and righty BABIP rose seven points to .302.

New York Yankees first baseman Anthony Rizzo thinks he may have gotten 10 additional hits already.

"I'm just throwing a number out there," he said. "You hit the ball well, you obviously want to be rewarded."

Runs have increased to 9.2 from 8.1.

Stolen bases average 1.4 per game — with a 79.2% success rate, up from 1.0 steals and a 75.5% success rate. The average is the highest since 1999, according to the Elias Sports Bureau, and the success rate the highest on record.

Houston third baseman Alex Bregman has noticed the speedier games after foul balls.

"You got to like run back to your position and you're out of breath, ready to go for the next player," he said. "It's going to be interesting to see how the pressure-packed playoff games are played at rapid-fire speed like that."

Statcast's time between pitches, which starts 6 seconds ahead of the clock, ranged between 11.1 seconds (Cooper Criswell) and 19.0 (Andrew Bellatti), down from last year's 12.6 (Brent Sutter) to 25.8 (Giovanny Gallegos and Jonathan Loáisiga).

Michael Kopech dropped from 21.1 to 13.2, Tanner Houck from 20.3 to 13.1 and Shohei Ohtani to 21.7 to 15.3.

"How many hours during the course of the rest of my career is that going to save?" said Yankees pitcher Gerrit Cole, who cut from 17.6 to 13.9.

## National Basketball Association: Playoffs

# Harden scores 45, hits late 3 as 76ers down Celtics 119-115

By **KYLE HIGHTOWER**  
AP Sports Writer

BOSTON — James Harden matched his playoff career high with 45 points and hit a go-ahead, step-back 3-pointer over Al Horford with 8.7 seconds left as the Philadelphia 76ers rallied without Joel Embiid to beat the Boston Celtics 119-115 in Game 1 of their Eastern Conference semifinal matchup on Monday night.

Tyrese Maxey added 26 points and Tobias Harris finished with 18 for the Sixers, who made 17 3-pointers in the absence of MVP finalist Embiid, who sat out with the sprained right knee he sustained in Game 3 of Philadelphia's first-round series against the Brooklyn Nets.

Jayson Tatum led the Celtics with 39 points and 11 rebounds. Jaylen Brown added 23 points and Malcolm Brogdon finished with 20.

Boston hosts Game 2 tomorrow night.

Harden previously scored 45 points for the Houston Rockets in a Western Conference Finals win over Golden State on May 25, 2015.

Trailing 117-115, the Celtics had one final chance to salvage the game and start the Eastern Conference semifinal with a victory and put the ball in the hands of Tatum, but he lost the ball to Paul Reed, who was fouled and hit a pair of free throws.

The game was tied at 87-all entering the back-and-forth final period.

Tatum gave the Celtics their final lead, 115-114, on a pair of free throws with 26.1 seconds left.



Philadelphia guard James Harden shoots against Celtics guard Malcolm Brogdon, right, Monday in Boston.

Before that, Boston took the shot clock down before Maxey intercepted a pass by Brogdon and drove in for a layup to put the 76ers back in front, 114-113.

Boston led 108-107 when Harden was called for an offensive foul on Horford. On the ensuing possession, Horford found Marcus Smart, who was fouled on a layup. He completed the three-

point play to make it 111-107.

Maxey responded with a three-point play of his own.

The game was knotted at 102 when Brogdon got free on a fast break, took a pass from Tatum and dropped in a layup with 5:04 remaining.

After the play, P.J. Tucker appeared to swing wildly in frustration and made contact with Tatum. It led to a brief scrum that was broken up by officials.

Reed took Embiid's place in the starting lineup, like he did with Embiid out for the final game of the Nets series.

As expected, Embiid's absence in the middle contributed to a faster pace.

Both teams used it to their advantage.

The Celtics attacked the paint, connecting on 13 of their first 14 shots. The 76ers made eight of their first 10 attempts, spacing the floor well and spreading out Boston's defense.

Harden led the attack early for Philadelphia, hitting his first five shot attempts. Of those attempts two included three-pointers.

Brown started 6 for 6 from the field for a Boston team that thrived without Embiid protecting the rim. The team went on an 11-0 run at one point. Boston shot 74% for the half but took only a 66-63 lead into halftime after the 76ers went 11 for 19 (55%) from the 3-point line.

Western Conference, Game 2  
NUGGETS 97, SUNS 87

# Transfer exodus at Colo. unprecedented in portal era

By RALPH D. RUSSO  
AP College Football Writer

Deion Sanders arrived at Colorado in December with much fanfare and a blunt message to Buffaloes players who had just endured a 1-11 season under the previous coaching regime.

Be ready to transfer, the new head coach told them in his first team meeting.

NCAA

“We got a few positions already taken care of because I’m bringing my own luggage with me,” Sanders said. “And it’s Louis, OK.”

Does Louis Vuitton sell in bulk?

Colorado has had a total of 52 scholarship players enter the transfer portal in the five months since the Pro Football Hall of Famer was hired away from Jackson State. The pace picked up rapidly last month:

The spring transfer period in college football closed Sunday night with 43 scholarship players

— the equivalent of half a roster — from Sanders’ program having entered the portal since more than 40,000 fans showed up at Folsom Field in Boulder for Colorado’s spring game on April 15.

It is unprecedented turnover in this new era of loosened transfer rules, and almost double that total of the next largest number of players entering the portal among the 11 Power Five programs with a new head coach.

Arizona State is next with 27 scholarships players entering the portal since coach Kenny Dilling-

ham was hired Nov. 27. The Sun Devils had 11 players jump in the portal during the spring window, which ran from April 15-30.

Nebraska has had 23 scholarship players enter the portal since Matt Rhule was hired the day after Thanksgiving.

At the other end, Stanford had 13 players, all graduates, go into the portal after former coach David Shaw resigned, but only three more players have entered since coach Troy Taylor was hired Dec. 10.

NHL

# Stanley Cup race filled with first-round chaos

By STEPHEN WHYNO  
AP Hockey Writer

Chaos is usually the name of the game in the first round of the NHL playoffs, with eight series rolling and plenty of upsets. This year was no different.

The Presidents’ Trophy-winning Boston Bruins who set records for the best regular season in hockey history? Gone.

The defending Stanley Cup champion Colorado Avalanche? Also gone.

The Tampa Bay Lightning who had gone to the final each of the past three years? You guessed it, gone.

The Toronto Maple Leafs are now the favorites to win the team’s first championship since 1967, according to FanDuel Sportsbook, fresh off winning their first playoff series in nearly two decades.

Connor McDavid and the Edmonton Oilers are also favored to come out of the West in another bid to end Canada’s 30-year Cup drought.

With the exception of the 2020 bubble and 2021 season with only in-division play, the league has bracketed its playoffs and not reseeded after the first round since 2014. That system had led to plenty of griping about top teams in the same division meeting earlier, but upsets this year have changed the entire face of the playoffs. More upheaval could be ahead in the second round, which starts Tuesday and features three first-time playoff matchups — just the sixth time that has happened at this stage of the postseason since 1944 and the first time since 2003.



Maple Leafs center John Tavares, right, celebrates his game-winning goal against the Lightning during overtime in Game 6 Saturday, in Tampa, Florida.

Associated Press

hand in Game 2 against the New York Islanders).

They advanced with a Game 6 overtime road victory set up by Derek Stepan and finished by fellow veteran depth forward Paul Stastny, who scored the winning goal. Carolina will face the winner of the first-round finale: Game 7 between the New York Rangers and the New Jersey Devils late Monday.

**KRAKEN vs. STARS**

(Game 1: Tonight 9:30 p.m. EDT, ESPN)

Like the Maple Leafs, Dallas gets home ice thanks to a first-round upset after defeating Minnesota to move on to the second round. The Stars have one of the best goaltenders left in the field: Jake Oettinger,

who had a .929 save percentage against the Wild.

**OILERS vs. GOLDEN KNIGHTS**

(Game 1: Wednesday, TBD)

Vegas finished off Winnipeg in five games. Edmonton came back from multiple series deficits — and an ill-timed broken stick — to beat Los Angeles in six.

Now, McDavid and Jack Eichel face off in the playoffs for the first time since being picked first and second in the 2015 draft by the Oilers and Sabres.

Eichel’s time in Buffalo ended with a trade to the Golden Knights, and he’s thriving in the desert with Vegas back in the playoffs in Bruce Cassidy’s first season as coach.

**PANTHERS vs. MAPLE LEAFS**

(Game 1: Tonight, 7 p.m. EDT (ESPN))

Toronto now has home-ice advantage in the second round and plenty of confidence following an emotional series win against Tampa Bay. The Leafs core of Auston Matthews, Mitch Marner, William Nylander and Morgan Rielly had lost its opening series six consecutive years.

**DEVILS or RANGERS vs. HURRICANES**

(Game 1: Wednesday, TBD)

The Hurricanes are in the second round despite playing without injured forwards Andrei Svechnikov (torn ACL in March) and Teuvo Teravainen (broken

# Presidents’ Trophy curse hit stellar Bruins

By JIMMY GOLEN  
AP Sports Writer

BOSTON — The Presidents’ Trophy curse was too strong — even for a team coming off the best regular season in NHL history.

After a record-setting year, the Boston Bruins failed to get out of the first round of the playoffs, losing to the Florida Panthers in overtime in seven games on Sunday night.

And suddenly, Boston fans who were eagerly planning for two parades — the Celtics are primed for a long playoff run, too — instead are wondering where this Bruins’ collapse ranks among the city’s all-time worst.

## SCHOOLS

continued from page 7

make it 3-1. Owen Johnson then struck out for the first out, but Atkins poked a two-run single to right field the next at bat to tie the game. After that, the offense came alive as Cortland consistently put the ball in play.

Partigianoni hit a fly ball to left field, but the ball was dropped by Joseph Ilacqua, allowing a run to score and giving Cortland the lead. Caden Albright continued the inning with an RBI single, then Ethan Johnson and Rogoff hit back-to-back singles with Rogoff’s tallying an RBI to make it 6-3.

Ethan Johnson also started the game on the mound but was pulled in the top of the fourth and his brother Owen took over and shut the door for Cortland despite allowing an unearned run in the top of the sixth.

The win snapped Cortland’s three-game losing streak, but without the big fourth inning, the story could have played out different. Ben Albright was happy to get the win but knows the team needs to snap out of the frustrations that are taking over.

“It was nice we battled back and we showed we can swing the bats,” Ben Albright said. “We are kind of at this point where guys are starting to get frustrated with their individual play but that’s not what we are about. This is about our team needing to compete

“It’s not the outcome you want, and we’re extremely disappointed,” said Bruins captain Patrice Bergeron, who teased retirement after last season but returned for one more run at the Stanley Cup. “Especially with the team we had. It’s not where we want to be.”

The Bruins fired coach Bruce Cassidy after a first-round exit last year and replaced him with Jim Montgomery, then coaxed Bergeron and David Krejci away from possible retirement in the hopes of getting a second NHL title in a dozen years. They won 17 of their first 19 games and did not lose in regulation at home until mid-January.

General manager Don Sweeney add-

ed Dmitry Orlov and Garnet Hathaway at the trade deadline for toughness. Linus Ullmark developed into a Vezina Trophy runaway as the best goalie in the league, with Jeremy Swayman rotating in for one of the most productive tandems in history.

Put it all together and it added up to NHL records of 65 wins and 135 points. But the same playoff disappointment.

“I’m proud of everything we’ve accomplished with this group,” Bergeron said. “It’s a special group on many levels. The individuals we have ... Obviously, it’s far from the outcome that we wanted.”

until the end.”

The schedule does not get much more forgiving, as Cortland is set to take on Auburn on back-to-back nights Thursday and Friday. The Purple Tigers are now 9-3 on the season and still in very good shape, but their head coach knows more needs to be done and what will need to happen in order to put the frustrations and inconsistencies behind them.

“Right now we need some guys to step up and we need to get a little bit tougher mentally,” Ben Albright said. “It’s not going to be the same person every time getting it done, it could be anybody. We need to stay behind each other and not put our heads down. Our pitchers got to throw strikes too. The biggest thing for us has been the freebies, whether it’s a walk, hit by pitch or errors. We can’t let the mistakes take over. We got to cut down on them.”

Cortland’s first game against Auburn comes at 5 p.m. Thursday at Gutches Lumber Sports Complex.

**SOFTBALL**

**MARATHON 14, MORAVIA 13**

Marathon held off Moravia’s six-run seventh inning comeback thanks to Marissa Allen’s 1-for-2 day that included three walks and two runs scored.

Audrey Jasper notched two hits and two runs, Ellery Ensign doubled, had two RBIs and scored once, Izzy Conk-

lin had two hits and two runs, Brook Morsey had a hit, two walks and two runs, Melodie Sutton drew three walks, was hit by a pitch and scored once, Delaney Reilly drew four walks and scored a run, Ashlynn Layton took three walks and scored once and Cassie Forrest scored a run.

Maeve Green doubled and scored twice to lead Moravia’s offense. Gabby Heim drew three walks and scored twice, Brooke Proper and Brooklyn Lott each drew a walk and scored twice, Lashley Castillo drew a walk and scored once, Kylie Cooper scored twice and Alexis Freier and Corinne Leonard each scored once.

**GIRLS LACROSSE**

**WESTHILL 17,**

**SOUTHERN HILLS 6**

Aliyah Mattox and Kensington Keane each scored three unassisted goals for Southern Hills, with Mattox adding two ground balls and Keane securing a ground ball, a draw control and a forced turnover.

Ava Spicer added four draw controls, Mackenzie Loughlin had two ground balls and a draw control, Bella Shenandoah-Kurtz forced two turnovers, Charlotte Hourigan and Maddie Simmons each had a ground ball and draw control and Sam Garback scooped up a ground ball.

Kiera Reed made 11 saves between

the posts for the Storm.

**UPCOMING SCHEDULE**

**BASEBALL**  
Marcellus at Homer, 5 p.m. today at Gutches Lumber  
McGraw at Brookfield, 4:30 p.m. today  
Madison at DeRuyter, 4:30 p.m. today  
Trumansburg at Dryden, 5 p.m. Wednesday  
Tully at A-P-W, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday  
Moravia at Southern Cayuga, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday

**SOFTBALL**  
Marcellus at Homer, 4:30 p.m. today  
McGraw at Brookfield, 4:30 p.m. today  
Moravia at Groton, 4:30 p.m. today  
Madison at Cincinnati, 4:30 p.m. today  
Weedsport at Tully, 4:30 p.m. today  
Cortland at Homer, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday  
Groton at Trumansburg, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday  
Dryden at Union Springs, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday  
A-P-W at Tully, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday  
DeRuyter at Brookfield, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday

**BOYS LACROSSE**  
East Syracuse-Minoa at Cortland, 7 p.m. today  
Westhill at Tully/F-P, 4:30 p.m. today  
Watkins Glen at Dryden, 7 p.m. Wednesday

**GIRLS LACROSSE**  
Chittenango at Homer, 6:30 p.m. today  
Clinton at Southern Hills, 6:30 p.m. today at Tully High School

**TRACK & FIELD**  
Cortland at PSLA at Fowler, 5 p.m. Wednesday  
Homer at Syracuse, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday at Henninger High School  
Cincinnati at DeRuyter, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday  
Tully at A-P-W, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday

**BOYS GOLF**  
Candor, Whitney Point at Dryden, 3:15 p.m. today at Elm Tree Golf Course  
Union Springs/Port Byron at Moravia, 3:30 p.m. today at Fillmore Glen Golf Course  
Moravia at Dryden, 3:15 p.m. Wednesday at Elm Tree Golf Course

**GIRLS GOLF**  
Moravia at Candor, 4:30 p.m. today at Catatunk Golf Course  
Moravia at Odessa-Montour, 3:30 p.m. Wednesday at Hillendale Golf Course

**BOYS TENNIS**  
Marcellus at Homer, 4:30 p.m. today  
Moravia at Lansing, 4:30 p.m. today  
Cortland at East Syracuse-Minoa, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday  
Homer at LaFayette, 4:30 p.m. Wednesday

NFL

# Bills sign RB Murray for 1 year

By JOHN WAWROW  
AP Sports Writer

ORCHARD PARK — Running back Latavius Murray sat down in front of the camera and apologized for being late for his Zoom conference call with reporters shortly after signing a one-year deal with the Buffalo Bills on Monday.

Fifteen minutes is nothing compared to how long Murray had to wait last year before extending his NFL career to an 11th season. Murray had already lined up a job as a volunteer high school coach when he was signed to the New Orleans Saints practice squad in September. The 33-year-old can put aside switching careers for another season based on how productive he was in closing last season in Denver. He joins a playoff contender in Buffalo, in a move that also brings him closer to his hometown of Syracuse, where his mother still resides.

“You do have some doubts, just, you know, ‘Am I going to get another opportunity?’” Murray said, reflecting on last offseason.

After appearing in one game in New Orleans, Murray was signed off the Saints practice squad and finished with 703 yards rushing and five TDs in 12 games with Denver.

“It’s just so crazy how it works, just the fact that I could go out in Denver and do what I thought I knew I could do,” Murray said.

A sixth-round draft pick in 2013 out of Central Florida, Murray is on his sixth NFL team, including two stints with the Saints, and is the league’s active leader in scoring at least four touchdowns rushing in eight consecutive seasons.



Murray

# TITLE

continued from page 7

with the boys until she was about 12 years old, when she started to play with girls teams in Syracuse.

Cranfield loved the game so much that she couldn’t handle the limited amount of time she had on the ice with her girls team, so she reunited with the boys she used to play with on the Cortland/Homer school team.

“We only practiced two times a week, so last year I decided on a whim that I was going to try out for the boys team,” Cranfield said. “I knew I wouldn’t be playing a lot, but I just wanted to be on the ice every single day and I definitely made tons of improvements.”

According to Cranfield, they picked right back up from where they were at 12 and 13 years old.

“Oh, they did not pull back at all,” Cranfield said with a smile. “I played with all of those boys since I was three, so it was back like old times.”

Despite having a run to a national title in full swing, Cranfield still devoted herself to the Golden Eagles’ run to a 17-win season. She was able to stay locked in on all the goals she had set for both teams.

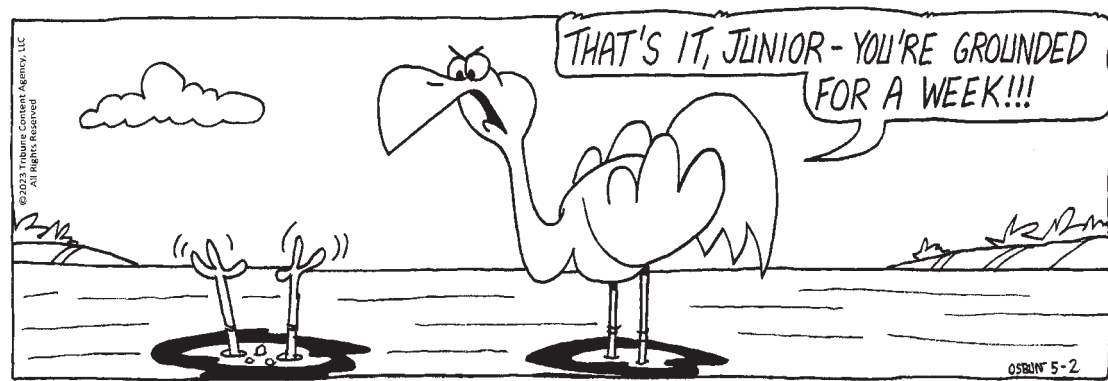
“I was just as invested in their season,” Cranfield said. “My goal for the season, I talked with the coaches, since my hockey IQ is so good to make theirs better.”

“I just took it one hour at a time,” she added. “I’d be at boys practice, have to get undressed super quick and leave my stuff outside the locker room because I couldn’t go in there, then immediately hop in the car and head up to girls practice where we would focus on a lot of different stuff.”

Her run on the rink ended with a national title, but Cranfield was well aware that it could’ve ended sooner. She made the decision to play lacrosse in college a week before the national tournament, adding to the pressure she was playing with in California.

“Knowing that I’m playing lacrosse in college and not hockey, knowing that any of those games could’ve been my last game all bundled up into one that I was nervous for all of them,” Cranfield said.

### ANIMAL CRACKERS



### HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



### BABY BLUES



### HI AND LOIS



### BEEBLE BAILEY



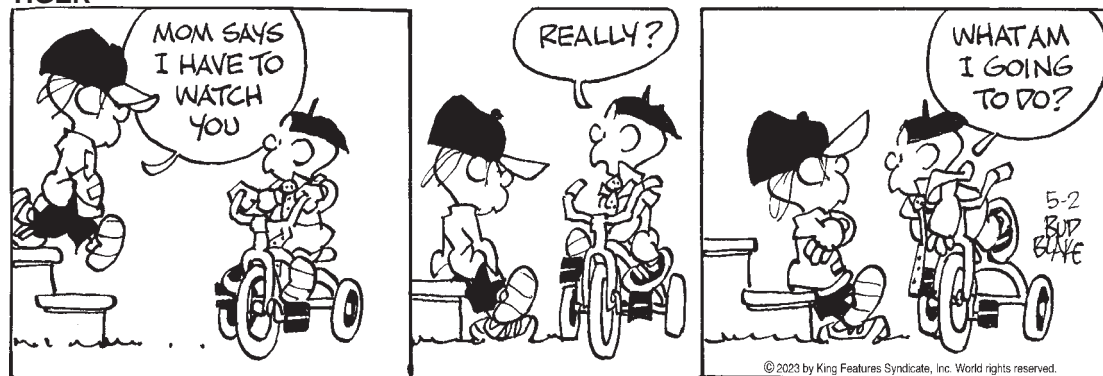
### MUTTS



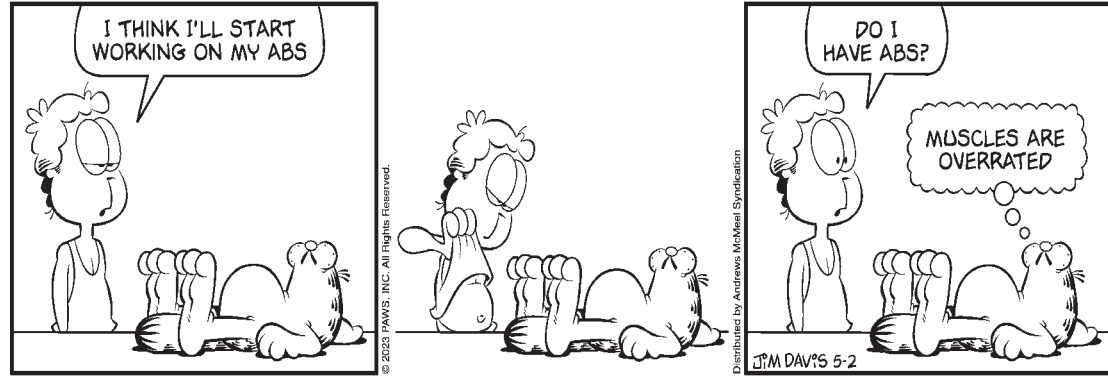
### DUSTIN



### TIGER



### GARFIELD



### ZITS



## Astrological Forecast

By Magi Helena  
Wednesday, May 3, 2023

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** You may be taken in by someone's flattery. Just because you are trustworthy does not always mean that you can expect someone else to be as dependable or available in a crunch. Surface appearances may be deceptive.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** There are some things you cannot take at face value. You may enjoy some fascinating conversations or learn something that alters your opinions. However, you may be gullible when it comes to a new purchase.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Your kindness and sympathy might be somewhat misplaced but could still bring a warm glow to everyone's heart. A barrage of conflicting opinions could be confusing, but if you are patient the best choice should become apparent.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Not every knock on the door is an opportunity. You may react too quickly and take a risk because you expect everything to go your way. It might be better to wait and take your time before spending your cash.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Dissecting every comment may not be constructive. You might only hear what you wish to hear or miss the fine print in advertising materials. Delay negotiations or important purchases for now to avoid misunderstandings.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** If you're feeling insecure, remind yourself of large and small things you are proud of. If you get triggered when challenged or facing unexpected changes, do some self-work. Hold off on making major purchases.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Keep your end of a bargain. You will regret it later if you slack off or forget to perform a task that seems unimportant now. You might feel that you have gotten in over your head if you have made a weighty promise.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** You could find a solution on your own, but the innovative ideas of a friend or partner may be more useful. You owe it to a family member, friend or co-worker to follow through on your promises and decisions.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Someone close may hide their hurt feelings or discomfort. Remain observant and try to bring a dose of positivity and good humor. You should easily manage an unexpected change of plan.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** You may not be at your best right now so hold off on important business meetings or serious decisions. A family member might have an intriguing idea that will help you achieve one of your goals.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Think twice before you replace something old with something new. It might seem necessary to abandon something that no longer fits in your home or lifestyle, but wait. It may prove more useful to keep.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** You or someone you know can be contrary today. When it is obvious that someone needs assistance, they may feel resentful of any help offered. Consider opening your heart and home to a rescue pet.

**IF MAY 3 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** Your friendships and the new contacts you meet through organizations and group activities might grow in importance and influence during the next several weeks. When June arrives, your competitiveness could shift into high gear so find appropriate outlets where you can be a leader without stepping on anyone's toes. You could meet an ideal romantic partner, be filled with realistic ideas or embark on a vacation that fulfills your fantasies in late July. Embrace any opportunity that drops in your lap as it could lead to bigger and better things.

## Sudoku

Fun By The Numbers

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

4	7			1	8			6
			7					
8			5		4	9	2	7
					6		3	2
	1		8	2		4		
				5			9	
	4			3				8
1		2			8		3	
	8	3	6					4

Level: Beginner

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

5	9	2	7	1	7	8	6	3
6	7	8	9	5	8	7	2	9
1	8	9	2	8	6	5	4	7
8	6	1	7	9	3	4	2	9
9	5	4	7	8	1	7	8	1
2	5	2	7	6	4	1	8	6
8	3	1	5	6	9	9	8	3
7	2	7	6	9	4	1	8	6
4	7	1	8	3	6	7	9	2
4	7	9	2	1	8	5	6	3

ANSWER:

## Cryptoquote

A XYDLBAA XR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-2 CRYPTOQUOTE

X M A G E H M S V X N D L H G E K T U D ,

I X V ! — H G ' C X I D X P G H Q P K

V D X K . — D V D F H K K X S X C C D

**Yesterday's Cryptoquote:** A PARTY WITHOUT CAKE IS REALLY JUST A MEETING. — JULIA CHILD

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS** 43 Swift  
1 Looks forward to  
7 Labyrinth  
11 Malay island  
12 Weary sigh  
13 Face a difficulty  
15 Casts a ballot  
16 Prayer ender  
18 Turn to slush  
21 Recipe instruction  
22 Singer Harry  
24 Old calamity  
25 Halloween cry  
26 Director Spike  
27 Tickled  
29 Ore source  
30 Rigging support  
31 Wagers parties  
32 Fancy fighting  
40 Heaps  
41 "Search me"  
42 Like lawns in the morning

**DOWN** 1 Jackson 5 hit  
2 Court  
3 Sleeve filler  
4 Indignant cry  
5 Wyoming's Range  
6 Chimney grime  
7 Squishy and wet  
8 Boxing great  
9 Ray-gun sound  
10 Snaky shape  
11 Influence  
12 Molecule of makeup  
13 Confusion  
14 Dole out  
15 Hoe targets  
16 Massage setting  
17 Lawn material  
18 Notice work  
19 Floppy top  
20 Protection from harm  
21 Caron of "Gigi"  
22 Jazz style  
23 Heaps  
24 Scoundrel  
25 Bullfight cry  
26 Do a yard job  
27 Exalted work  
28 Tie the knot  
29 Utter

**Yesterday's answer**

O	B	A	M	A	S	E	C	T	S
P	A	P	A	S	I	G	L	O	O
T	R	E	Y	S	G	O	A	T	S
	F	E	R	N	M	O			
T	O	O	L	S	H	E	D		
U	N	D	O		O	R	A	T	E
S	T	O	W	S	S	Y	R	I	A
K	O	R	E	A	N		F	U	N
						R	O	O	T
V	A	T				T	R	I	O
A	L	I	T	O		A	W	A	R
S	T	E	A	M		R	E	C	U
T	O	R	R	E		A	R	E	N

## Word of the Day

**gravamen (gruh-VAY-mun)**  
Definition: (noun) a formal word that refers to the significant part of a complaint or grievance.  
Example: The gravamen of Walter's letter to the editor was that the newspaper frequently reports on the school system's failures but rarely covers its successes and improvements.  
— Courtesy Merriam-Webster Online

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Deadline for ad run start dates of Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and/or Friday is 11:00 a.m. the day prior.  
Saturday and Monday ad run start dates is the prior Friday at 11:00 a.m.

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or omission of an ad the first day of publication. We are responsible for only ONE INCORRECT INSERTION for the part of an ad that ran incorrectly.

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- BABY-SITTING
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- TELEPHONE TOLL - CALLS
- WANTED TO RENT
- HOUSE CLEANING
- NO TELEPHONE - LISTING
- SUBLETTING
- APARTMENT-SHARING

### HELP WANTED



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TST BOCES is hiring a Transportation Coordinator to provide training, technical assistant and transportation staff development support to the areas public school districts.  
Apply online by 5/8/23. [www.tompkinscountyny.gov/personnel](http://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/personnel).  
Detailed posting: [www.tstboces.org](http://www.tstboces.org)  
TST BOCES, 555 Warren Rd., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850, Phone (607) 257-1551, Fax: (607) 697-8273, Email: [hr@tstboces.org](mailto:hr@tstboces.org)

### HELP WANTED

## TST BOCES

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Provide Nursing leadership, managing the health services programs within BOCES or provide routine nursing services for students with special needs and/or students in general education. NYS RN License and a valid drivers license required for both positions.  
Supervising Nurse requires 2 years of previous school nurse experience.  
Apply online by 5/31/23. [www.tompkinscountyny.gov/personnel](http://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/personnel).  
Detailed posting: [www.tstboces.org](http://www.tstboces.org)  
TST BOCES, 555 Warren Rd., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850, Phone (607) 257-1551, Fax: (607) 697-8273, Email: [hr@tstboces.org](mailto:hr@tstboces.org)

**Fiscal Officer #61-786**  
**Examination Date:** 6/10/2023  
**Last Filing Date:** 05/24/23 by 4:30 PM

Send CIVIL SERVICE applications to Cortland County Personnel Civil Service, 60 Central Ave., Cortland, NY 13045. Applications must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the last filing date. [www.cortland-co.org/personnel](http://www.cortland-co.org/personnel) EOE/MF

**Experienced Interior Trim & Drywall position open @ Interstate Homes.**  
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The work involves answering 911 and emergency calls for police, fire and EMS (medical). Dispatching police, firefighters, paramedics to the scene of emergencies. Operating multiple computers, radios, telephones and a variety of other emergency communications equipment.  
High degree of alertness, accuracy and a steady demeanor in responding to crisis situations.  
24/7/365 work environment with shift work, weekends and holidays.  
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**IF YOU PREVIOUSLY APPLIED AND WERE NOT SELECTED YOU NEED TO REAPPLY FOR THESE OPEN POSITIONS AS A TEST IS NO LONGER REQUIRED**  
More information/application available at [cortland-co.org](http://cortland-co.org) or from the County Personnel office at 60 Central Avenue (607) 753-5076

**Homer Schools School Nurse (LPN)**  
Licensed Practical Nurse to work with children of all ages. Work schedule with holidays, school vacations including summer and weekends off. Must have license and current registration to practice as an RN or LPN. Applicants should complete an application at the Cortland County Civil Service Office, 60 Central Ave., Cortland or [www.homercentral.org](http://www.homercentral.org).

**Homer Schools School Nurse (LPN)**  
Licensed Practical Nurse to work with children of all ages. Work schedule with holidays, school vacations including summer and weekends off. Must have license and current registration to practice as an RN or LPN. Applicants should complete an application at the Cortland County Civil Service Office, 60 Central Ave., Cortland or [www.homercentral.org](http://www.homercentral.org).

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**TOWN OF LINCKLAEN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**  
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Applicants must possess a clean Class B CDL license and have good work ethics. Interested parties may pick up an application at the Lincklaen Town Clerk's Office, 568 Union Valley Rd Pitcher, NY 13136. Mon & Thurs, 4-6pm, Tues 8am-12 pm. Questions- call 315-440-8872.

**The LaFayette Central School District**  
is accepting bids for a Sugar Shack Kit. Interested parties can contact the District Office for specifications at 315-677-5504. All bids should be submitted by 3:00 pm on May 10, 2023 to: Laurie Holtsbery, Business Administrator 5955 Route 20 West LaFayette, New York 13084

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◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆  
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## Contract Bridge

### To draw or not to draw trump

North dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ A J 7 2  
♥ 7  
♦ A 9 8 3  
♣ A 6 5 4  
**WEST**  
♠ K 10 5  
♥ 6 5  
♦ J 10 4 2  
♣ Q 9 7 3  
**EAST**  
♠ Q 8 6 4 3  
♥ A 10 9 3  
♦ Q 7  
♣ J 10  
**SOUTH**  
♠ 9  
♥ K Q J 8 4 2  
♦ K 6 5  
♣ K 8 2

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass  
1♠ Pass 3♥ Pass  
3NT Pass 4♥

Opening lead — three of clubs.  
Whenever declarer plays a suit contract, he is faced with the question of when or whether to draw the opposing trumps. Unfortunately, it is impossible to formulate a perfect rule to cover this vexing problem. Hands simply vary too much from one deal to the next for anyone to devise a cure-all that provides all the answers.

What can be said is that in general, a declarer draws trump unless there is a good reason not to. How he makes this determination is mostly a matter of using good judgment.

Consider this deal where West leads a club against four hearts and South must decide whether to tackle the trump suit right away. Let's suppose he wins the club with the king and plays the king of hearts. East wins and returns a club to dummy's ace.

Declarer crosses to his hand with a diamond and plays the Q-J of hearts, hoping for a 3-3 break. When West shows out on the third round, South must go down one, losing a diamond, a club and two hearts.

The trouble with this approach is that declarer, in effect, stakes the contract solely on a 3-3 trump division. Instead, he should shape his play so that he has a chance to make the contract even if the hearts are divided 4-2.

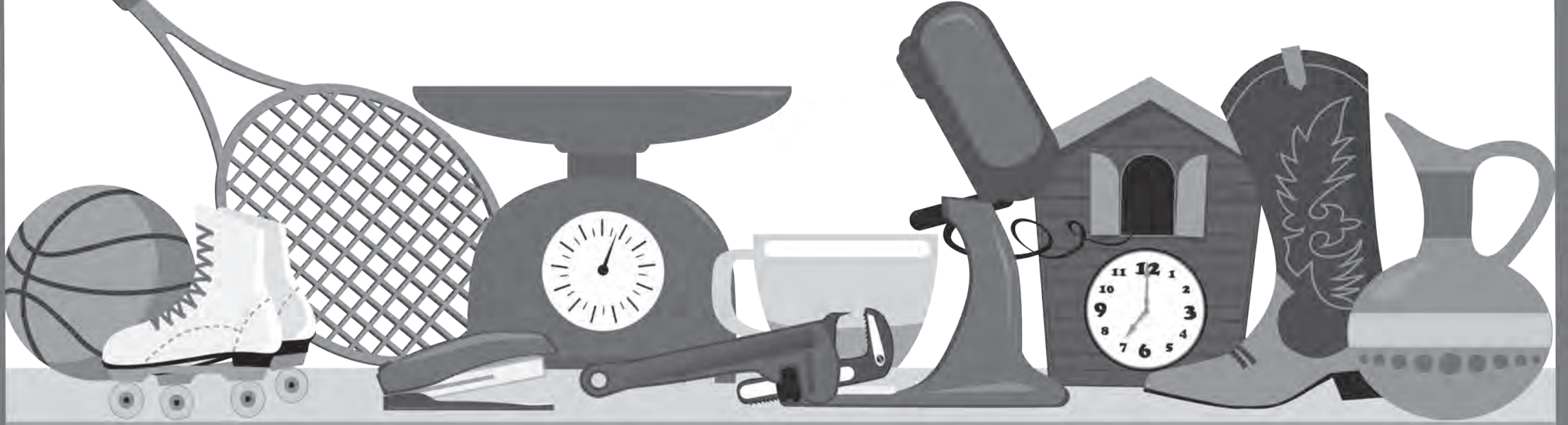
After winning the first club with the king, he should lead a spade to the ace and ruff a spade. Now he plays the king of hearts. East takes the ace and returns a club. Declarer wins in dummy and ruffs another spade, then plays the Q-J of hearts, revealing the 4-2 trump division.

It is here that South's advance preparation pays off. He cashes the K-A of diamonds and then ruffs dummy's last spade with his last trump to produce his 10th trick. In this way, South scores five trump tricks despite the 4-2 division, in addition to the five side-suit tricks he has in aces and kings.

Tomorrow: Charting your course of play.  
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## CNN says Trump to appear in NH town hall

NEW YORK (AP) — As president, Donald Trump frequently derided CNN as “fake news.” Now that he’s running again, Trump has agreed to appear on a live town hall forum from New Hampshire next week for CNN viewers.

The event, scheduled for May 10 at St. Anselm’s College in Goffstown, New Hampshire, will be televised at 9 p.m. Eastern. Kaitlan Collins will moderate. Trump will take questions from Republicans and undeclared voters who are planning to participate in the 2024 GOP primary.

Although Trump has taken audience questions at some rallies and has been interviewed by Sean Hannity and Tucker Carlson in recent weeks on Fox News, this is his first town hall-style event of the 2024 campaign.

The booking is a clear attempt by Trump to draw a contrast with Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, an expected GOP presidential primary opponent. It is also a big deal for slumping CNN as it works to get beyond the era of former leader Jeff Zucker.

Trump never gave an interview to a CNN journalist while he was president.

A Trump adviser who was not authorized to speak publicly said stepping outside of the traditional comfort zone for Republicans was key to Trump’s success in 2016. The adviser said CNN executives made a compelling pitch to Trump.

DeSantis has worked to avoid the mainstream media throughout his time in his office, but he is a regular on Fox News, a popular destination for conservative viewers.

DeSantis has long refused to sit for interviews or take questions with other media outlets who might ask more difficult questions. When he does have news conferences, he often holds them far from the Florida capital and with little advance notice, making it tough for journalists who know Florida politics best to attend.

As he traveled across the nation in recent weeks as part of his book tour, DeSantis usually avoided taking questions from voters or local reporters, aside from isolated interviews with conservative media.



Law enforcement officers wait at the end of a road after a possible shooting suspect sighting Monday near Conroe, Texas. Associated Press

## Search for Texas gunman drags on

CLEVELAND, Texas (AP) — Authorities on Monday still had not captured a gunman in Texas who killed five neighbors, and as the search dragged through a third day with false alarms and few apparent leads, Republican Gov. Greg Abbott faced backlash over drawing attention to the victims’ immigration status.

An FBI agent on the scene near Houston acknowledged they have little to go on in the widening manhunt for 38-year-old Francisco Oropeza, who has been deported four times since 2009, but who neighbors say lived on their street for years prior to Friday night’s shooting in the rural town of Cleveland.

Twice on Monday, a sheriff’s office in a neighboring county alerted the public about possible sightings, but neither turned up Oropeza.

Abbott offered a \$50,000 reward over the weekend for any tips that might lead to the gunman, and while doing so, the three-term governor described all the victims as “illegal immigrants” — a potentially false statement that his office walked back and apologized for Monday. Critics accused Abbott, who has made hardline immigration measures a signature issue in Texas, of putting politics into the shooting.

“We’ve since learned that at least one of the victims may have been in the United States legally,” Abbott spokeswoman Renae Eze said in a statement. “We regret if the information was incorrect and detracted from the important goal of finding and arresting the criminal.”

Eze said information provided by federal officials after the shooting had indicated that the suspect and victims were in the country illegally. Her statement did not address why Abbott mentioned their status in his original statement and she did not immediately respond to questions about the criticism.

More than 250 law enforcement officers from multiple agencies, including the U.S. Marshals, are now part of a growing search that has come

up empty despite additional manpower, scent-tracking dogs and a total of \$80,000 in reward money on the table. On Monday, a heavy presence of police converged in Montgomery County after a possible sighting, but the sheriff’s office later said none of the persons were found to be Oropeza.

A few hours later, the department reported another possible sighting, tweeting that several schools had “secured their campuses” and again asked residents to avoid the area. But that search, too, came up empty.

Both were among the first times since the shooting that authorities had announced a possible sighting.

“I can tell you right now, we have zero leads,” James Smith, the FBI special agent in charge, said Sunday.

Oropeza is considered armed and dangerous after fleeing the area Friday night, likely on foot. San Jacinto County Sheriff Greg Capers said authorities had widened the search area beyond the scene of the shooting, which occurred after the suspect’s neighbors asked him to stop firing off rounds in his yard late at night because a baby was trying to sleep.

At a Sunday vigil in Cleveland, Wilson Garcia, the father of the 1-month-old, described the terrifying efforts inside his home by friends and family that night to escape, hide and shield themselves and children after Oropeza walked up to the home and began firing, killing his wife first at the front door.

Police recovered the AR-15-style rifle that they said Oropeza used in the shootings. Authorities were not sure if Oropeza was carrying another weapon after others were found in his home.

The alleged shooter is a Mexican national who has been deported four times, according to a U.S. official with direct knowledge of the case who spoke on condition of anonymity because public disclosure was not authorized.

## US readies second attempt at speedy asylum screenings

SAN DIEGO (AP) — President Joe Biden scrapped expedited asylum screenings during his first month in office as part of a gutting of Trump administration border policies that included building a wall with Mexico. Now he’s preparing his own version.

Donald Trump’s fast-track reviews drew sharp criticism from internal government watchdog agencies as the percentage of people who passed those “credible fear interviews” plummeted. But the Biden administration has insisted its speedy screening for asylum-seekers is different: Interviews will be done exclusively by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, not by Border Patrol agents, and everyone will have access to legal counsel.

The decision to use fast-track screenings comes as COVID-19 asylum restrictions are set to expire on May 11 and the U.S. government prepares for an expected increase in illegal crossings from Mexico.

The Texas border cities of El Paso, Laredo and Brownsville have declared local states of emergency in recent days to prepare for the anticipated influx.

Normally, about three in four migrants pass credible fear interviews, though far fewer eventually win asylum. But during the five months of the Trump-era program, only 23% passed the initial screening, while 69% failed and 9% withdrew, according to the Government Accountability Office.

Those who get past initial screenings are generally freed in the United States to pursue their cases in immigration court, which typically takes four years. Critics say the court backlog encourages more people to seek asylum.

To pass screenings, migrants must convince an asylum officer they have a “significant possibility” of prevailing before a judge on arguments that they face persecution in their home countries on grounds of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a social group.

Under the Biden administration’s fast-track program, those who don’t qualify will be deported “in a matter of days or just a few weeks,” Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said Thursday.

The expedited screenings will be applied only to single adults, Mayorkas said.

### LEGALS

#### CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - COUNTY OF CORTLAND

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A., AS SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST TO ALL PERMITTED SUCCESSOR AND ASSIGNS OF BANK ONE, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR ACE SECURITIES CORP. HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2002-HE1 ASSET BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES,

V.

KEVIN L. MOWRY, ET AL.

#### NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 6, 2023, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Cortland, wherein THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A., AS SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST TO ALL PERMITTED SUCCESSOR AND ASSIGNS OF BANK ONE, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS TRUSTEE FOR ACE SECURITIES CORP. HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2002-HE1 ASSET BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES is the Plaintiff and KEVIN L. MOWRY, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the CORTLAND COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 46 GREENBUSH STREET, CORTLAND, NY 13045, on June 6, 2023 at 10:00AM, premises known as 17 FRONT STREET, CORTLAND, NY 13045; Section 86.35, Block 01, Lot 18.100:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE IN THE FORMER VILLAGE OF CORTLAND, NOW CITY OF CORTLAND, COUNTY OF CORTLAND AND STATE OF NEW YORK

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # EF15-444. Christopher Edward Burke, Esq. - Referee, Robertson, Anschutz, Schneider, Crane & Partners, PLLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES.

#### CORTLAND COUNTY NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF CORTLAND U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE RMAC TRUST, SERIES 2018 G-CTT, Plaintiff, v. DANIELLE BARROWS, AS SURVIVING SPOUSE AND ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID B. BARROWS AKA DAVID BARROWS, ET AL. Defendant. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT In pursuance of a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the Office of the County Clerk of Cortland County on March 07, 2023, I, James J. Baranello, Esq., Esq. the Referee named in said Judgment, will sell in one parcel at public auction on May 23, 2023 at The Cortland County Courthouse, 46 Greenbush Street, Cortland, NY 13045, County of Cortland, State of New York, at 10:00 AM the premises described as follows: 1904 Preble Road Preble, NY 13141 SBL No.: 027.010-0002-037.000 ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND situate in the Town of Preble, County of Cortland, State of New York. The premises are sold subject to the provisions of the filed judgment, Index No. EF21-392 in the amount of \$97,097.91 plus interest and costs. The aforementioned auction will be conducted in accordance with the Court System’s COVID-19 mitigation protocols and as such all persons must comply with social distancing, wearing masks and screening practices in effect at the time of this foreclosure sale. Stuart Frame Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP Plaintiff’s Attorney 500 Bausch & Lomb Place Rochester, NY 14604 Tel.: 855-227-5072 75786

## First Republic Bank seized, sold in fire sale to JPMorgan

NEW YORK (AP) — Regulators seized troubled First Republic Bank early Monday, making it the second-largest bank failure in U.S. history, and promptly sold all of its deposits and most of its assets to JPMorgan Chase in a bid to end the turmoil that has raised questions about the health of the U.S. banking system.

It’s the third midsize bank to fail in less than two months. The only larger bank failure in U.S. history was Washington Mutual, which collapsed at the height of the 2008 financial crisis and was also taken over by JPMorgan in a similar government-orchestrated deal.

“Our government invited us and others to step up, and we did,” said Jamie Dimon, chairman and CEO of JPMorgan Chase.

First Republic’s 84 branches opened on Monday as branches of JPMorgan Chase, which acquired the bank’s \$92 billion in deposits and \$203 billion in loans and other securities. The bank’s shareholders are likely to be wiped out as part of the deal.

Dimon said in a conference call with both reporters and investors that he believed “this part of this (banking) crisis is over.” Other midsize banks reported their results last week and the vast majority of them showed deposits had stabilized and profits remained relatively healthy. The outlier was First Republic.

Before this year, First Republic was the envy of the banking industry.


Its well-appointed branches served warm cookies to its clients — who were almost exclusively the rich and powerful. Its bankers lured in wealthy clients with low-cost mortgages and attractive savings rates in order to sell them on higher profit businesses like wealth management and brokerage accounts.

In return, the wealthy rarely defaulted on their loans and parked substantial sums of money in the bank that could be lent elsewhere.

But that business model of catering to the rich became a liability with the collapses of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank. These banks had large amount of uninsured deposits — that is, deposits above the \$250,000 limit set by the FDIC. As was the case with Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank, First Republic clients with large accounts were quick to pull their money at the first sign of trouble.

“Too many (First Republic) customers showed their true loyalties were to their own fears,” wrote Timothy Coffey, an analyst with Janney Montgomery Scott, in a note to investors.

A coalition of a dozen banks pulled together a \$30 billion funding package for First Republic last month that, for awhile, seemed to stanch the bleeding of deposits.



### Your Dental Health

by Dr. Baljinder Singh  
and the Cortland Dental Team

#### THE CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF BRUXISM

Bruxism, or teeth grinding, is most often caused by stress and anxiety. Sleep problems like snoring and sleep apnea are also common culprits of teeth grinding. Certain medications, particularly SSRIs, are known to cause teeth grinding in some people. Those who grind their teeth often have jaw pain, tooth damage, and other dental problems that can include broken teeth and damaged fillings. If you suspect you have bruxism, a dentist can diagnose the condition. They can also custom-make mouth guards or splints to wear at night to protect teeth from damage. In addition to regular dental checkups, it can also help to work with a doctor to diagnose and treat a condition that may be causing bruxism.

Many people grind their teeth throughout the day, making this damaging practice a 24/7 hazard to their oral as well as overall health. Whether you are in our office for bruxism or just for a simple cleaning, our personal, casual, and relaxed style in providing quality dental care will help put you at ease. We’ll take the time to get to know your needs, answer your questions about the latest techniques and materials, and make sure that you are comfortable. Be kind to your teeth—call CORTLAND DENTAL for complete family dental care at 607.753.9361. We’re located at 4313 North Homer Ave.

*P.S. Teeth grinding is common in children and teenagers during sleep and is often resolved once adult teeth have come in.*

## WANT TO BUY LOCAL?

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LEARN MORE HERE:

- ✉ [kate@sevenvalleyshealth.org](mailto:kate@sevenvalleyshealth.org)
- 🌐 [sevenvalleyshealth.org/cortlandharvest](http://sevenvalleyshealth.org/cortlandharvest)
- 📞 (607) 756-4198

PLEASE RECYCLE



Cortland Standard

#### CORTLAND COUNTY FORECLOSURE NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE: SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK; COUNTY OF CORTLAND; Index No. EF22-262; CHARLOTTE HAWKINS, M.D., Plaintiff vs. DAVID MAYO, M.D.; et al., Defendants. In pursuance and by virtue of a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly granted by this Court and entered in the Cortland County Clerk’s Office on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023, I, the undersigned Referee, duly appointed in this action for such purpose, will expose for sale and sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at the Cortland County Courthouse, 46 Greenbush Street, Cortland, New York on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2023 at 10:00 o’clock in the forenoon of that day, the mortgaged premises directed to be sold in and by said Judgment, in accordance with the Terms of Sale attached thereto, and described in “Exhibit A” annexed hereto. The Referee will enforce any requirements currently in effect at the time of the sale regarding face coverings.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 4077 West Road, Cortland, NY 13045, Tax Map Parcel Nos. 86.09-04-07 and 86.39-01-45.2; Approx. amount of judgment: \$632,747.82 plus interest and sale expenses; March 27, 2023; Patrick M. Snyder, Esq., Referee. Riehlman, Shafer & Shaw, LLC, attorneys for plaintiff, PO Box 544, Tully, New York 13159-0544, (315) 696-6347.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: All that tract or parcel of land, situate in the City of Cortland, and Town of Cortlandville County of Cortland, and State of New York, bounded and described according to a Survey Map prepared by Reagan Land Surveying, Michael J. Reagan, P.L.S., dated March 12th, 2020 as follows: BEGINNING at a set ¾” diameter rebar and survey cap (set pin) in the westerly bounds of NYS Route 281 (A/K/A West Road). Said point of beginning being located the following two courses and distances from the reconstructed (circa 2011) centerline intersection of NYS Route 281 and Summit Street: A.) Northeasterly along the centerline of NYS Route 281, for a distance of 42’±; B.) N59°-43’-34”W, for a distance of 49.1’ to the TRUE POINT OR PLACE OF BEGINNING, and running thence along the following courses and distances: 1.) N59°-43’-34”W, for a distance of 114.70’ to an existing iron pipe; 2.) N04°-57’-44”W, for a distance of 51.53’ to a set nail over an existing iron pin buried under a paved parking lot; 3.) N59°-41’-38”W, for a distance of 63.67’ to an existing iron pin; 4.) N30°-36’-32”E, for a distance of 135.73’ to an existing iron pin; 5.) N89°-55’-37”E, for a distance of 82.50’ to a set railroad spike in a paved driveway; 6.) S59°-50’-17”E, for a distance of 135.52’ to a set pin in the westerly bounds of NYS Route 281; 7.) S30°-07’-06”W along the westerly line of NYS Route 281, for a distance of 219.80’ TO THE POINT OR PLACE OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 0.94 acres of land, more or less. SUBJECT TO A 20’ wide R-O-W along the southerly line of the above described premises as shown on the above referenced map, and any easements, rights and/or restrictions of record. BEING the same premises conveyed to Charlotte Hawkins per Liber 529 of deeds at Page 57. Comprising City of Cortland Tax Map Parcel 86.39-01-45.2, and Town of Cortlandville Tax Map Parcel 86.09-04-07.